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- Paul McCartney.

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2023-2024 CHESAPEAKE CHORALE 43rd Season: *The Power of Voice*

PRESENTS:

"SING OUT!"

JESSE PARKER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ALEXA KONTOS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SARAH YOUNG, COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

Sunday, February, 25th, 2024 at 3:00pm Christian Community Presbyterian Church 3120 Belair Drive, Bowie, MD 20715

Come in from the cold and join the Chorale for a Cabaret-style program with pop culture selections and arrangements to be announced.

This Performance includes one Intermission.

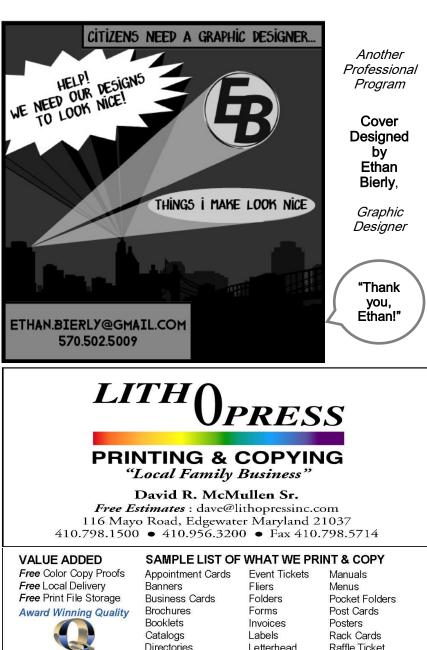
Please silence your cell phones. The use of recording devices or flash photography is prohibited.



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ccpc.bowiemd.org for years of granting the Chesapeake Chorale rehearsal space. Thanks for helping to make our joy of singing possible!

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Join us at our 43rd Season Concert Finale—

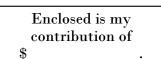
"The Song Within"

For this season's finale the Chorale will perform W.A. Mozart's Solemn Vespers, with chamber orchestra. This classical gem from 1779 contains memorable choruses and solos, in particular the sublime "Laudate

Dominum" for soprano and chorus. The concert second half maintains mindful and introspective musical journey with music by Mack Wilberg ("My Song in the Night"), Elaine Hagenberg ("The Music of Stillness"), John Horman ("We Are the Music Makers") and additional splendors of the choral art performed by the region's outstanding Chesapeake Chorale!

> **Sunday, May 19th, 2024 at 3:00pm** St. Matthew's United Methodist Church 14900 Annapolis Road, Bowie, MD 20715

Did You Know... Only a small fraction of our annual budget is supported by the box office. You can help defray our costs with a donation! Send your contribution to: Chesapeake Chorale, P.O. Box 1037, Bowie, MD 20718-1037

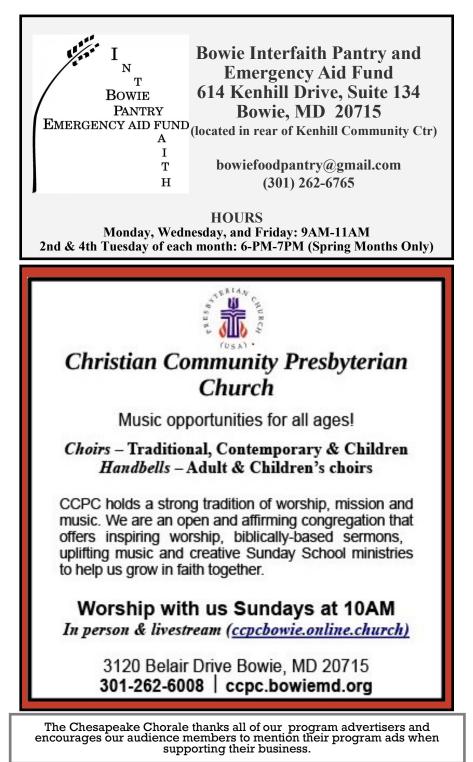


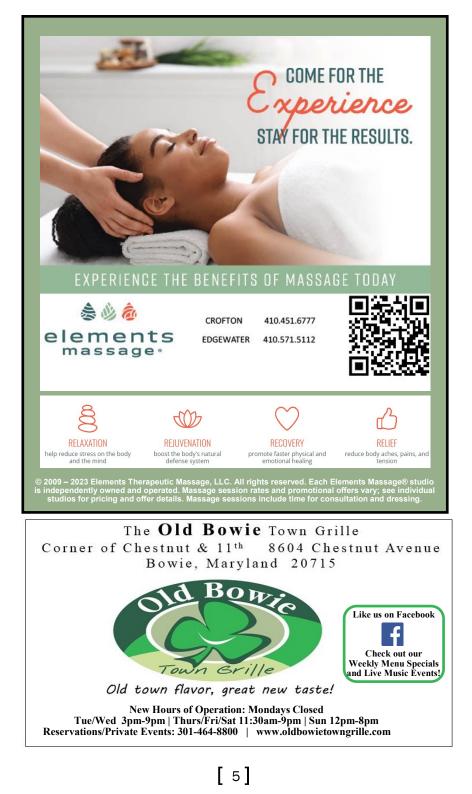
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<u>A Word from the Lyricist:</u>

There is something within each of us worth finding – a dream, a light, a voice. We each have it! We need only look deep within. Or help others find it. No fear, doubt, or shadow should deter us from realizing that voice! That meaning! That song! Our gifted self! Our gift to others! Look within, for there you will find the promised light! The song to sing! It will be your voice that af-



firms who you are!! We stand side by side, blending our lives. Our voices can be a force for change. They beat with the metronome of love and understanding. The music is the love we lift from our souls, into the lives of others. I have a voice, yes! But I am a voice that SINGS! You are a voice that sings! I just look at the world, the need of the human heart! To the wonderful Chesapeake Chorale, thank you for sharing your voice and your song with the world. With every heart nearby. With each choir member next to you! I am honored to have you do this work and grateful for my collaboration with Michael Bussewitz-Quarm.

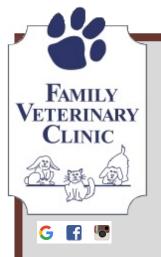
-Ron Cadmus

Ronald William Cadmus, minister, author, lyricist, and speaker is a West Virginia Wesleyan College graduate with degrees in religion and psychology. He was ordained a United Methodist Minister in 1975 and in 1981, under invitation of Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, was installed as the 48th minister in line of succession at the Historic Collegiate Church, New York City (founded in 1628).

Mr. Cadmus has produced numerous choral anthems in collaboration with notable composers to include Joseph Martin, Kevin Boesiger, and Robert S. Cohen. Of note, several works in partnership with Mr. Cohen have been written for and premiered by the Philadelphia Boys Choir—Young Ambassadors of the United States.

Today, a retired minister of the Reformed Church in America, Mr. Cadmus is an accomplished author with published works including <u>God's Loving</u> <u>Embrace: The Touch That Comforts and Restores</u>, (published by Thomas Nelson), <u>Still, In One Peace</u> (Circle Books), and <u>The Melodies of Christ</u> (WestBow Press).

Several of his writings, "Tuesday Mourning (9/11)," "The Rescue," "Let Love Live in Me," and "Towers of Light" are based upon his experiences working for four months as Chaplain at the Family Crisis Center and Ground Zero. These works appear in the Artists Registry of the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. Mr. Cadmus resides in Manchester, New Jersey.



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Staff Biographies

JESSE PARKER, D.M.A., is the Artistic Director of the Chesapeake Chorale and Chamber Singers. Dr. Parker and the Chorale have enjoyed a highly successful collaboration. Together, they have presented a wide range of repertoire, including music by Brahms, Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Bernstein, Vivaldi, Bloch, and Poulenc, as well as by numerous contemporary Pop and Broadway composers, including Queen, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Stephen Sondheim, and Burt Bacharach.

Bringing new music to the concert stage is one of the hallmarks of their collaboration including the premiere of Bruce Trinkley's cantata "Herrick's Lyricks" and the commissioning of Libby Larsen's "If Music Be the Food of Love" premiered by Dr. Parker and the Chorale as part of the Chorale's 30th Anniversary Season. He is also the founder and Music Director of Voices 21 and the Director of Music at Potomac United Methodist Church. In addition, Dr. Parker lectures for the Lifelong Learning Institute at Montgomery College. Courses he has developed for the LLI include "Musical Mavericks and Innovators," "The Art of Listening: A Fresh Look at Music You Love," "Sondheim Songbook," "An Elegant Sufficiency: Masterpieces from Schubert's Final Year," "The Orchestra: From the Page to the Stage," "*Hamilton*: Who Tells Your Story?," and "Bernstein: Conductor, Composer, Icon."

Before creating Voices 21 and joining the Chesapeake Chorale, he was the Associate Conductor of the Maryland Handel Festival, and he has served on the faculties of the University of Maryland and Sweet Briar College. He studied conducting with Paul Traver at the University of Maryland, where he earned a doctorate in music, and for more than ten years assisted Dr. Traver in preparing the Maryland Chorus for performances in the U.S. and Europe, with many renowned conductors including Leonard Slatkin, Lorin Maazel, Georg Solti, Zubin Mehta, Antal Dorati, and John Nelson.

Dr. Parker has conducted on tour abroad with performances in Ireland, Austria, France, Italy and Costa Rica. In July 2000, he was one of eight regional conductors to be selected by the National Symphony Orchestra to prepare choirs for the premier of Maury Yeston's "An American Cantata," conducted by Leonard Slatkin. Dr. Parker has been active in the Washington area for over 20 years holding conducting positions in churches and with a number of community groups including serving as the conductor of the Preparatory Orchestra at the Washington Conservatory of Music and as the Principal Conductor of the NIH Chamber Orchestra. Dr. Parker is also the Resident Conductor of Chevy Chase Chamber Music Society with whom he has performed Stravinsky's "L'Histoire du Soldat" and a chamber arrangement of Mahler's Symphony No. 4.

Dr. Parker is currently the Music Director at Potomac United Methodist Church where he oversees every aspect of PUMC's excellent music program—from rehearsing and leading the Chancel Choir and soloists in worship services to choosing the hymns for congregational singing. In addition, he coordinates the Community Concert Series, helps to guide the Young Voices Choir and collaborates with staff and clergy on church-wide programming. **ALEXA KONTOS** is a mezzo-soprano, conductor and music educator based in Maryland. She earned her Bachelor of Music Education from Frostburg State University in 2017 where she studied conducting with Dr. James Reddan and voice with Dr. Mariana Mihai-Zoeter and Mrs. Lawren Hill. In 2014, she toured Italy with the Chamber Singers performing in Perugia, Florence, and Rome. She was a recipient of the Talent in the Arts Scholarship and Sloop Leadership Institute Scholarship.

Mrs. Kontos currently serves as the lead music teacher at Marley Middle School in Glen Burnie, Maryland where has taught over 200 students annually since 2017. Mrs. Kontos was the nominee for Marley Middle School for Anne Arundel County Public Schools' Teacher of the Year award in 2023. She has presented at the Maryland Music Educators State Conference, and is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association and National Association for Music Education.

Mrs. Kontos is passionate about researching and performing unique, new choral works, as well as exposing her choirs to a variety of musical genres and traditions. She was selected as a 2023 Conducting Fellow for the Atlanta Summer Conducting Institute, where she studied under Dr. Deanna Joseph and Dr. Daniel Bara, and was a 2016 Undergraduate Conducting Fellow at ACDA's Voices United Conference under Charles Bruffy. Mrs. Kontos believes in the importance of being a lifelong learner and constantly working to improve your craft.

She has been a member of the Chesapeake Chorale since 2017 and has previously served on the Executive Board. Mrs. Kontos currently lives in Laurel with her husband, Dimitri, who can frequently be seen managing the box office and other "behind the scenes" needs at Chorale performances. She is excited and honored to make her debut as Assistant Director in the 2023-2024 season!

SARAH YOUNG is a pianist, mezzo-soprano, and teacher. She graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2017 with Bachelor's degrees in Piano and Vocal Performance, studying with Dr. Mayron Tsong and Linda Mabbs respectively, and received her Master's in Piano Performance from Stony Brook University in 2020 where she studied piano with Gilbert Kalish and voice with Brenda Harris.

Sarah had her orchestral début at the age of 15 with the Capital City Symphony, and since then has performed at such venues as the Kennedy Center Mainstage, Millenium Stage, and the Weill Recital Hall. As a vocalist, she has performed the role of Mère Jeanne in the Stony Brook Opera production of *Dialogues des Carmélites* and as a chorus member in *Dido and Aneas*, as well as in the Maryland Opera Studio's production of *Don Giovanni* and *Regina*. Over the years, Sarah has received master classes and coachings from Leon Fleisher, Brian Ganz, Arthur Haas, Christopher Elton, and Anton Nel. In December of 2021, she and soprano Raha Mirzadegan–together forming the voice-piano duo Les Chevelures–

were accepted into the Nadia and Lili Boulanger International Voice-Piano Competition and performed at the Conservatoire national supérieur d'Art dramatique in Paris, France. In the summer of 2022, Les Chevelures received a grant from the MTNA to make recordings of the repertoire they performed in Paris and will be appearing in recital in NY and the DMV area this season. Sarah also joined the Chesapeake Chorale as their collaborative artist in the fall of 2022.

Sarah resides in Bowie, MD with her husband, where she maintains a private piano studio that consists of students of all ages, skill levels, and backgrounds. Sarah is also a board member for the Music Teachers Association of Bowie, as well as chairperson for the Bowie-Glenn Dale chapter of the National Guild of Piano Teachers, and her students are active in these events throughout the year.



Chesapeake Chorale

Dr. Jesse Parker, Artistic Director and Conductor Alexa Kontos, Assistant Director Sarah Young, Collaborative Artist

SOPRANO

Vernie Angco Tina Burton Cathy Cassot Aressa Coley+§ Renée Dearring Brenda Duvall § Renée Duzan Joanne Horton Hiroko Karan Mary Kirkeby Alexa Kontos + Wendy Lubarsky ° Sharon Merrick[°] Emily Mink+§ Pamela Pine[°] Angela Pugh∳§ Jane Thessin+[°]

<u>ALTO</u> Nina Dorsett +

Amy Lindberg +

Betsy Lord

Joanna Shane♦§ <u>TENOR</u>

John Jennings♦ ♦

Natalie Brooks + Anne Casto Michelle Dobbs June Doezema

Rodman Berfield + § Chuck Hastings +

Jack Coolidge Tom Horton Richard Kaiser + Dave Lord

♦= Section Leader
♦= Chamber Singer

Bill Mauer + Ian Shantz Robert Struble ♦ + § Chuck Tanner + Sheila Stager Susan Truitt +§ Anne Weadon

Frank Lyman

BASS

Jim Truitt✦ Mark Weadon §

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We Would Like to Acknowledge ...

...our cherished volunteers both onstage and working hard behind the scenes to help produce great programming.

Marilyn Aquilina, Brooke Davis, Gordon Duvall, Dimitri Kontos, Daniel Lindberg, Jonathan Shane, Marty Sippel, and Judie Tucker

For the Chorale, thank you to our Concert Team Leadership:

Amy Lindberg, Concert Team Leader Bill Mauer, Stage Manager Emily Mink, Concert Manager Brenda Duvall, Front House Manager



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<u>Associates</u>

Rodman and Erin Berfield Matthew Kinnard Pamela Pine Grace and Karen Sharp Charles and Norma Talbert

List as of February 14th, 2023

Interested in singing with us?

The Chesapeake Chorale is an auditioned, non-profit community chorus based in Bowie, MD. Membership is open to all, with special arrangements available to secondary school and college students through the Chorale Scholars program. We'd love to have you sing with us at our next concerts! Speak to a member directly after an event or contact us:

Chesapeake Chorale | P.O. Box 1037 Bowie, Maryland 20718-1037 chesapeakechorale1@gmail.com | (443) 292-2176 www.chesapeakechorale.org

The Chorale's next open rehearsal for potential new members will be tentatively held on:

Tuesday, September 3rd, 2024 7:30pm Christian Community Presbyterian Church 3120 Belair Dr., Bowie, MD 20715.

All voice parts welcome.



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