

## **SING OUT! THE ESSEX COUNTY CHORAL FESTIVAL**

The goal of the project is to build relationships among communities in Essex County by celebrating its rich past and demonstrating a vision for its promising future. Essex County has long been a metaphor for diversity both old and new. First generation immigrants from all over the world have made it their home for nearly 400 years. Its strength lies within its richness of cultures, languages, religions, and peoples that call it home.

“Socio-economic and cultural diversity presents challenges for one of the most segregated counties in the country. This project is about encountering the musical expressions of Essex County citizens in hopes of a more broad understanding of community.” -Jason Asbury, Artistic Director.

“This event, meticulously planned and involving a cross section of cultures and citizens that comprise the mettle of Essex County, is historically important. I know of no previous attempt to place choral music, in all of its richness and wonder, at the center of the life and times of the old American space that is Essex County. What a wondrous way to find the common ground—singing out loud—that unites us all.” -Dr. Clement Price, Narrator

## **THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS**

**South Orange/Maplewood Coalition on Race** whose mission is to achieve and sustain the benefits of a thriving, racially integrated and truly inclusive community that serves as a model for the nation.

**Rutgers Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience** is an interdisciplinary academic program at Rutgers-Newark that serves the greater Newark metropolitan region by reaching into the community at large with lectures, symposia, film, performances, exhibitions, and other programs that enhance public understanding of urban life, the social construction of difference, race relations, local history, urban youth culture, and education.

## **FESTIVAL ENDORSEMENTS**

Ahavas Shalom-Newark  
Congregation Beth El-South Orange  
Episcopal Church of St. Andrew and Holy Communion-South Orange  
Ethical Culture Society of Essex County  
Rutgers Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience-Newark  
Ironbound Community Corporation  
Leadership Newark  
Montclair Art Museum  
Morrow Memorial United Methodist Church-Maplewood  
Newark Arts Council  
Newark Habitat for Humanity  
Newark Interfaith Coalition for Hope and Peace  
Newark Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Northern New Jersey Region of Hadassah  
Oheb Shalom Congregation-South Orange  
Our Lady of the Valley-Orange  
Prospect Presbyterian Church-Maplewood  
Society of Musical Arts-Maplewood  
South Orange/Maplewood Coalition on Race  
Township of Maplewood  
Women In Support of The Million Man March Inc.

## PROGRAM

### **Song of the Universal**

**David Snyder**

Commissioned by the Essex County Choral Festival  
Text by Walt Whitman, "Song of the Universal," 1864

Festival Chorus  
Vicki Carter, Conductor  
Jason Asbury, Piano  
Andrew Filippone, Trumpet

### **Cantique de Jean Racine**

**Gabriel Faure**

### **Ain'a That Good News**

**African American Spiritual  
Arr. William Dawson**

The Essex Chorale  
Dr. DeCosta A. Dawson, Director  
Dr. Gaylord French, Accompanist

### **"Gloria" and "Credo" from *C Minor Mass***

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Oratorio Society of New Jersey  
Sandor Szabo, Conductor

### **Somebody's Calling My Name**

**African American Spiritual  
Arr. Wendell P. Whalum**

Ron Williams, Soloist

### **The Pasture**

**Randall Thompson  
Text by Robert Frost**

### **Spirit Keeps Liftin' Me**

**Words/Melody by Dee Jackson Field  
Music by Philip Field**

Gerard Drinkard, Soloist

The North Jersey Philharmonic Glee Club  
Philip Field, Director and Accompanist

### **Hosanna, Hosanna**

**Arr. Glen Edward Burleigh**

### **I'm Determined to Walk with Jesus**

**African American Spiritual  
Arr. Raymond Wise**

**The Lord Is My Shepherd**

**Arr. Cissy Houston**

Elmwood United Presbyterian Church Celebration Mass Choir  
Cedric G. Weary, Director of Music  
Jean L. James, Minister of Music  
Hugh Davis, Associate Director of Music/Accompanist

**-INTERMISSION-  
TEN MINUTES**

**“Domine Fili” from *Gloria***

**Antonio Vivaldi, Arr. Desmond Ratcliffe**

**Oye**

**Jim Papoulis**

**Wake Up Everybody**

**G. McFadden, J. Whitehead, V. Carstarphen  
Arr. Hugh David**

Newark Boys Chorus  
Donald C. Morris, Music Director  
George Davey, Accompanist

**In the Highlands**

**Rentz/Johnson**

**Courage Lives**

**Mark Patterson**

Maplewood Glee Club  
Dr. Candace Wicke, Conductor  
John Conte, Accompanist

**Dayeinu! (It Would Have Been Enough For Us!)**

**Passover Liturgy  
Gerald Cohen**

If God had only brought us out of Egypt, if God had only sustained us in the wilderness, brought us to Mt. Sinai, given us the Torah, led us to the Land of Israel, it would have been enough for us.

Adam Meyers, Soloist

**Niga El HaChalom (Touch the Dream)**

**Shalom Chanoch  
Arr. Zvi Sherf**

Over and past is the dream. The sand of time has slipped between my fingers. The circle was closed, and you remained alive. But we'll meet again, a loving heart makes no mistakes. Like the sea, we will stream, seeking until we arrive and touch the dream.

Cantor Erica Lippitz, Soloist

## **Half-Kaddish (Sanctification Prayer)**

**Daily Liturgy  
Jack Gottlieb**

Magnified and sanctified is God's name in the world that God created. Glorified, celebrated, exalted, honored may the Holy One be, beyond all blessing and song. And let us say "amen."

Kol Dodi

Cantor Joe Caplan and Cantor Erica Lippitz, Conductors  
David Schlossberg, Accompanist

## **Not In Our Town**

**Arr. Kevin Robison**

Cantor Perry Fine, Cantor Joel Caplan and Janyce Jones-Soloists  
Cantor Erica Lippitz, Conductor  
Kol Dodi and Voices In Harmony

## **This Little Light O' Mine**

**African American Spiritual  
Arr, John Work**

Lori Mirabal, Soloist

## **How Can I Keep From Singing?**

**Arr. Gwyneth Walker**

Voices In Harmony  
Jason Asbury and Cantor Perry Fine-Conductors

## **Here's To Song**

**Allister MacGillivray  
Arr. Lydia Adams**

Festival Chorus

Jason Asbury, Conductor/David Schlossberg, Accompanist

## **A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS**

Sol and Sylvia Amato  
Jason Asbury and David Smith  
Mary Babiarz  
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Ronald and Vicki Carter  
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Brendan Kears  
Sheila Kenny

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Kenneth and Sharon Mayers  
John Pearson  
Irwin and Blossom Primer  
Al Shire and Beverly Perlman  
Margaret Prentice and John Dyson  
Audrey Rowe  
Ronald and Arlene Silkowitz

## **FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS**

The Fraentzel Foundation  
HK Community Fund  
Regent Atlantic Capital  
Victoria Foundation

## ABOUT THE CHOIRS

### ELMWOOD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CELEBRATION MASS

**CHOIR**, based in East Orange, is one of seven choirs that form the music ministry at Elmwood United Presbyterian Church. All share a common love for Jesus Christ and ministry through Psalms, hymns, inspirational music and Gospel, anthems, and spirituals. These volunteers strive tirelessly to render the finest in sacred music during worship and in concert.

Under the direction of Cedric G. Weary and Jean L. James, Minister of Music, the Choir continues a long and distinguished tradition of musical and choral excellence. Their repertoire includes a wide array of musical works and performance venues include Spellman College (Atlanta), Ebenezer Baptist Church (Atlanta), New Jersey Symphony Hall, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and Lincoln Center with Dorothy Maynor and the Harlem School of Music. Members of the Celebration Mass Choir love to sing, and, most importantly, they love the Lord.

#### SOPRANO

Gail Cushine Bell  
Ruby Brown  
Denise K. Busby  
Jonell Congleton  
Shirley A. Gainor  
Kecia Goolsby  
Carol Guy  
Anna King  
Shirley Lambert  
Deborah McNeil  
Margaret Mesode  
Kimecia Miller  
Venice Pierre  
Ora Jimelle Ross  
Dola Walters

#### ALTO

Patricia Carr  
Heather Clark  
Deborah Collins  
Marilyn James  
Arigaree Pitchford  
Louise Reeves  
Shirley Ruth  
Loretta Smith  
Tiffany Starks  
Connie Wright

#### TENOR

David Brooks  
Clayton Carr

Tjaz Hawkins  
John Jackson  
Christopher Ross  
Donald Smith  
Morris Thomas  
Nicholas Yeboah

#### BASS

Nathaniel Brown  
William Brown  
Gavin Dundas  
James Fisher  
Rowland Tubi  
Edward Washington

**THE ESSEX CHORALE**, based in East Orange, was founded in 1980 by Dr. DeCosta A. Dawson, Music Director, who envisioned a choral ensemble to perform Negro Spirituals and choral works of the great masters such as Bach's *B Minor Mass* and Verdi's *Requiem*. The Chorale is comprised of singers from communities in central and northern New Jersey. The Chorale's concert season is from September through May with three major performances: the complete Handel's *Messiah* with soloists and chamber orchestra in December; a concert of Negro Spirituals the last Sunday in February commemorating Black History Month and a free performance on Palm Sunday of an oratorio or mass. On April 17, 2011 at 4 PM, the Essex Chorale will conclude its 31<sup>st</sup> season by performing the Brahms *Requiem* with professional soloists Diana Solomon-Glover, soprano and Arthur Woodley, bass, with organ accompaniment by Dr. Gaylord French. Auditions are held in September. Please contact Don Cohen at 973.744.1175. Rehearsals and all performances are held at Christ Episcopal Church, 422 Main Street in East Orange, NJ.

#### SOPRANO

Marie Yolaine Adams  
Esther N. Bell  
Patricia W. Fullilove  
Anita C. Goodwyn  
Deborah Keno  
Anna Layton

Maxime Long  
Pearl A. Lowe  
Shirley J. McGee  
Roselda A. Smith  
Ladylease White

#### ALTO

Brenda Ferdinand

Carole Graves  
Carolyn Gray  
Nancy Griffin  
Irma Heywood  
Constance Horsley  
Jean Lancaster  
Clara J. McGriff

Elizabeth Olayinka  
Irene Stowers

**TENOR**

Dan Cucura

Joseph DeVaughn

**BASS**

William T. Blue  
Donald B. Cohen

James Fisher  
John Houston  
Jasper L. Powell  
Robert Simmons

**KOL DODI**, the Community Chorale of MetroWest, is an amateur ensemble specializing in a broad spectrum of music arising out of various Jewish traditions from ancient liturgy to modern Israeli composition. The music includes works in English, Hebrew, Yiddish and Ladino. Formed in 1991, Kol Dodi is dedicated to high quality presentation of this material.

Kol Dodi's performances reflect its commitment to both the secular and Jewish musical worlds. Programs include local interfaith community and synagogue concerts, and joint participation with other choirs in the presentation of major works. In 2001, the choir performed Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* together with **Voices In Harmony**, in support of the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race. The Chorale performs regularly in the tri-state area and has appeared with the North American Jewish Chorale at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, as well as in Israel. Kol Dodi is proud to contribute to the long historic tradition of Jewish choral music.

**SOPRANO**

Debbie Arbit  
Debbie Bearg  
Marjorie Franzel  
Joanna Heller  
Hana Kornblum  
Blossom Primer  
Janet Rosenberg  
Elly Silberman  
Rosalie Sussman

**ALTO**

Marcia Eskin  
Alice Klausner  
Erica Lotto  
Ellen Muraskin  
Robyn Shoulson  
Arlene Silikovitz

**TENOR**

Ben Alter  
Dana Ben-Avi

Shelli Brosh  
Gerry Buchoff  
Adam Meyers

**BASS**

Ira Altman  
Ben Asher  
Avi Eisen  
Harry Rapkin  
Leon Sher

**THE MAPLEWOOD GLEE CLUB** has been performing since January 28, 1949. Over the years, more than 500 men from communities in and around Maplewood have sung in the Club. The 25+ men that make up the Maplewood Glee Club share a love of singing, enjoy fellowship with each other, and wish to give back to the community. Towards that end, we give free concerts in local retirement centers, hospitals, schools and at other community events. Since 1968, we have showcased the talents of a local high school senior interested in a career in music in our Spring Concert and provide him/her with a \$1500 John Plumer college scholarship.

Our music repertoire is eclectic and consists of traditional and modern glee club songs, show tunes, spirituals, folk songs, and holiday songs.

The Maplewood Glee Club welcomes new members. Rehearsals take place on Monday nights from 7:45 pm – 9:45 pm at the DeHart Community Center in Maplewood. More information can be found on our website [www.maplewoodgleeclub.org](http://www.maplewoodgleeclub.org)

**SINGERS**

Steve Adamczyk  
Jim Byrne  
Bob Burkhardt  
Ed Cerny  
Farrell Fand

Art Gartenlaub  
Bill Gaudelli  
Dick Haugh  
Art Heyl  
Bob Landau  
Jay Leatherbee

Joe Moran  
Bob McLeester  
Erik Solberg  
George Shuttleworth  
Josh Zion

**THE NEWARK BOYS CHORUS** was founded in 1966 as the New Jersey Symphony Boys Choir. Three years later, the Newark Boys Chorus School was established to create an integrated academic and music program unique to the city of Newark, New Jersey. The school is responsible for the academic and musical education of 80 young urban men from the greater Newark area. The school's mission is to inspire in the students a love for learning, a quest for excellence, and a compassion for humanity.

Known as Newark's "Musical Ambassadors," the Chorus has been heard throughout the world with a diversified repertoire that includes traditional classical music, spirituals, folk music, and jazz. In recent years the boys have toured Australia, South Africa, the Caribbean, Finland, Latvia, and Russia, England and Wales. In conjunction with school's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Concert Chorus has just returned from a two-week tour Spain and Portugal. Recognized for their excellence in performance, they have been invited to sing at divisional and national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). The Newark Boys Chorus has performed in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Lincoln Center, and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. The Chorus has also appeared on Good Morning America (WABC), and recorded a Christmas Special with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), featuring soloists Renee Fleming and Leslie Garrett.

**TREBLE I**

Banks, Michael  
 Edwards, Christian  
 Gaines, Benjamin  
 Holliman, Demetrius  
 Kirkwood, Jordan  
 Krommie, Zachary  
 Massenburg, Nicholas  
 Richardson, Rashaun  
 Santos, Telmo  
 Sheppert, Jeremiah  
 St. Juste, Clifford  
 Stevens, Robert  
 Troup, Joshua  
 Waddell, Stephon

**TREBLE II**

Baker, Akiel  
 Bartell, Jasmeeer  
 Bateman, Rahmon  
 Colon, Nadyi  
 Franklin, Khalil  
 Gonzalez, Harvey  
 Gordon, Jo-el  
 Lampley, Jared  
 McBride Tymir  
 Ortiz, Israel  
 Sears, Jabrile  
 Thomas, Amir

**ALTO I**

Burris, Brandon  
 Cooper, Najee  
 Espinoza, Erik  
 Greene, Elijah  
 Hernandez, Elijah  
 Thomas, Ahmad  
 Valentin, Keanu

**ALTO II**

Beltre, Jonathan  
 Nunez, Marcos  
 Pillajo, Erik  
 Williams, Samuel

**THE NORTH JERSEY PHILHARMONIC GLEE CLUB** (NJPGC) is among the oldest male choruses in the United States. The group was formed in 1939 by Delores Collins Benjamin. Since then, the NJPGC has appeared with countless luminaries including Paul Robeson, Harry Belafonte, Smokey Robinson and Shirley Caesar; performance venues have included Lincoln Center, the Smithsonian and the White House. The NJPGC is committed to preserving the heritage of male choral singing: this art form links ALL men's dreams, thus piercing the walls of indifference and making ALL men of the world truly Brothers.

**TENOR I**

David Snell  
 Clayton Carr  
 Gerard Drinkard  
 Harold Givens  
 Keaun Guy

Brindsley Nurse  
 Ron Pouchie Williams

Rollin "Skip" Reese  
 Victor Morrison  
 Willie Davis \*

**BARITONE**

Alan Stephens  
 Howard Hudson  
 James Freeman  
 Kenneth E. Lockett  
 Laurie A. Folkes  
 Larry Dantzier  
 Leon A. Vaughan

**BASS**

Charles Mcleod  
 Derrick Hatcher  
 Herbert S. Proctor  
 Marc Etkins  
 Paul Ray  
 Elliotte L. Raines

**TENOR II**

Carl Milton \*  
 F. LeRoy Gibson  
 Norman Abraham

**THE ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY** has performed two yearly concerts of classical choral pieces for the past 57 years. The repertory has included works from the Renaissance and Baroque period, many major pieces of the Classical and Romantic eras, as well as modern classics like Carl Orff and Stravinsky. The Society aims to bring choral compositions of the classical repertoire to Essex County residents at an easily accessible location and at low cost. Under the directorship of Dr. Sandor Szabo, who has great expertise in religious and secular choral music, the members of the Society perform with a professional orchestra and vocal soloists. Each December the Society invites the community to join them in singing sections of Handel's *Messiah*.

**SOPRANO**

Ellen Asselmeyer  
 Grace Baumgarten  
 Ernestine Galloway  
 Judy Himes  
 Pam Kamel  
 Natascha Radke  
 Henke  
 Jean Siegel

Mary Stein

**ALTO**

Gaby Baxter  
 Robyn Burns  
 Judy Defeo  
 Jean Lancaster  
 Edith Right  
 Berenice Tavella

Sibylle Wallace

**TENOR**

Linda Krause

**BASS**

Don Moore

**VOICES IN HARMONY** brings together individuals from Maplewood, South Orange, and surrounding areas who share a common love of music. The group strives to create and promote community by combining its diverse musical gifts and sharing them in a variety of community settings. Voices In Harmony was founded in 2000 and relies on community conductors for leadership. These include Jason Asbury (Director of Music Prospect Presbyterian), Cantor Perry Fine (Beth El), and Cantor Erica Lippitz (Oheb Shalom). The group has performed a wide range of repertoire including Haydn's *Creation*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, African American spirituals, gospel, Jewish folk and liturgical music, Broadway and multicultural selections.

**SOPRANO**

Sylvia Amato  
 Vicki Herzfeld Arlein  
 Debbie Bearg  
 Karen Bokert  
 Pat Corker  
 Anne DeGraaf  
 Claire Hogenauer  
 Janyce E. Jones  
 Harriet Farber Klein  
 Debbie Krasner  
 Cleta McLeod  
 Blossom Primer  
 Lynne Rainen  
 Elly Silberman  
 Rosalie Sussman

**ALTO**

Claire Asarnow  
 Adrienne Bolden  
 Faith Gideon Brown  
 Eda Chodrow  
 Judi Gajary  
 Marcia Solkoff Eskin  
 Janice Evans  
 Nancy Friedman  
 Susan Joseph  
 Sheila Kenny  
 Lisa Novemsky  
 Beverly Perlman  
 Ellen Sleeter  
 Arlene Silkovitz  
 Ellie Winslow  
 Nancy Zak

**TENOR**

Jay Banks  
 Glenn Erickson  
 Mada Liebman  
 Peter Ncanywa  
 John Pearson

**BASS**

Norm Chaleff  
 Mark Chodrow  
 Chip Erway  
 Dave Gilbert  
 David Huemer  
 Burt Liebman  
 Harry Rapkin



## BIOGRAPHIES

**JASON ASBURY** is active as a concert organist, teacher, conductor and choral accompanist in the New York City metropolitan area. He currently teaches on the faculty at Saint Ann's School in Brooklyn Heights and is Director of Music at Prospect Presbyterian Church in Maplewood, New Jersey. Asbury serves as Assistant Conductor for Grace and Spiritus (Brooklyn), and has conducted the Prospect Presbyterian Chancel Choir's concert tours to Scotland and Montreal. He is the co-founder and conductor of Voices In Harmony.

**VICKI CARTER** made her Broadway debut conducting *EUBIE!*, a musical revue based on the music of Eubie Blake, one of America's foremost Ragtime composers. Here in New Jersey for Paper Mill Playhouse, her musical direction and conducting credits include *Guys and Dolls*, *Grease*, *My Fair Lady*, *Carousel*, *Anything Goes*, *Big River*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *No, No, Nanette*. During the summer of 2005, Vicki served as conductor for the world-wide premiere of "An American Dale: Becoming a Place for All People" sponsored by the South Orange-Maplewood Community Coalition on Race. This commissioned work by composer, Janet Albright, and funded by the American Composers Forum, was performed by an orchestra of over one hundred and twenty musicians and an equal number of singers

Vicki resides in East Orange, NJ with her husband, Ron Carter. They have one daughter who is a resident of New York City.

**DR. CLEMENT A. PRICE** is a Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor at Rutgers, one of the highest faculty honors at the university. He chaired President Obama's transition team for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and is recipient of numerous awards and honors including special honoree of the Three Doctors Foundation in 2009 and being named CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) Professor of the Year for New Jersey in 1999.

Price, who teaches history, has played leadership roles with many organizations in New Jersey, including the New Jersey Historical Commission, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Fund for New Jersey, the Newark public schools, the Newark Black Film Festival, and the Governor's Commission on Ellis Island. Price's affection for Newark comes from his deep appreciation of the city's historical significance and constant change. Not surprisingly, in 2008 Price received the second annual Charles Cummings award from the Trustees of the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee. The award, named after the late renowned city historian, was awarded to Price for outstanding contributions to the knowledge and appreciation of Newark history.

He is the founder and director of the Institute on Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience, which conducts research and presents innovative public programs on a range of topics.

**DAVID SNYDER**'s multi-faceted career as a composer, musical director, orchestrator and performer has taken him from the scoring stages of Hollywood to Carnegie Hall, where he currently serves as principal arranger and pianist for the New York Pops. He has had the honor of conducting for Tony Award winners Christine Ebersole and Nell Carter, and has worked closely with artists ranging from Andy Williams and Debbie Reynolds to Clay Aiken, The Manhattan Transfer, and Francis Ford Coppola. After studying with Henry Mancini, Allyn Ferguson, Joe Harnell and Buddy Baker at the Grove School of Music in Los Angeles, David went on to compose music for several independent films, including the 2002 documentary "A Tradition of Honor." "O Holy Night," his collection of Christmas arrangements for flute and piano, was published by Hal Leonard Corp in 2009. Most recently, he composed the score for "Mr. Confidential," a new musical based on the award-winning book by Samuel Bernstein. He resides with his family in Maplewood, NJ.