



Oregon  
Repertory  
Singers

# Finding Light

APRIL 27 & 28, 2024 | 4 PM

**Patricia Reser Center for the Arts**  
12625 SW Crescent Street, Beaverton, OR 97005

[ORSingers.org](https://ORSingers.org)



Digital Program

Oregon Repertory Singers performs world-class music accessible to all. Our professional-caliber adult choir of over 100 members was recently lauded as “the city’s finest large choir.” Our education and performance-based youth choir program, serving children grades K-12, is one-of-a-kind in the Portland area. We are committed to world-class performances, exceptional education, and nurturing the singers, listeners, and supporters of this generation and the next.

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# WELCOME

It is with great excitement that I welcome you to the final concert of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season featuring ORS, ORS Youth Choir, Camerata PYP, and special guest composer Matthew Lyon Hazzard! *Finding Light* is a concert that we hope illuminates our commitment to excellence and to building community.



As we reflect on our past achievements and look forward to the future, we invite you to consider how you can invest in our mission in a meaningful way. Your support plays a vital role in ensuring that we can continue to enrich the lives of individuals and communities through the arts for generations to come.

There are many ways you can make a difference:

- **Make a Contribution:** Join our community of supporters and make a financial contribution to invest in our ongoing concerts, programs and initiatives.
- **Sponsorship:** Explore sponsorship opportunities for our upcoming concerts and projects, and showcase your commitment to the arts to a wider audience.
- **Volunteer:** Get involved in our organization and contribute your time, skills, and expertise to help us achieve our goals.
- **Spread the Word:** Share your experience at tonight's concert with your friends, family, and colleagues, and encourage them to become part of our community.
- **Leave a Legacy:** Learn about our new Elevate Endowment Campaign and consider including ORS in your estate plans to support our future endeavors.

By investing in our organization, you are supporting the arts and the well-being and vitality of our community. Together, we can continue to create moments of inspiration, connection, and joy through the power of music.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you – our patrons, donors, volunteers, staff, board members, ambassadors, and community partners. Your generosity, dedication, and belief in our mission have been the driving force behind our success, and we are profoundly grateful for your continued support.

Once again, thank you for joining us for this special milestone concert, as we honor the past, embrace the present, and look forward to the bright future. Thank you for being part of this momentous occasion, and may tonight's concert be a fitting tribute to our 50 years of musical excellence.

With warmest regards,

**Lauren Bryan** | Executive Director



Oregon Repertory Singers presents

# Finding Light

## Concert Program

**Dr. Ethan Sperry**, Conductor & Gil Seeley Artistic Director

**Naomi LaViolette**, Accompanist

with

**Matthew Lyon Hazzard**, Guest Composer

and featuring

**Camerata PYP from  
Portland Youth Philharmonic  
David Hattner**, Music Director

**Oregon Repertory Singers  
Youth Choir  
Aubrey Patterson**, Artistic Director

Finding Light is generously underwritten by a community leader from the ORS Board of Directors. We are grateful for their contribution that supports this innovative, collaborative, and creative program.

This concert will be digitally recorded. Please no flash photography.

The concert today will be approximately 90 minutes in length plus a 15 minute intermission.

**Lux Aeterna**.....**Morten Lauridsen**  
b. 1943

- I. *Introitus*
- II. *In Te, Domine, Speravi*
- III. *O Nata Lux*
- IV. *Veni, Sancte Spiritus*
- V. *Agnus Dei - Lux Aeterna*

## Intermission

**Finding Light**.....**Matthew Lyon Hazzard**  
b. 1989

1. Prelude
2. Oregon
3. The end of the world is a kind of weather
4. This Far In
5. If the River is Proof
6. Footsteps
7. The Search for Light
8. The Light in You

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# PROGRAM NOTES

Welcome, everyone, to the grand finale of our 50<sup>th</sup> Season! We're closing with a spectacular flourish featuring two expansive compositions for choir and orchestra. First up is "Lux Aeterna" by Morten Lauridsen, a Portland native, and a dear friend and supporter of ORS. Lauridsen crafted his only extended choral orchestral work for the Los Angeles Master Chorale and their conductor Paul Salamunovich, one of very few American musicians to be knighted by the Vatican for his devotion to the Catholic Church — he was the choir director at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Glendale, California for over 50 years!



In "Lux Aeterna," Lauridsen draws upon Latin Catholic texts, primarily from the Requiem, but reimagines them to illuminate the concept of Eternal Light rather than dwelling on mortal fears. Lauridsen is not a practicing Christian, but his composition resonates with Salamunovich's faith, resulting in a profoundly moving piece, effortlessly beautiful and spiritually stirring. Furthermore, Lauridsen pays homage to Renaissance tradition, where composers expanded upon themes from their shorter works to create larger compositions. Just as Tomas Luis de Victoria transformed his renowned motet "O Magnum Mysterium" into a full Mass setting, Lauridsen themes from his own "O Magnum Mysterium" in "Lux Aeterna." Lauridsen's original "O Magnum Mysterium" is scored for a cappella choir, using mostly inverted chords to create the aura of mystery implied by its title. In "Lux Aeterna" Lauridsen grounds these same harmonies with a rich orchestral accompaniment, instilling a sense of steadfast faith and assurance in the Eternal Light.

In addition to Lauridsen's masterpiece, we're thrilled to present the world premiere of "Finding Light" by Matthew Lyon Hazzard. Only the second full oratorio commissioned by ORS in our fifty-year history, this work is a remarkable endeavor. We extend our gratitude to Matt for his dedication to this project and to the Portland Youth Philharmonic's Camerata for their willingness to embark on this musical journey with us.

"Finding Light" serves as a secular counterpart to "Lux Aeterna," exploring the theme of light in our contemporary world. Matt confronts the darkness prevalent in our society, particularly addressing the urgent issue of the climate crisis. Most of the famous choral orchestral works from previous centuries are Requiems and confront us directly with our fear of death. Such concerns are what keep many of us up at night. I have found that being able to process these fears through music, especially in choral music, where our voices are united, is among the most powerful and cathartic of all human experiences. We hope that "Finding Light" will help all of us feel a little less alone and a little less powerless in the attempt to make our world a better place.

As we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, "Finding Light" epitomizes ORS's mission of enriching the community through choral music. We invite you to join us on this poignant journey, as we collectively strive to make the world a brighter place through the power of music.

**Dr. Ethan Sperry** | Artistic Director & Conductor

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# TEXT & TRANSLATIONS —

## **Lux Aeterna**

Morten Lauridsen

### **I. Introitus**

Requiem Aeternam dona eis, domine:  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Te decet hymnus Deus in Zion

et tibi redetur votum

in Jerusalem:

exaudi orationem mean,

ad te omnis caro veniet.

Requiem Aeternam Dona eis, Domine:

et lux perpetua luceat eis

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them

A hymn befits thee, O God in Sion.

and to thee a vow shall be fulfilled

in Jerusalem:

Hear my prayer,

for unto thee all flesh shall come.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,

and let perpetual light shine upon them.

### **II. In Te, domine, Speravi**

Tu ad liberandum suscepturus hominem  
non horruisti Virginis uterum.

Tu devicto mortis aculeo,

aperuisti credentibus regna coelorum.

Exprtum est in tenebris lumen rectis.

Miserere nostri, Domine

miserere nostri.

Fiat misericordia tua, domine, super nos

quemadmodum speravimus in te.

In te domine, speravi:

non confundar in aeternum.

To deliver us, you became human,  
and did not disdain the virgin's womb.

having blunted the sting of death, You

Opened the Kingdom of heaven to all believers.

A light has risen in the darkness for the upright.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

Let thy mercy be upon us, O Lord,

as we have trusted in thee.

In thee, O Lord, I have trusted

let me never be confounded.

### **III. O Nata Lux**

O nata lux de lumine,

jesu redemptor saeculi,

dignare clemens supplicum

Laudes preces que sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi

dignatus es pro perditis.

Nos membra confer effici,

tui beati corporis.

O born light of light,

Jesus, redeemer of the owrld,

mercifully deem worthy and accept

the praises and prayers of your supplicants.

thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh

for the sake of the lost ones.

grant us to be made members

of your holy body.

### **IV. Veni, Sancte Spiritus**

Veni, Sancte Spiritus,

Et emitte coelitus

Lucis tuae radium.

Veni, pater pauperum,

Veni, dator munerum,

Veni, lumen cordium.

Come, Holy spirit,

send forth from heaven

the ray of thy light

come, Father of the poor

Come, giver of gifts

come, light of hearts.



Consolator optime,  
Dulcis hospes animae,  
Dulce refrigerim.  
In labore ruquies,  
In aestu temperies,  
In fletu solatium.

O lux beatissima,  
Reple cordis intima  
Tuorum fidelium.  
Sine tuo numine  
Nihil est in homnie,  
Nihil est innoxium.

Lava quod est sordidum,  
Riga quod est aridum.  
Sana quod est sucium.  
Flecte quod est rigidum,  
Fove quod est frigidum  
Rege quod est devium.

Da tuis fidelibus,  
In te confidentibus,  
Sacrum septenarium.  
Da virtutis meritum,  
Da salutis exitum,  
Da perenne gaudium.

#### **V. Agnus Dei - Lux Aeterna**

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem.

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem.

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona es requiem sempiternam

Lux aeterna luceat eis, domine:  
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum:  
quia pius es.

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et Lux perpetua luceat eis.

Alleluia. Amen.

Thou best of consolers,  
Sweet guest of the soul  
Sweet refreshment.  
In labor, thou art rest,  
In heat, the tempering,  
In grief, the consolation.

O light most blessed,  
fill the inmost heart  
of all thy faithful  
without your grace,  
there is nothing in us,  
Nothing that is not harmful.

Cleanse what is sordid,  
moisten what is arid,  
heal what is hurt  
flex what is rigid  
fire what is frigid  
correct what goes astray

Grant to thy faithful,  
those trusting in thee,  
thy sacred seven-fold gifts  
Grant the reward of virtue  
Grant the deliverance of salvation  
grant everlasting joy.

Lamb of god,  
who takest away the sins of the world,  
grant them rest

Lamb of god,  
who takest away the sins of the world,  
grant them rest

Lamb of god,  
who takest away the sins of the world,  
grant them rest everlasting.

Light eternal shine upon them. O Lord  
in the company of thy Saints forever  
for thou art merciful.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Alleluia. Amen.

## Text & Translations (Continued)

### Finding Light

Matthew Lyon Hazzard

#### I. Prelude

"Do not be daunted by the  
enormity of the world's grief.  
Do justly, now.  
Love mercy, now.  
Walk humbly, now.  
You are not obligated  
to complete the work  
but neither are you free  
to abandon it."

— Rabbi Rami M. Shapiro, in translation of  
Rabbi Tarfon, Pirkei Avot 2:11-20

#### II. Oregon

Words by Sophia Mautz and Jonathan Talberg  
Compiled by Matthew Lyon Hazzard

The Beach strewn with sea glass,  
reflecting a prism of blue and green,  
purple, orange, violet brokenness, is a  
reminder that everything  
man-made will eventually be ground  
into nothingness.

I want a touch that doesn't make history.  
Pleasure that doesn't spell the end of the world.

Isn't love a kind of action  
even if powerless to stop things from happening  
these footprints are happening

#### III. The end of the world is a kind of weather

Sophia Mautz  
Compiled by Matthew Lyon Hazzard

At the top of the lighthouse,  
my shoe blew off into the palm trees.

I couldn't see where it landed among  
the fronds & vines. I learned

to believe things were there even if  
I couldn't see them.

This was hard to reconcile with the sense  
that things were disappearing.

Grouper, for example.  
No one had eaten it in months.

We descended over the coral shelf,  
bodies buoyant & gliding,

our minds atmospheres below us.  
We hoped the cleaner shrimps would

mistake our thoughts for fish &  
clean them.

We surveyed the dwindling life around us,  
felt nothing,

crawled back onto land.  
When we asked the people who had lived here  
a while

they just shrugged and said:  
*don't worry, be happy.*

The end of the world is a kind of weather.

In a foreign country, it began to snow.  
The snow was black. It was the farmers  
burning sugarcane nearby.

They call it *huasteca snow*,  
a kind of weather.

In certain worlds it's like this all the time  
where there's no one left who can tell  
the difference

between living and dying, or  
between ash and snow.

#### IV. This Far In

while driving back from the airport

the sky was ungodly  
pink & orange  
emissions in the air  
touched by first light

day turning everything  
smoldering blue  
I looked for any sign  
of the human among

the power plants  
& toll roads  
one after the other  
I caught glimpses of

christmas trees  
sparkling in windows  
someone calling in  
on the radio

asking for help  
the woman he kissed  
on new years eve  
hasn't texted back

every person I see  
is looking at their phone  
I want to tear it all out  
unpave the concrete

This far in,  
are we finally numbed,  
waiting out all our days,  
driven only to pleasure?

If there are people who want to sink  
an old war ship with an *undetermined*  
amount of asbestos  
& the global trade of toxic substances  
terminates in the water  
& there are waters owned by this or  
that country planning for future wars  
& the sturgeon who outlived  
dinosaurs are disappearing  
& ships kill over half their population  
while our taste for caviar grows  
& Lebanon's ancient cedars have  
nowhere higher up to go  
& they killed a man who defended the  
South River forest to build a police  
training center—

If that, then what?

How do you keep on living?  
What do you hope for?  
Do you still hope?  
Do you still have hope?  
Is hope something you can have?  
Can you have it like countries have  
oceans—have waters, have earth?

It's all wrong.  
The sounds in the air,  
My desk which is a disfigured tree.  
There is no perfection.  
We are haunted.  
The animals have disappeared.  
What did we once have?  
What did we once think life was?

If the mussels show me their way  
hardening an iridescence  
but no

I can't be like them  
I need a human to show me how to live  
Who knows how to live?  
Who knows how to live?  
I am asking

we are going  
east on the turnpike  
accelerating towards  
a blazing sky

past the factories  
past smokestacks  
why hate this life  
or this world why

this sunrise is  
beautiful &  
this concrete  
leads us to it

#### V. If The River Is Proof

Sophia Mautz

Compiled by Matthew Lyon Hazzard

If the river is proof,  
what is it doing to my sense of endings.

Growing up  
listening to nightly reports.  
The thousands of ways the world is dying.

I count the years I have left.  
I count the arctic summer sea ice.  
If I have children they will not see it.

Today my parents  
sent me a selfie wearing masks.  
They are inside their home because Oregon  
is burning.  
The ash is coming through the chimney.

The river continues  
& we believe in its continuation,  
but the river's future is the ocean.

Where do we understand what we have done?  
Where do we imagine the future we want?

I am young but feel close to  
death. It's hard to  
see. It's  
running  
out.

The river's ending is the ocean.

## Text & Translations (Continued)

### VI. Footsteps

Words by Matthew Lyon Hazzard,  
Emily Becker, & Sophia Mautz  
Compiled by Matthew Lyon Hazzard

When I was a child,  
I hid in the inky blackness of a wool blanket.  
As my eyes adjusted,  
I saw pinpricks of light through the threads.

Later, I saw  
dark times, thoughts, futures.  
I remembered the blanket and knew:  
You don't have to see the light to know it's there.

At the mouth of the cave,  
Don't turn away.  
Enter.  
Step by step.

Isn't love a kind of action?  
Even if powerless to stop things from happening,  
These footprints are happening.

### VII. The Search for Light

Texts by Sophia Mautz and  
Matthew Lyon Hazzard  
Compiled by Matthew Lyon Hazzard

When I returned to the world of the living,  
I saw people crowded in tapas bars  
Leaning towards each other  
Their cheekbones bathed in soft red light.

Suddenly here.  
Why do I need the world to survive?  
Every poem, a beacon of hope?  
Every song sung spent second guessing...

Suddenly here.  
What is it that can loosen the mind  
yoked to the boulder of conclusion?

I never understood why poems about war  
Ended by praising the blackberry,  
Always returning to beauty  
As if these pathetic little grams could outweigh  
our history.

Suddenly here.  
Why do I need the world to survive?  
Every poem, a beacon of hope?  
Every song sung spent second guessing...

Suddenly here.

What is it that can loosen the mind  
yoked to the boulder of conclusion?

Between Roman columns that stood though  
history, art movements wars, empires,  
looting, conquering, inventions, progress—  
people kiss in the sunlight.

We make a small fire in our effort to stay afloat.

### VIII. The Light in You

Texts by Jonathan Talberg & Matthew  
Lyon Hazzard  
Compiled by Matthew Lyon Hazzard

We are strangers	walking the same path.
We are divided	but have the same flesh.
We've forgotten	in our walled-off lives
that we are children	in the eyes of time, but

I recognize the light that shines in you.

If you fear me	and hate the ground I stand,
this path we travel	will one day end
before the stars above	ever see our light.
We'll wink and flicker	in their distant sight, but

I recognize the light that shines in you.

Isn't love a kind of action?

We are strangers	walking the same path
We stand divided	in the same flesh
That we are different	of the same mind—
sides	
A soul's expression	of humankind.

# GUEST COMPOSER

## Matthew Lyon Hazzard | Guest Composer

Matthew Lyon Hazzard is an award-winning Filipino-American composer, conductor, singer, and educator. Praised for his “exquisite text-setting” and for creating “stunning landscapes of sound,” his music is performed by choirs around the world. He was named the winner of the 2021 CCDA George Heussenstamm Choral Composition Competition, the 2017 ACDA Raymond W. Brock Student Composition Competition, a prize winner of the International Choral Composition Competition Japan 2016, the inaugural winner of True Concord’s Stephen Paulus Emerging Composers Competition, and many others. His music has been featured in many all-state and honor choirs—including those in Arizona, California, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon, Utah, and Washington—and sees regular performances in conventions across the country.



Hazzard earned his D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston, his M.M. in Choral Conducting from the Bob Cole Conservatory at California State University Long Beach, and his M.A.T. and B.M. in Music Composition from East Carolina University. He has directed high school, collegiate, and community choirs, and has conducted many esteemed ensembles in concert. He currently teaches choir and voice at Fullerton College where he directs the Treble Chorale and Tenor-Bass Chorale and continues to write for voices.

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## Finding Light Volunteers

Robyn Smith  
Marla Kazell

# OREGON REPERTORY SINGERS

**Oregon Repertory Singers is a premier choral arts nonprofit organization founded in 1974.** The Oregon Repertory Singers adult choir, established in 1974, involves over 100 singing members who are committed to presenting world-class music experiences accessible to all, through programming of music from the newest generation of great composers alongside celebrated choral masterworks. ORS performs three major concerts each season. Dr. Morten Lauridsen, an internationally acclaimed composer said, "This is the finest amateur large chorus I've heard anywhere in the world." (2018)

## Sopranos

Michelle Averill  
Andrea Bachhuber  
Laurel Barnum  
Suzanne Barthelmess  
Debbie Benke  
Aliyih Bristol  
Tina Bull \*  
Melissa Canaday  
Rachel Consenz  
Jeannine Dahl Fogel  
Hannah Delgado  
Celine Goodbody \*  
Tiffany Haole-Valenzuela  
Mollie Horne  
Sarah Hotz  
Samantha Hughes \*  
Andrea Kelly  
Amelia Lamb  
Kate Ledington  
Celia McDougal  
Danielle McFadden  
Megan McNeal  
Eva Patil  
JaneAnne Peterson  
Julie Quastler  
Melissa Reed  
Darcy Schray  
Lauren Storz  
April Vanderwal  
Beth Woods \*

## Altos

Shayla Bailey  
Ana Bane  
Mary Bradbury  
Amy Brittan  
Cheryl Canning  
Paula Creamer  
Alison Ellsworth  
Linda Galante  
Jen Gosnell  
Abigail Graves  
Jeri Haskins  
Lauren Haskins-Eshuis \*  
Rachel Hermansen  
Fredericka Hoeveler  
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Jan Schaeffer  
Elise Schaff Laubach  
Bethany Schweitzer-Goshorn  
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Hannah Verbruggen  
Liz Winship

## Tenors

Christopher Bailey  
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Lawson Fite  
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Peter Gunn  
Peter Haub  
Gareth Hauser  
Kaya Hellman  
Jeff Jones  
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## Bass

Dennis Baumgardner  
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John Gladen  
Joel Godbey  
Bruce Gulliver  
Rick Jones  
Joshua Kauffman  
Andrew Kent  
Dylan Moe  
David Muller  
Richard Murphy  
Steve Oliver  
Luis Ortiz-Rodriguez  
Paul Plett  
Thomas Proctor  
Greg Prosser  
Ken Ray  
Ed Reeves \*  
Miles Rigby  
Gary Ritter  
Mark Rozanski \*  
VJ Sathyaraj  
Evan Shenk  
Tim Siess \*  
Rich Vanderwal  
Cole Weber  
Roy Wilkinson

\*Not singing this concert



# GUEST ARTISTS

## David Hattner | Music Director

David Hattner is the Portland Youth Philharmonic's fifth Musical Director in its distinguished 100-year history. Former music critic for The Oregonian, David Stabler, commented that under Hattner's baton the orchestra "Roared like a Maserati!" Hattner has worked with numerous orchestras across the country throughout his career, most recently he debuted with the Phoenix Symphony, Olympia Symphony, Baton Rouge Symphony, and Chamber Music Northwest, and has appeared with the Oregon Symphony and the Musicians of the Fort Worth Symphony. An active clarinetist, Hattner regularly performs on All Classical radio.



## Camerata PYP from Portland Youth Philharmonic

**Camerata PYP**, the flexible-instrumentation advanced chamber orchestra of Portland Youth Philharmonic, gives select musicians the opportunity to explore an extraordinary range of repertoire at intimate venues in and around Portland and performs two programs annually. Some of the ensemble's most memorable achievements include a collaborative production of *Voices of Light* by Richard Einhorn, performed with a screening of the 1928 silent film, *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, and a collaboration with In Mulieribus for the world premiere of Jessica Meyer's *Because I Will Not Despair*.



### Violin I

Claire Youn,  
Co-concertmaster  
Derek Choi,  
Co-concertmaster

Kaylee Nah  
Jonathan Hu

Yoojin Kang  
Anderson Skarstad

### Violin II

Katie Liu,  
Co-principal  
Asher Milman,  
Co-principal

Megan Hiserote  
Veronica Horyelov

Emily Rhew

**Viola**  
Luke D'Silva  
Selah Lee

Hailey Youn  
Maisy Sturman

### Cello

Kristen Kim  
Co-principal  
Andy Shin  
Co-principal

Sarah Lee  
Ellie Liu

Annie Rhew  
Loni Yin

Liam Aranda-Michel

### Bass

Daphne Titterington  
Steven Walker

### Flute

Macy Gong

### Clarinet

Miloh Dunn  
David Hattner

### Bassoon

Katelyn Nguyen

### Horn

Harrison Tye  
Ryleigh Mervine

### Bass Trombone

Kevin He

### Percussion

Jack Lattimore  
Eadric Li

# ARTISTIC STAFF



## Dr. Ethan Sperry | Artistic Director & Conductor

Hailed by The Oregonian for providing “the finest choral concerts in Portland in recent memory,” Dr. Ethan Sperry has been the Artistic Director and Conductor of Oregon Repertory Singers since 2011. Dr. Sperry began studying conducting at the age of eight, cello at the age of twelve, and singing at the age of eighteen. He has earned a bachelor’s degree in Philosophy from Harvard College and Masters and Doctoral degrees in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California. Ensembles under his direction have toured to Argentina, Bermuda, Canada, Chile, China, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guadeloupe, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Puerto Rico, Portugal, Russia, Spain, and Taiwan, and have performed at major venues in the United States including The Hollywood Bowl, The Kennedy Center, The Washington National Cathedral, St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City, The Nassau Coliseum, Cincinnati’s Music Hall, Boston’s Symphony Hall, and the United Nations. He recently led the Portland State Chamber Choir to victory as the first American choir ever to win the prestigious Seghizzi International Competition for Choral Singing in Italy and the Bali International Choral Festival in Indonesia, and led Oregon Repertory Singers to place second in the folk music category at the International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales, the oldest choral competition in the world. A prolific arranger of World Music for choirs, Dr. Sperry is the editor of the Global Rhythms series for Earthsongs Music, one of the best-selling choral series in the country. Dr. Sperry is also a frequent collaborator with film composer AR Rahman and has appeared as a guest conductor for him numerous times including at Bollywood Night at the Hollywood Bowl and the 2008 Filmfare Awards, the Indian equivalent of the Oscars. He is a co-host for Sounds Choral on WWFM, the only weekly radio show devoted to choral music in the United States. Dr. Sperry was the 2016 Distinguished Artist at the Civitella Ranieri in Italy. He is also Barre Stoll Professor of Choral Music at Portland State University, where he conducts the world-renowned Chamber Choir and University Choir and leads undergraduate and graduate programs in conducting.

## Lisa Riffel | Assistant Conductor

Lisa Riffel is in her third year serving as the assistant conductor of the Oregon Repertory Singers, and her eleventh year singing with the choir. She is a dedicated music educator and passionate choral conductor. Strong musicianship skills, musicality, and a community focus have enabled her to lead efficient rehearsals and give emotive performances with her choirs. Outside of her work with ORS, Lisa directs the choirs at Lincoln High School. Under her leadership the choir program has doubled in size, toured nationally and internationally, and consistently receives high scores at local festivals and competitions. Originally from the Los Angeles area, Lisa moved to Portland to study choral conducting with Dr. Ethan Sperry at Portland State University. She graduated with a Masters of Music in Choral Conducting in 2016. Artistic director Ethan Sperry has said that “sight singing is her superpower”. Lisa resides with her husband, Andy, and daughter, Hazel, in Northeast Portland. She is happy to have found a home in the beautiful Pacific Northwest and enjoys exploring the many parks and hiking trails in the area.



## Naomi LaViolette | Accompanist

Naomi LaViolette is a composer, performer, singer-songwriter and versatile pianist based in Portland, Oregon. She has a master's degree in classical piano performance, but she has also immersed herself in the study of jazz standards, folk songs, soul, pop and gospel. Her compositions and recordings have received great reviews and critical acclaim, and she has performed at esteemed venues and festivals including the Carnegie Hall Weill Recital Hall, the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, Portland Jazz Festival, Jimmy Mak's, the Doug Fir Lounge, and the Aladdin Theater. Her work with Steven Goodwin and the Saving His Music project has received prominent coverage in national and local news, including CBS Sunday Morning. Their record, entitled *The Nature Of Love*, spent three weeks on the Billboard New Age chart in January 2018.



Since 2004, the Oregon Repertory Singers have made her an essential part of their artistic staff as their pianist. Naomi is a published choral composer with Santa Barbara Publishing. Her compositions and recordings of solo piano, released under the moniker Lucente Skye, have been featured on streaming platform playlists and on All Classical Radio. The Oregon Symphony collaborates with Naomi as a songwriter and arranger for the Lullaby Project. Naomi frequently sings national anthems for conventions and sporting events, and she is a pianist for She's Speaking, a collective that creates forums/spaces for women's voices and women's stories to be heard.

# SUPPORT YOUR SINGERS

**Celebrate Oregon Repertory Singers in its double milestone anniversary season with a tax-deductible gift.**

Your generous contribution will help Oregon Repertory Singers by **attracting world-class musicians**, directors, and composers, **nurturing the next generation** through scholarships and accessible educational programs, and **supporting sustainability** while continuing to innovate.

You can mark your excitement for this milestone anniversary season in a number of ways:

- Join our treasured troupe of GEMS (Give Every Month Supporters) by committing to a recurring gift of \$50 per month for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary or \$30 per month for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary...*or join at any amount that works for you!* If you're already giving monthly through our GEM program, thank you.
- Offer a one-time, general operating gift in celebration of this double milestone season.
- Direct your dollars to the Kris Van Auken Youth Choir Tuition Scholarship Fund.
- Invest in the Elevate campaign for more visionary concerts and performance opportunities - visit [ORSingers.org/ors/elevate](https://ORSingers.org/ors/elevate) for more exciting details.

**Your contribution is a testament to your belief in Oregon Repertory Singers, your support of the arts, and your invaluable investment in the cultural vibrancy of our community. Thank you for celebrating with us!**

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# Elevate!

A campaign to give voice to our mission.

The Elevate Campaign is a new and celebratory way to invest in Oregon Repertory Singers. Gifts of all sizes can be made to Elevate to fund and accelerate more visionary concerts and performance opportunities, including:

Collaborations with renowned composers  
Commissions of new works  
Album recordings

More youth scholarships and  
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Nora McLaughlin, *in memory*  
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We are happy to talk with you about being part of the biggest creative endeavor in ORS history and supporting ORS being bigger and bolder each season!

\*These donors honor the legacy of former Artistic Director Gil Seeley, Conductor & Artistic Director of ORS for 35 years, and have contributed toward the effort to name the Artistic Director position the Gil Seeley Artistic Director Chair.





# OREGON REPERTORY SINGERS YOUTH CHOIR



The ORS Youth Choir serves over 160 young singers in three locations (Portland, Beaverton, and Vancouver) with a growing staff of passionate educators. We meet singers in their communities, providing music education, literacy skills, and mountaintop musical experiences. Artistic Director Aubrey Patterson actively partners with area school programs as a choir clinician and sight reading specialist. Learn more about our program at [ORSingers.org/youth-choir](https://ORSingers.org/youth-choir).

## Sopranos

Lilly Arnold  
Ku'uipo Kaplan  
Jordan McGrath  
Wish Rank  
Tia Smith  
Natalie Swartley

## Altos

Finola Cleveland  
Caitlin Duncan  
Jocelyn Emery  
Luci LaViolette  
Maya Miller  
Fiona Vanderwal  
Alex Woods



Oregon  
Repertory  
Singers  
YOUTH CHOIR



**Summer Sing EAST:**  
**July 29 – August 2**  
St. Philip Neri Catholic Church

**Summer Sing WEST:**  
**August 5 – 9**  
Cedar Hills United Church of Christ

# YOUTH CHOIR ARTISTIC STAFF

## **Aubrey Patterson** | Artistic Director and High School Conductor

Aubrey Patterson (she/her) taught for twelve years as a director of choirs in Oregon public high schools, currently conducts the auditioned treble ensemble at Lewis and Clark, is a University Supervisor for choral teacher candidates for Portland State University, and is the Artistic Director for the Oregon Repertory Singers Youth Choir. She holds a Bachelor of Arts with honors in music education and vocal performance, as well as a Master of Arts in Teaching with an emphasis in secondary choral music education from Oregon State University. Patterson is currently the Northwest American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Regional Resource and Repertoire Coordinator for kindergarten through twelfth grade, and the Oregon ACDA Resource and Repertoire Area Chair.



Patterson taught for six years as director of choirs at West Linn High School, growing the program to create a full-time, comprehensive choral curriculum at a 6A high school. Her program earned its first state title in 2019 (pre-Covid) and its second “consecutive” state title in 2022. Internationally, Ms. Patterson has served as director of choirs at the Sichuan, China Conservatory of Music summer camp, and as the assistant choir director of the biannual Oregon Ambassadors of Music Europe tour.

Patterson spent seven years at Corvallis High School, restructuring and cultivating a choral program that won the choir state championship in 2015, 2016, and 2017, and was invited to perform at the American Choral Directors Association Northwest Conference.

Patterson is the youngest ever Oregon-certified choral adjudicator and enjoys adjudicating, clinician work, and premiering new and commissioned works with her ensembles. She was the associate director of Corvallis Repertory Singers with Dr. Steven Zielke during her time in Corvallis and is the inaugural recipient of the Young Conductor Award from Oregon ACDA. Her passions include developing strong music literacy skills, working with singers of all ages, selecting innovative repertoire that builds empathy and understanding, establishing a choir culture that fosters leadership and collaboration, and using music to build strong communities. She enjoys the outdoors, being in water in any capacity, and adventures with her partner Nathan, new family addition Silas William, and goldendoodle Zoey Jane.

## Cindy Mair | Collaborative Pianist

Cindy Mair retired in 2016 from a rewarding 36-year career teaching K-12 music in public education. Her specialties included elementary classroom music in addition to middle and high school choral instruction. An Oregon native, Cindy received her BA in Music Education from Oregon State University and later her Masters in Administrative Leadership from Concordia University. Her favorite assignment has always been that of a collaborative pianist. She has accompanied many ensembles and soloists both at the local and state level. Before joining the ORS Youth Choir, Cindy accompanied the Portland Symphonic Girlchoir for the past 6 seasons. She also enjoys playing for the Milwaukie Lutheran Church Choir and the Tilikum Choir Community under the direction of John Baker. Cindy feels she has come 'full circle' in her musical adventure as she was a proud alto in the adult ORS choir in the mid-1980s! When not collaborating with ORS Youth, you will find her performing with her husband Allan, a professional musician.



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 Shelli Lundgren  
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 Thomas Proctor\*  
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 John McDonald

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 Barbara Rank‡  
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 Lisa\* & Andy Riffel  
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 Nicholas Running  
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 Evamarie Schmeer *In honor of*  
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 Darcy\* & Ian Schray  
 Bethany Schweitzer\*  
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 Meredith Timmons  
 Alison & Mark Toledo‡  
*In honor of Anne Toledo and*  
 Eric Biewener  
 Gale Townsley & Carol Talbeck  
 Jamie Troy\* & Barry Pack  
 Robert Tufts

Kysa & Kevin Vassily‡ *In honor*  
*of Lydia Ross*  
 Scott Weaver & Curvin Carbough  
*In honor of Mark Solon, Kirk*  
*Masterson, &*  
*Darlyn Jablonski*  
 Joshua Weir\*  
 Elizabeth Willis‡  
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*Sandy Haskins*  
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 Fabian Norman  
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 April 1, 2023 –  
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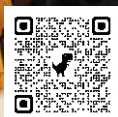
\*= Member of Oregon Repertory Singers

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†= Parent of ORS Youth Choir singer

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# UPCOMING EVENTS



## If You Dream, You Can Fly

ORS Youth Choir Final Concert with  
special performance by Oregon Repertory Singers  
Saturday, May 18, 2024  
Middle and High School Choir | 2 PM  
Elementary Choir | 4 PM

**First United Methodist Church**  
1838 SW Jefferson Street, Portland

Pay-What-You-Can Ticket Pricing



Oregon Repertory Singers Youth Choir closes its 30<sup>th</sup> season with two commission premieres! *If You Dream, You Can Fly* will include the premiere of a new combined work for youth and adult choirs from pianist and composer Naomi LaViolette, *Racing the Moon*, with poetry by Youth Choir singer Luci LaViolette, commissioned for this performance! As part of a consortium, Youth Choir also commissioned SUNAAO by composer Reena Esmail, a set of three pieces “designed to introduce young choirs to the Hindi/Urdu language,” and “remind us to approach new ideas from a place of curiosity.”

**Learn More About ORS Youth Choir:** Details and tuition available at [ORSingers.org/youth-choir](https://ORSingers.org/youth-choir).

# SAVE THE DATES

## 2024–2025 Season

### Fall Concert

October 26 & 27, 2024 | 4 PM

**Patricia Reser Center for the Arts**  
12625 SW Crescent Street,  
Beaverton, OR 97005

### Glory of Christmas

December 8, 2024 | 4 PM  
December 13, 2024 | 7:30 PM  
December 15, 2024 | 4 PM

**First United Methodist Church,**  
1838 SW Jefferson Street  
Portland, OR 97201

### Spring Concert

May 3 & 4, 2025 | 4 PM

**First United Methodist Church**  
1838 SW Jefferson Street  
Portland, OR 97201



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