

..... A PLU CHRISTMAS



LIGHT

2023 PROGRAM

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for *Light*, our 2023 PLU Christmas Concert. We are delighted to share this festive celebration of the season with you.

As you enjoy today's performance, remember that our annual Christmas concerts are but one part of a vibrant, busy performance season that showcases the collaborative work of an incredible faculty and talented students. We ask you to consider supporting these—and future—students in their PLU music journey. Your gifts, of any size, support music scholarships and will help PLU students share their talent and exceptional work for years to come.

To make a donation, please visit plu.edu/christmasgift or contact the Office of Advancement.



We thank you for celebrating Christmas with us. May you have a bright and merry holiday season!



2023 PERFORMANCES

Saturday, December 2 • 7:30 pm

*Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Russell Music Center*

Sunday, December 3 • 2:00 pm

*Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Russell Music Center*

Monday, December 4 • 7:30 pm

Benaroya Hall, Seattle

Saturday, December 9 • 7:30 pm

*Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Russell Music Center*

Sunday, December 10 • 2:00 pm

*Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Russell Music Center*



plu.edu/professional-studies/arts

*Please turn off the audio signal on all electronic devices during the concert.
The use of cameras, cell phones, or other recording equipment during
the performance is prohibited.*

PROGRAM

PART I

Combined Choirs and Orchestra

Brian Galante, conductor

Gabriel's Message (2005) Basque Carol
arr. Joshua Shank

Caroline Bergren, Abigail Thompson, Yakov Lychik, and Dominic Walker, or
Madison Ashley, Jessica Heinauer, Jacob Ray, and Jack Burrows, *solo quartet*

A young maiden worshiped
the Lord of Creation,
when an angel came down from heaven
to speak with her.
—*Basque, based on 13th-century Latin carol*

In the Bleak Midwinter (2023) Gustav Holst (1874-1934)
arr. Dan Forrest
World premiere orchestration commissioned by PLU

Gloria (1990) Randol Alan Bass

Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace to all those of good will.
We praise you. We bless you.
We worship you. We glorify you.
We give thanks to you according to your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly king, God the Father almighty.
Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You who take away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
You who take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You who sit at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For you alone are holy.
You alone are Lord.
You alone are the most high, Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.
—*Latin, liturgical*

LIGHT

AUDIENCE CAROL: Festival First Nowell (2014)English Carol
arr. Dan Forrest

(Please stand and sing)

VERSE 1 (ALL)

The first Nowell the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!

VERSE 2

(Soprano, Alto voices)

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;

(Tenor, Bass voices)

And to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

(Choir only)

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!

VERSE 3 (ALL)

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought,
and with His blood mankind hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!

PART II

University Chorale
Tiffany Walker, conductor

In Natali Domini Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

At the birth of the Lord
all mortals cried out together:
Where is the child born for us?
In Bethlehem is the little child born for us,
wrapped in a blanket:
Jesus is his name.

—Latin and German, 14th century

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming.....Praetorius

Silent Night (2018)German Carol
arr. Sarah Quartel

Ring the Bells (2012)Rosephanye Powell

PART III

Combined Choirs and Orchestra Tiffany Walker, conductor

AUDIENCE CAROL: O Little Town of Bethlehem..... Lewis H. Redner
(1831-1908)

(Please stand and sing)

VERSE 1

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy darkness shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

VERSE 2

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king,
And peace to all the earth!

VERSE 3

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!

from *Lux: The Dawn from on High*,
“Creator of the Stars of Night” (2018)..... Dan Forrest

Glen Fritz or Allen Tugade, *opening solo*
Meghan Johnson or Samantha Katz, *opening solo*
Ellie O'Brien or Kaitlyn Ochs, *closing solo*

Creator of the stars of night,
thy people's everlasting Light,
O Christ, Thou Savior of us all,
now hear Thy servants when they call.

O Blest Creator of the light,
who made the day with radiance bright,
and o'er the newborn world did call
the light from darkness first of all.

LIGHT

When the whole world drew on toward night,
thou camest, not in splendor bright
as sovereign, but the humble Child
of Mary, virgin mother mild.

To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
laud, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen

...It lights the Whole Sky...
—*Latin, 7th century chant*

INTERMISSION

PART IV

University Symphony Orchestra
Asieh Mahyar, conductor

Christmas Overture **Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)**
arr. Sydney Baynes (1879-1938)

A Christmas Festival **Leroy Anderson (1908-1975)**

AUDIENCE CAROL: Joy to the World **English Carol**
arr. John Rutter

(Please stand and sing)

VERSE 1

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

VERSE 2

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

VERSE 3

He rules the world with truth and grace;
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

PART V

Choir of the West Brian Galante, *conductor*

The Children's Eye (2016) Caroline Shaw

Caitlyn Babcock or Abigail Thompson, *alto*

Summer fading, winter comes—
Frosty mornings, tingling thumbs
Window robins, winter rooks,
And the picture story-books.

Water now is turned to stone
Nurse and I can walk upon;
Still we find the flowing brooks
In the picture story-books.

All the pretty things put by,
Wait upon the children's eye,
Sheep and shepherds, trees and crooks,
In the picture story-books.

We may see how all things are,
Seas and cities, near and far,
And the flying fairies' looks,
In the picture story-books.

How am I to sing your praise,
Happy chimney-corner days,
Sitting safe in nursery nooks,
Reading picture story-books?
—Robert Louis Stevenson, 1850-1894

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,
reaching from one end to the other mightily,
and sweetly ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.
—Latin, from 'O Antiphons', 7th century

What Sweeter Music (1988) John Rutter

In dulci Jubilo (2012) Latin and German Carol arr. Matthew Culloton

In dulci jubilo (*In sweet joy*),
Let us our homage show,
Our heart's joy reclineth
In praesepio (*In a manger*),
And like a bright star shineth,
Matris in gremio (*In your mother's lap*).
Alpha es et O (*Beginning and ending*).

LIGHT

O Jesu parvule (*O infant Jesus*)!
I yearn for thee always!
Hear me, I beseech thee,
O Puer optime (*O best of boys*)!
My pray'r let it reach thee,
O Princeps gloriae (*O Prince of Glory*);
Trahe me post te (*Draw me after you*).

O Patris caritas (*O love of the Father*)!
O Nati lenitas (*O mercy of the Son*)!
Deeply were we stained,
Per nostra crimina (*Through our sins*);
But thou hast for us gained
Coelorum gaudia (*The joys of heaven*)!
O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia (*Where are joys*)!
Where, if they be not there?
There are angels singing
Nova cantica (*New songs*)!
And there the bells are ringing
In regis curia (*In the King's courts*)
O that we were there,

In dulci jubilo (*In sweet joy*)!

PART VI

Combined Choirs and Orchestra **Brian Galante and Asieh Mahyar, conductors**

O Come, All Ye Faithful (2012)	English Carol arr. Dan Forrest
Angels From the Realms of Glory (2014)	Scottish Carol arr. Dan Forrest
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (2001)	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) arr. Mack Wilberg
Beautiful Savior	arr. F. Melius Christiansen arr. for orchestra by Paul Tegels

PERFORMERS

CHOIR OF THE WEST Brian Galante, *conductor*

SOPRANO

Madison Ashley
Caroline Bergren
Molly Bliss
Erin Burson
Hannah McVay
Emily Morse
Ellie O'Brien
Kristen Ronning
Allie Watkins

ALTO

Caitlyn Babcock
Sophia Barkhurst
Lillian Gundersen
Jessica Heinauer
Meghan Johnson
Marissa McBride
Kyla Rivera
Abigail Thompson

TENOR

Joel Barkman
Jake Kesling
Yakov Lychik
Spencer McCray
Zyreal Oliver-
Chandler
Jacob Ray
Dane Schmidt
Allen Tugade

BASS

Daniel Beck
Jack Burrows
Robert Cope-
Powell
Glen Fritz
Jonathan Holder
Kody Smith
Isaiah Utto-
Galarneau
Dominic Walker

UNIVERSITY CHORALE Tiffany Walker, *conductor*

SOPRANO

Samantha Katz
Cecelia Lerner
Áine McCarty
Kyra McCloud
Kaitlyn Ochs
Katie Olson
Lilla Seitz
Mariana Vargas
Anna Yee
Madison Zantello

ALTO

Presley Clark
Jaclyn Davis
Nora Davis
Lizveth Delgado-
Olvera
Maggie Dobbins
Alonna Hall
Issabella Marchio
Alyson Rake
Josie Mae Sanders
Zari Warden

TENOR

Kendan Bendt
Kay Fitton
Harry Gomes
Joaquin Makinster
Riley Penland
Gabe Stadtmueller
Thomas Tafoya

BASS

Daniel Allen
Kai Kindem
Ryan Lelli
Jack Meisberger
Cooper Perez
Brody Willard

UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Asieh Mahyar, *conductor*

FLUTE

Katherine Gunter
Blake Leahy
Kade Levien
Eva Reutercona

OBOE

Ainsley Fuerst
Jaden White

CLARINET

Abigail Caprye
Caitlin Collins
Jeremy Wuitschick©

BASSOON

Rorie Millward
Tyler Woo

HORN

Mateo Acuña
Benjamin Birmingham
Benjamin Coats
James Gibson

TRUMPET

Connor Kaczowski
Brandon Liukkonen
Jess Mason

TROMBONE

Joshua Green
Sabien Kinchlow-
McConnaughey
Sarah Zundel

TUBA

Gabriel Murray
Cassidy Stanhope

PERCUSSION

Kyle Gough
Ben Helgeson
Evan Nakanishi*
Cole Strichertz

KEYBOARD

Amy Boers
Rachel Mower

VIOLIN I

Mya Sullivan+
Gabriel Casey-
Aguinaga
Evelina Bozhko
Cora Beeson
Lydia Downs
Joan Fort
Janelle Barlowe

VIOLIN II

Justin Singh*
Pablo Arellano
Cardenas
Joy Han
Stan Piddubnyy
Kyla Rivera
Kyra Kehm-Goins

VIOLA

Alyson Rake*
Kindra Gonsalves
Marilyn Willis
Anna Tangedahl

CELLO

Elliott Capron*
Ellen Coburn
Marisa Robbins
Kellen Gonsalves
Jeffrey Buetow
Noah Montgomery
Nathaniel Bratcher
Ralizza Rosales
Cayla Low
Bronwyn Poppen-
Eagan
John Coughlan

DOUBLE BASS

Campion Roberts*
Lexi Castillo*
Madeline Cline
Cameron McLennan
Declan Long

+Concertmaster

*Section Principal/

Co-principal

©Community member

Lexi Castillo, librarian

CONDUCTORS

BRIAN GALANTE, Choir of the West



BRIAN GALANTE is Associate Dean of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and Director of Choral Studies at PLU. During his time at PLU, Dr. Galante has conducted all four of the curricular ensembles and taught undergraduate courses in Vocal Pedagogy, Choral Repertoire and Rehearsal. Dr. Galante received the DMA degree in Choral Conducting from the University of North Texas, and MM and BME degrees from Louisiana State University. Choirs under his direction have offered performances for the 2010 Washington Music Educators Association conference; the 2011 Northwest MENC Conference; and 2012 and 2022 NW Region ACDA Conferences. He has conducted honor choirs at all levels, and led workshops on conducting pedagogy, voice science, and repertoire. Galante's compositions are published by Galante Music, Walton, and Colla Voce, and have been performed by choirs worldwide. His works have been recorded for commercial release by Delos, Centaur Records, and MSR Classic. He is the recipient of multiple ASCAP Plus awards, and a regular composer-in-residence for the Taylor Festival Choir (Charleston, SC). He is the Past President of the American Choral Directors Association Northwest Region.

TIFFANY WALKER, University Chorale



TIFFANY WALKER is a rising Filipino-American conductor serving as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Choral Music at PLU. She conducts the University Chorale and the University Singers and teaches choral conducting, choral methods, and ear training courses. Dr. Walker is a clinician and adjudicator for WMEA, and she is active with Washington ACDA as a member of the Diversity Initiatives Committee. Dr. Walker received her DMA in Choral Conducting at the University of Washington, MA in Teaching with a Single-subject

credential in K-12 music from the University of Southern California, and BA in Music from the University of California, Berkeley. Prior to living in Washington, she taught as a high school choral director in southern California, where she is originally from. As a choral singer, Dr. Walker continues to perform in the Seattle area. She currently sings with Choral Arts Northwest, MUSING, and at St. Theresa's Parish in Federal Way. She was a long-time member of the Pacific Chorale in Orange County and sang as an alto under the direction of John Alexander. Some of her accomplishments with Pacific Chorale include performances at the Hollywood Bowl and in CD recordings.

ASIEH MAHYAR, University Symphony Orchestra



Passionate about performing music from various cultures, ASIEH MAHYAR serves as the interim Director of Orchestral Studies at Pacific Lutheran University where she conducts the PLU Symphony Orchestra and teaches instrumental conducting and ear training courses. Originally from Iran, Ms. Mahyar possesses a diverse conducting background that includes leading orchestras, full opera productions, and choirs in different countries. Previously, she has served as the

Assistant Conductor at Tchaikovsky Music College of Yerevan, Armenia, and as the Teaching Assistant at Michigan State University and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Ms. Mahyar has guest-conducted orchestras at all labels including the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra and the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, among others. A Doctor of Musical Arts candidate in Orchestral Conducting at Michigan State University, Ms. Mahyar holds a MM in Orchestral Conducting from University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a BM in Choral Conducting from Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, Armenia.

ORGANIST

MICHAEL PLAGERMAN



MICHAEL PLAGERMAN is Visiting Instructor of Organ at PLU, and Director of Sacred Music at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Seattle, where he oversees planning, plays the organ, and directs the parish's five choral ensembles, including the all-professional Cantorei, who sing fully choral Masses weekly. Michael holds degrees in organ performance and sacred music from Pacific Lutheran University, the University of Notre Dame, and Cornell University. He has studied organ with Paul Tegels, Craig Cramer, Douglas Reid, Annette Richards,

Christoph Mantoux, and Nathan Laube. He is currently completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in historical keyboard performance, for which he is writing about registration on late 19th-century organs in Boston.

PIANIST

AMY BOERS



AMY E. BOERS is known in the greater Seattle-Tacoma area as a collaborative keyboardist, vocalist, conductor, and church musician. A lifelong resident of this area, she received her Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Central Washington University. Her keyboard playing for conductors and soloists has been characterized as deeply expressive, artistic, and insightfully supportive. As choral conductor, Amy has adjudicated large ensemble festivals across the region and has led workshops in Canada on "Collaborative work in the Choral rehearsal."

With her husband Geoffrey, she is Co-Minister of Music at Grace Lutheran Church, Des Moines. As pianist, Amy is currently serving positions at Pacific Lutheran University, Symphony Tacoma, and Symphony Tacoma Voices as well as many regional conventions and festivals. At Pacific Lutheran University, she will serve as Musical Director for two productions in the 2022-23 season. Amy continues to tour throughout Europe with choral ensembles, most recently in Spain and Portugal.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The PLU School of Music, Theatre & Dance is a nationally recognized center for performance, education, and community. From early morning to late at night students practice, study, collaborate, and share their passion for artistic growth.

The Mary Baker Russell Music Center, an architectural and acoustical jewel on the PLU campus, houses the exquisite Lagerquist Concert Hall, spectacular Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Organ, and impressive rehearsal and classroom facilities. Our faculty—exceptional performers, composers, authors, and educators—consistently demonstrate artistry and musical leadership, dedication to nurturing talent, fostering an inclusive learning environment, and encouraging musical opportunities for all students.

During the academic year, the SMTD produces nearly 200 performances—including hundreds of students—including recitals, ensemble performances, chamber music concerts, opera productions, theatrical productions, and master classes. Faculty artists and guests further enrich the wide range of educational and performance experiences for both students and the Puget Sound community. For more information, please visit plu.edu/smtd.