



Children's Chorus of Carroll County's
Winter Celebration
Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 2pm
St. Joseph's Church in Eldersburg, MD

Artwork by BC1: Alexis Horichs

Winter Celebration December 8, 2024

Please turn off your flash and ringers, and feel free to join us in singing the carols in between sets!



Children's Chorus of Carroll County

O, Come All Ye Faithful Arranged by David Willcocks

Les Petites Voix

Virginia Morgan Arey, Director

Joann Benson, Accompanist

Mia Hall, Student Intern

The Piglet's Christmas.....Arr. by Mary Goetze
This charming, simple American folk song about a warm-hearted farmer has been freely adapted to become a secular Christmas song. Listen to the piano part for a familiar carol which has been altered in mode and in meter... Do you recognize the tune?

Wind on the Hillby Victoria Ebel-Sabo

Flute: Meghan Brown, Alum '24

The vocal line moves gracefully in well-crafted phrases, riding along the steady rhythm of the piano. The flute parts dance in and out, creating a pleasing counterpoint to the voices. A. A. Milne's text has a charming simplicity and innocence as it raises one of those genuine questions a child might ask- Where does the wind come from, and where does it go?

Winter Fantasy.....by Jill Gallina

This is a fun arrangement that couples the very familiar song Jingle Bells with an original melody by Jill Gallina. When the two songs are sung together they work as "partner songs" to create harmony.

Traditional Carol: "Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer"

Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer, had a very shiny nose,
And if you ever saw it, you would even say it glows.
All of the other reindeer, used to laugh and call him names,
They never let poor Rudolph, join in any reindeer games.
Then one foggy Christmas Eve, Santa came to say,
"Rudolph, with your nose so bright, won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"
Then how the reindeer loved him as they shouted out with glee, "Yippee!"
"Rudolph the red nosed reindeer, you'll go down in history!"



Artwork by LPV: Everly Hester

Il Coro Della Bella Voce

Rachel Morgan Im, Director

Joann Benson, Accompanist

Madelyn DeMay, Student Intern

Something Told the Wild Geese.....by Greg Gilpin

Rachel Field (1894-1942) was an author, playwright, and poet. With words describing birds' instinct to fly south as winter approaches, her poem "Something Told the Wild Geese" has been set to music by several different composers. Greg Gilpin's setting is mostly up-tempo and presents interesting musical challenges, such as its use of mixed meter (5/4, 4/4, and 3/4) and inclusion of dissonance in the part-singing.

Beautiful December.....by Amy F. Bernon

Publisher's description: "This gorgeous original lullaby is full of simple and beautiful images: a garden awaiting the return of spring; snow as soft as lamb's wool; a sleepy child dreaming of songs that 'rise on silken wings.' Lovely, expressive... [and a] moment of peaceful reflection."

O Christmas Tree.....Arr. by Adam Podd and Matt Podd

Soloist: Molly Callahan

Drums: John Damond

"O Tannenbaum" is a German Christmas song that is also well-known in English as "O Christmas Tree." The original German text describes a fir tree's evergreen quality as a metaphor for trustworthiness and faithfulness in human relationships. After the custom of decorating evergreen trees at Christmastime developed, the song eventually became associated with that holiday. The composer duo (and twin brothers) Adam and Matt Podd gave this song a fun twist by setting it in jazz style. Their setting also quotes the French carol "Angels We Have Heard on High" and employs scat syllables in part of that tune.

~A 10 Minute Intermission~

Cantare Bel Canto I

Jenna Lebherz Daly, Director and CCCC Artistic Director
Diane Jones, Accompanist and Artistic Director Emeritus
Alice Roche, Intern and Alum '23

Fantasy on Two Christmas Carols.....Arr. by Nick Page

Solfege is a huge piece of ear training in any ensemble, not just ensembles that sing. Bands and Orchestras are often taught to sing with solfege before playing so that they can hear the intervals and improve their intonation. In the middle of this piece, there is a section of solfege that the BC1s have enjoyed learning at faster and faster tempi. The lyrics of these Two Christmas Carols focus on Joseph's courting of Mary and the early story of heading to Bethlehem.

Mary's Cradle Song.....Arr. by Paul Keene

Conducted by Alice Roche

Now Joseph and Mary have traveled to Bethlehem and Jesus is born. Mary is singing to Jesus with so much love but also warning of the years to come. One can feel the rocking chair sway to and fro as Mary holds her newborn baby, but the melody line turns to a minor key as she forewarns him about a future event with a crown of thorns that will firmly press into Jesus' brow. But for now, Mary rocks her baby.

Go, Where I Send Thee.....Arr. by Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory

This piece is full of life and counts down from twelve while referencing biblical stories. 12 Disciples; 11 Singin' in heaven; 10 Commandments; 9 Angel Choirs; 8 Noah's Family that the flood wouldn't take; 7th day of rest; 6 days the world was made; 5 loaves of bread that fed thousands; 4 Gospel writers; 3 Hebrew children; 2: Paul and Silas; 1 Baby born in Bethlehem.

Traditional Carol: "Away in a manger"

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed. The little Lord Jesus, lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky look down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.



Artwork by BC1: Sophie Riese

Cantare Bel Canto

Rachel Morgan Im, Director
Diane Jones, Accompanist and Artistic Director Emeritus

White Winter Hymnal.....Arr. Alan Billingsley

Originally recorded by Fleet Foxes, this piece was composed by the band's leader, who stated that "it's lyrically fairly meaningless... a simple jam that's focused on singing." The few words hint at a nostalgic memory of playing in the snow with childhood friends. The a cappella group

Pentatonix covered this song, performing it with only body percussion as accompaniment.

Today's arrangement is based on Pentatonix's cover.



Artwork by BC1: Sophie Riese

Traditional Carol: "Hark! The herald angels sing"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!",
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.

Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies,
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Cantare Bel Canto II

Rachel Morgan Im, Director
Diane Jones, Accompanist and Artistic Director Emeritus

The Winter's Night.....by Nicholas Myers

Publisher description: "In this outstanding a cappella work, both the music and the lyrics evoke the sound and chill of a deep winter night, 'quiet and still, while all the world's asleep... dreams pure as white, white as the snow.' Composed in a straightforward, contemporary style, this is a stunning concert work!"

Oh, Chanukah/Y'mei hachanukah.....by Robert Applebaum

Hebrew Translation:

These are the days of Chanukah:	There are jelly doughnuts, just for us.
(we recall) that our altar was rededicated.	Lighting, igniting the Chanukah candles all in a row.
Joy and happiness fill our hearts.	For the wondrous acts and for the miracles
Night and day our dreidls twirl:	that You wrought through the Maccabees.

The chanukiah, or Hanukkah menorah (candelabra), holds nine candles. The central candle is used to light the other eight, which signify the eight days of Hanukkah. Other Hanukkah traditions mentioned in this song are sevonim (spinning tops, also known as dreidls) and levivot (traditional potato pancakes served during Chanukah). This challenging a cappella arrangement of a traditional Hanukkah song begins in English then switches to Hebrew part way through. The publisher describes this setting as "a jazz-influenced, classical harmonic and melodic treatment of the Hanukkah tune. The mood... is upbeat and joyful."

And Suddenlyby Michael Engelhardt

Drums: John Damond

Wanting to create a "rousing, thrilling, and powerful" piece for treble voices, Engelhardt explained that he composed this gospel-style original "with the intent of making a really big splash... perhaps even a tidal wave." The text of this piece was inspired by the famous passage from the Gospel of Luke in which the angels appear with a multitude of the heavenly host, terrifying the local shepherds, announcing the birth of Christ, and proclaiming "Glory to God in the highest..."

Traditional Carol: "Joy to the World"

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, Let Earth receive her King
 Let every heart prepare Him room, And Heaven and Nature Sing
 And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing
 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove,
 The glories of the His righteousness, And wonders of His love,
 And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.



Artwork by LPV: Sawyer Werking

Children's Chorus of Carroll County

Silent Night.....Arr. by Diane Jones, Accompanist and Artistic Director Emeritus

Alumni and Previous members are more than welcome to come up and join us for this finale!

Children's Chorus of Carroll County Members:

Les Petites Voix

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Graham Blizzard | Lorelei Daly | Abigail Nakashima |
| Scarlett Blizzard | Roxanna Daly | Ryleigh Werking |
| Evelyn Case | Everly Hester | Sawyer Werking |
| Jensen Corbett | Celia Iwanowski | Alisa Yermolaieva |
| | Joanna Mendoza | |

Il Coro Della Bella Voce

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Adalyn Andrews | James Ciborowski | Taylor Prodoehl |
| Cam Andrews | Lyric Corbett | Lainey Roche |
| Monica Bayles | Graham Hester | Jude Russell |
| Eleya Blizzard | Eloise Keenan | Violet Russell |
| Eva Blizzard | Lia Loraw | Quinn Sasse |
| Molly Callahan | Xavier Lougee | Bianca Shook |
| Gwennie Cary | Harper Malbrough | Sonia Yermolaieva |

Cantare Bel Canto I

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Layla Avaral-Diaz | Sloane Heavin | Ben Riese |
| Jamie Baker | Tate Holmboe | Quinn Riese |
| Calvin Bryant | Alexis Horichs | Sophie Riese |
| Jocelyn Desper | Leah Kemp | Savannah Rogers |
| Jackson Failla | Gavin Knarr | Leah Shutt |
| Cooper Hall | Minnie Maples | Gabriel Solomon |
| Rosalie Hart | Aiden Mitzel | Marisya Ziemski |

Gabriella Rech Pavao

Cantare Bel Canto II

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Evan Bucior | Mia Hall | Jacqueline Rech Pavao |
| Darcy Callahan | Miranda Hart | Sophia Rogers |
| Madelyn DeMay | AJ Ledwell | Eli Sager |
| Noelle Finch | Josie Lewis | Estela Sperb |
| Chloe Fox | Korin Ray | Keagan Willis |

The Chorus Mentorship Program

This is one of the most exciting components of our organization. After two years of membership, a student may qualify to be a rehearsal assistant, with the goal of eventually preparing and conducting a piece in the concert. Interns must demonstrate a high degree of general musicianship in addition to being able to sing well. They must also have a desire to work with children in an educational setting. We are happy to be able to contribute to the future of music education in such a mutually beneficial manner.

Interns for the 2024-2025 Chorus Season:

Madelyn DeMay, BC2 Member

Mia Hall, BC2 Member

Alice Roche, Chorus Alum '23

Biographies:



Virginia Morgan Arey

Mrs. Virginia Morgan Arey directs *Les Petites Voix*. She is a singer and music educator throughout central Maryland. Mrs. Arey started singing with the Frederick Children's Chorus when she was in 4th grade and continued on with the Chamber Singers. In high school she became interested in teaching and conducting as well as performing. She had the wonderful opportunity to be one of the first student interns for the Frederick Children's Chorus where she conducted the Training Chorus. She went on to receive her undergraduate degree from Oberlin Conservatory in music education and her master's degree from the American Kodaly Institute at Loyola University in Baltimore. She taught vocal music and chorus in Baltimore County Public Schools for 15 years. Currently, she teaches with the Frederick Children's Chorus as a Little Music Makers teacher. Mrs. Arey has enjoyed singing with many wonderful arts organizations in Maryland as a soloist and chorister such as Annapolis Opera, HUB Opera Ensemble, Baltimore Choral Arts

Society, Young Victorian Opera Company, Joyous Voices Carolers and Opus Concert Theatre. Currently she is the Alto section leader and soloist at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Baltimore and is a professional chorister and soloist with the Handel Choir of Baltimore. She is also a sought after church musician and cantor in the area. She lives in Eldersburg with her husband Jim and two children, TJ and Luke.

Joann Long Benson

Joann Long Benson, Accompanist and Instructor of Skills since 2013, is a graduate of Mansfield University of PA with a degree in piano performance, and has completed a Master's of Music Education at Towson University. Prior to retirement she was a music teacher in Carroll County Public Schools for 25 years, most recently at Sandymount Elementary School. Mrs. Benson worked for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra several summers designing the teacher's resources for their Education Concerts. She was employed previously as an adjunct at Carroll Community College and taught methods and supervised student teachers at McDaniel College. She is currently the vocal music teacher at North Carroll Community School. Mrs. Benson enjoys accompanying a wide variety of musical groups in the region, including choruses and vocal and instrumental soloists.



Jenna Lebherz Daly

Jenna Lebherz Daly directs *Cantare Bel Canto I*. She first sang with the Frederick Children's Chorus from 5th-12th grade and fell in love with the unique silvery sound of a children's choir. After high school, she went on to Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ to earn Bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Vocal Performance. She then earned a Master's in Opera Performance with University of Maryland's Opera Studio. Mrs. Daly has performed in many states and venues, and she enjoyed being active in the opera world as a mezzo-soprano, singing for opera companies and orchestras. Currently, she is the Chair of the Performing Arts Department and teaches the Lower and Middle School Music Program (Pre-K through 8th grade) at Gerstell Academy in Finksburg, MD. She thoroughly loves working with children and keeping music alive through their voices.

Rachel Morgan Im

Rachel Morgan Im directs *Il Coro Della Bella Voce* and *Cantare Bel Canto II*. Since joining CCCC in 2010, she has led the combined *Cantare Bel Canto* choirs to win awards at choral festivals and adjudications and has co-directed touring ensembles that have performed in prestigious venues both in the United States and Europe. Ms. Morgan Im works full-time as the Artistic Director of the Children's Chorus of Maryland & School of Music. She also conducts the York County Junior Honors Choir in PA. A school music teacher from 2005-2020, Ms. Morgan Im earned elite recognition as CCPS Teacher of the Year 2015 Finalist and won the prestigious Outstanding Teacher Award. Other organizations with which she has freelanced as a conductor and teacher include Lamplight Artists, the National Christian Choir, the Maryland Academy of Dance, and Carroll Community College. She has also taught private voice lessons and has served as a church musician. Ms. Morgan Im holds a Master of Music in music education from the Peabody Conservatory and a Bachelor of Music Education from the Wheaton College Conservatory. She has completed 40 additional graduate credits in world folk arts at McDaniel College and is currently pursuing specialized certification in Kodály methodology at the American Kodály Institute.



Diane Jones

Diane Jones, Co-Founder, Accompanist, and Artistic Director Emeritus, earned a Masters of Liberal Arts from Western Maryland College and a Bachelors of Music Education from Houghton College in New York. She taught elementary, middle and high school in New York and Maryland public schools for over twenty five years. She was also adjunct faculty at McDaniel College. As Artistic Director of Children's Chorus of Carroll County, she established the Chorus' structure, including an emphasis on musically enriching travel opportunities for its members. She currently has an active private piano studio, is Director of Music for St. Paul United Methodist Church and enjoys a variety of collaborative musical experiences. Under her leadership, Voce Viaggio performed in Estonia, Finland, and Sweden (2004), participated in the "12th International Children's Choir Festival" in Oxford, Canterbury, and London (2008), and "The Children's Choir Festival at Canterbury Cathedral & London" (2011). She and three Chorus members

also participated in the "Estonian Song Festival" in July of 2009. As co-directors of Voce Viaggio, she and Ms. Morgan led students who participated in the "Austrian Choral Festival with Henry Leck" in 2014. In June 2015, their BC groups performed in the Manhattan Concert Production's National Children's Festival Chorus, which culminated in a gala event at Carnegie Hall.

A Note from the Artistic Director:

Our trip to the Appalachian Young Voices Festival in Charleston, WV made it very clear that we are on the right track when it comes to a Children's Chorus post covid. When talking to directors from CA, CO, NC, MA, and MD, I learned that our numbers are more than most, our sound is of the highest caliber, and our chorus members are stellar well-rounded citizens. I was so proud of our 9 that attended the trip, but I could also see that any of our 70 members would have fit in perfectly with these children from around the US. Announcing to the room of 11 choirs that our organization brought 9 members to the festival but there were actually 80 members at home in Carroll County, many Directors pulled me aside asking what we were doing to have so many members. When I explained many things that we do to recruit, the directors were most shocked by how low our tuition was for the entire season. This was when I learned about the hardships that so many Children's Choirs are still going through since covid. Our organization's number is down to 71 since last year and operating on a budget that was originally made for 100 members with only the income of 70 is causing our Board of Directors to re-examine our price of tuition. If there is any way that you would be willing or able to donate to our Chorus, or invite friends to audition for the Chorus starting this December 10th or in May, it could truly make a difference for our future. Thank you for considering and know that we are on the right track when it comes to the music and musicians that we nurture.

The Board of Directors:

Brian DeMay, President
Titus Mataban, Vice-President
Brenda Little, Treasurer
Suzanne Swenson, Secretary
Jenna Lebherz Daly, Director and CCCC Artistic Director
Diane Jones, Founder and Artistic Director Emeritus
Renee Rogers, Fundraising Chair
Dianne Delgado, General Manager
Carolyn DeMay, Head Choir Coordinator
Nick Wagman, Alum

Mid-Year December Auditions:

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 we will hold Mid-Year Auditions! Use the hyperlink below or this QR Code:
Start singing with us in January and join us for our concert April 27, 2025!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B4DA4A722A2FC1-50729064-december#/>



Video Recording:

If you have enjoyed this concert today, please know that we are recording!
Those interested in the link to the edited video, please:

1. Pay us \$10 by handing a staff member the money or pay digitally with the QR Code here:
2. Fill out this google form: <https://forms.gle/JHHXVdP8F6QEGQrt8>



'Tis the Season!

Please consider **donating** to the Children's Chorus of Carroll County.
Being a Non-Profit, we are in need of support financially. We do not charge tickets to our concerts because we understand that the parents already paid for their child's tuition. If you find that you are able to donate today, please consider a donation. Any bit helps our organization to create the beautiful sound you hear today, help our music educators to grow, and sends us on adventures like festivals or trips to Hershey Park.

QR Codes for Digital Donations:

Donation \$10



Donation \$25



Donation \$50



Donation \$100

