



Roanoke Valley Children's Choir



"Songs of the Season"

36th Annual Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 10th, 2022 at 7:00 PM

at Church of The Holy Spirit, Roanoke VA



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Concert Songs

Brass Prelude: Roanoke Chamber Brass

Combined Choirs Opening

Vuelie (from Disney's Frozen) _____ Fjellheim, Beck

Ring In the Season _____ Samsel, Anderson
(from "Olaf's Frozen Adventure") _____ Choral arr. Kirsti Davidson

Believe (from the Disney's "The Polar Express") _____ arr. Mark Hayes

A Choir

Away In a Manger _____ William Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)
arr. John Leavitt

My Favorite Things _____ Rogers and Hammerstein

B Choir

O Little Town of Bethlehem _____ Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
arr. Brian Childers

Winter Wish _____ Dave and Jean Perry

B+ Choir

Do You Hear What I Hear? _____ Noel Regney, Gloria Shayne
arr. Harry Simeone

Bidi Bom _____ David Eddleman

A Very Merry Christmas _____ Pink Zebra

Family Choir with A B B+ Choirs

Heri Za Krismas _____ Jay Althouse

Little Singers

Little Snowflake _____ Super Simple Songs

I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas _____ Gayla Peevey

C Choir

God Bless Us Everyone _____ Alan Silvestri, Glen Ballard
arr. Joseph Martin

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day _____ Traditional English Carol
arr. John Rutter

Babe of Bethlehem _____ Edmund Walters

Tundra _____ Ole Gjellio

Jing-A-Ling _____ Don Raye, Paul Smith
arr. Mac Huff

Alumni/Family Choir with C Choir

Christmastide _____ Donald Fraser

Combined Choirs Finale

Christmas Portrait _____ arr. Jerry Nowak

The First Noel _____ Traditional English Carol

Joy to the World _____ arr. Dan Forrest

Selected Texts & Program Notes

Vuelie

(pronounced Vweh–LEE with emphasis on the second syllable) from Disney’s “Frozen”.

The style of singing is based on the vocal tradition of the Sami people of Scandinavia and Russia with short melodic phrases that repeat endlessly with small variations. You will hear the voices “drop” at the end of some phrases and this is one small characteristic giving this song a Sami flavor.

Ring In the Season

from “Olaf’s Frozen Adventure” Disney Holiday with a special modified text and choral arrangement by Kirsti Davidson

This is our first indoor concert since prior to the pandemic. Our first indoor Holiday Concert since 2019!!! We’re excited to be here! We are ringing in a new season of Holiday Joy for everyone.

Believe

(from Disney’s “The Polar Express” 2004)

Away In a Manger

William Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)]

The first known publication of the text is from 1882 and tunes soon followed in 1895 by William Kirkpatrick and in 1887 by James Ramsey Murray. We are singing the melody composed by Kirkpatrick. Although this tune was first attributed to Martin Luther, the German religious leader, the carol is now thought to be all-American in origin. This is one of the most well-known Christmas Carols in both the U.S. and Britain.

My Favorite Things

Rogers and Hammerstein wrote this along with the rest of the score of “The Sound of Music” in 1965. The “Sound of Music” is credited as being the 4th best musical of all time and the songs continue to be loved by new generations of young singers.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Like so many of our beloved Christmas Carols, this one has a sweet backstory and also more than one tune for the text. Phillips Brooks wrote the text in 1868 and asked a fellow Sunday School Teacher, Lewis Redner, to write a tune for it. Redner was so focused on his Sunday School lesson that he couldn’t concentrate to write a tune, but in the night before the planned singing of carol at Sunday School, Redner was roused from sleep hearing an angel-strain whispering in his ear and grabbed some music paper and quickly wrote the notes of the melody. On Sunday morning, before church, Redner filled in the harmony notes, hymn style. Neither Mr. Redner nor Mr. Brooks thought the song would be sung beyond that Christmas service in 1868.

Do You Hear What I Hear?

This song was recorded by Bing Crosby in 1963 and then became a big hit, still popular today.

Bidi Bom

A Hanukkah song celebrating the season with candlelight and dancing.

Heri Za Krismas (w. [ABB+ Family Choir](#))

This song shares some Swahili tradition with a traditional greeting and text in Swahili, from eastern Africa. *“Merry Christmas, on December 25. Have a good holiday.”*

God Bless Us Everyone

This joyful tune and arrangement are from the 2009 Disney movie, “A Christmas Carol”.

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Traditional English Carol

The text for this song is from the 17th century. According to Christmas Carol legend, all old carols in 3/4 time were written as Creche dances and as these carols were sung people would dance around the crèche or manger. One of the most famous creche songs is “Away in a Manger.” In the U.S. we now sing Away in a Manger slowly in 3 beats per measure, but it was intended to be sung fast with one beat per measure so that it can be danced to while singing.

This is a traditional English Carol and English Composer, John Rutter arranged it for choirs in 1974. Mr. Rutter explains the text of the song like this: Dancing Day is the reference to the dance around the creche or dancing on the birthday of Christ. Christ is talking to each person and describing the plan that will happen describing his birth and life all happening because He loves each of you so much. The song invites everyone to be aware of and participate in the “plan” and the plan is referred to as “the dance.” Christ is speaking to His church (“my own true love”).

Tundra

Written by Norwegian composer, Ola Gjeilo, the text and music are based on part of the composer’s native land that he treasures because of its sacred beauty that is barren and also extremely beautiful.

*Wide, worn and weathered,
Sacred expanse
Of green and white and granite grey;
Snowy patches strewn,
Anchored to the craggy earth,
Unmoving;
While clouds dance
Across the vast, eternal sky.*

Jing-A-Ling

This fun and slightly silly song was first introduced in the Mickey Mouse Special, “Duck the Halls.” Shortly after, it was re-imagined and recorded by the Andrews Sisters and was a big hit in 1950!

Christmastide (w. [C Choir Family/Alumni](#))

Donald Fraser

This is our most requested song in the RVCC. We first performed it in 1990 and have performed it countless times throughout the years. May peace and joy and love abide, this Christmastide.

Christmas Portrait

We first started singing this arrangement of holiday favorites in 1990 and all of the RVCC choirs have loved the music and the choreography. We’re happy to bring it back in 2022!

Chorister Names

A Choir

Rachel Anthony
Harper Cheslow
Heidi Daniel
Carmen Guerrant
Jude Hall
Eliza Harper
Eliza Jones
Colette Keele

Clara Kingsmore
Electra Kounousou
Naomi Ladenika
Ahaan Menon
Phong Ngo
Stella Olund
Augusta Payne
Arya Rigdon

Portia Snavely
Gabriel Snavely
Adalyn Swisher
Lydia Tanious
Annabelle Vargas Cassell
Armani Wei
London Westervelt
Joanna Whale

B Choir

Crystal Barnett
Caraline Bush
Camri Compton
Ciel Elise Dela Cruz
Abigail Dubyk
Elsa Dykstra
Mazi Elmore

Sophia Guerrant
Julianna Hatch
Gryphon Henderson
Anna Hilbish
Jasmine Karbowski
Jonas Keele
Norah Long

Brody McMillin
Giang Ngo
Amelie Rosado-Lopez
Jazzlyn Claire Sarmiento
Maebie Walk
Simon Whaley
Kenley Williams
Jamie Wright

B+ Choir

Rachel Bryant
Zoe Classey
Natalie Darby
Ava DeCicco
Ava Ellis
Elizabeth Fortuna
Addison Garrett
Annaleigh Hall
Norah Harper
Finleigh Hixson
Madeleine Hixson
Asher Hodges
Elyssa Hostetter

Jude Hypes
Olivia Hypes
Josie Ingrassia
Lucy Jones
Ran Landes
Madeline McKee
Miriam Moore
Karleigh Murphy
Jude Parkhurst
Alisa Poff
Charlotte Poole
Saba Powell
Aydan Ruley

Olivia Russell
Aspirah Rutrough
Laharah Rutrough
Jenna Shipp
Abigail Shores
Claire Shrewsbury
Jonah Spencer
Corinne Swords
Naomi Wagner
Lily Walker
Garrett Waters
Cherie Westervel

C Choir

Alyssa Alban
Bibiana Bell
Sarah Bell
Ella Carlin
Daniel Chappell
Sophie Childers
Alex Coffey
Grace Cordle
Gisele Crouse
Aidyn Dowling
Emily Duncan
Carlie Elliott
Turner Faires
Kayla Fitzwater
Josie Fraticelli
Nicholas Fraticelli
Caleb Gaines
Ava Giannini

Sofia Gonzalez
Cade Gregory
Anne Hayden Hall
Charlotte Hally
Laney Havens
Naomi Hodges
Ryan Hubbard
AnnaRuth Judd
Josh Kallan
Leilani Keele
Priscilla Keller
Hannah Kelly
Hannah Kemp
Gabby Lee
Kayleen Loi
Lily Mata-Diaz
Elizabeth Mellas
Penley Moore

Miya Morton
Molly Murdock
Matthias Nguyen
Maya Nik-Khah
Eliza Otey
Maggie Parkhurst
Abby Poling
Kaylee Ridenour
Clarke Roudebush
Quinn Roudebush
Elsie Sohm
Claire Sublett
Abby Tarantino
Olivia Terry
Piper Walk
Cara Wardell
Kalani Weed

Little Singers

Jeannette Anderson
Grace Boswell
Emelyn Campbell
Lily Henderson
Wiley Hodges
Claire Hostetter

Asalia Lafon
Amara Misra
Antony Molina
Aiden Nouard
Maggie O'Leary
Lily Ridenour

Elizabeth Rogers
Saige Smith
Ellee Smith
Renesmee Steelman
Julia Tanious
Emily Winterer

C Choir Family/Alumni Choir

Diane Bell
Sarah Beth Keller
Michelle Cordle
Juliana Crouse
David Crouse
Bryan Daniels
Laura Francis
Jenna Giannini
Maria Gonzalez
Cory Gregory
Jeff Gregory
Leanne Hall

Elizabeth Hally
Mary Henold
Jaime Hodges
Terry Hubbard
Rachel Keller
Maynard Keller
Kathleen Kelly
Zachary Kemp
Kathy Lynch
Shannon Murdock
Eddie Nik-Khah
Laurie Otey

Candace Poling
Paul Ridenour
Kim Roudebush
Jake Roudebush
Kimberly Roudebush
Michelle Sublett
Silvia Wardell
Donna Wardell
David Wardell
Tonja Weed

ABB+ Family Choir

Amy Barnhart
Virginia Bryant
Lydia Cassell
Adam Cheslow
Jessica Compton
Gerald Daniel
Cherie Davis
Jon Dubyk
Stephanie Dubyk
Jojo Friday
Meredith Harper
Nathan Harper

Jennifer Hatch
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Jamie Hypes
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Leah Wagner
Cindy Waters
Andrew Whaley
Rena Williams
Mark Wright
Sophia Zakra

Concert Instrumentalists

Thank you to the following professional musicians for sharing their talents with us.

- **Flute** – Julee Hickox
- **Harp** – Winifred Garret
- **Percussion** – Caleb Gaines, C Choir Senior

Roanoke Chamber Brass

- Trumpet – Jeff Kresge
- Trumpet – Steve Hedrick
- French Horn – Andrew Phillips
- Trombone – Barry Tucker
- Tuba – Charlie Krause

About the RVCC

Founded in 1987 by Kimberly Ruse Davidson, the Roanoke Valley Children's Choir has grown to be a highly respected arts organization in the Roanoke Valley, in the state of Virginia, and beyond. The RVCC provides an artistic and in depth study of the voice in a choral setting for every child. We strive to teach young musicians of the Roanoke Valley how to work together and pursue excellence - in singing, in music, and in everyday life. Our mission as a choir is to provide the best choral experience for our choristers and spread the joy of music to everyone we can!

The Children's Choir includes children ages 7-18 divided into 3 training choirs and a concert choir. Students are accepted into the choir through classes and auditions held throughout the year. Recent featured performances for the RVCC Concert Choir include the 2008, 2014, and 2020 Southern Division American Choral Director Conventions; the ACDA National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2015; Festival and Solo performances in Canterbury and London in 2017; and solo performances at Carnegie Hall in 2016 and 2022.

2022 - 2023 Calendar of Events

2022 Choir Performances & Events

October 8-9

RVCC Fall Retreat, 4-H Center, Smith Mountain Lake

November 11

RVCC National Anthem performance at Rail Dawgs Game

December 2

Concert Choir with the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra for Holiday Pops at Salem Civic Center

December 3

RVCC Community Sing-A-Long! Come, Sing with us!

11:00-12:00 at Taubman Art Museum

December 3

Concert Choir caroling at Old Southwest Candlelight Parlor Tours

December 6

Select C Choir members performing instrumental solos at the State Soil and Water Conservation Conference at hotel Roanoke

December 7

A B B+ Choirs sing for local elementary schools

December 10

Thirty- sixth Annual Holiday Concert, Church of the Holy Spirit

December 15

Newcomer Class and Auditions held at Bethel Baptist Church childrenschoir.com/how-to-join

2023 Choir Performances and Events

January 9

Rehearsals resume for Spring semester

January 21

Concert Choir Winter Warm-up, Bethel Baptist

January 22

Concert Choir Church Tour, Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church

March 23-28

All RVCC Choirs to perform in "I Dream A World" Choral Festival in Orlando, Florida

April 22

Thirty-sixth Annual Spring Concert 7:00 PM Church of the Holy Spirit

May 4, 5, 6, 11

Newcomer Classes and auditions held at Bethel Baptist Church

Staff

Kimberly Ruse Davidson, Director
Kirsti Davidson, Administrative Assistant
Carla Crouse, Accompanist
Kim Roudebush, A-Choir Director
Susan Nixon, Music Librarian
Michelle Sublett, Treasurer

Board of Directors

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Dr. Barbara Moore

Volunteer Committee Chairs 2022-2023

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Alumni Communication _____
Attendance (A/B) _____ Jessie Yu, Jenny Jones
Attendance (B+) _____ Kaitlin Classey, Kim Hostetter,
Stacey Westervelt
Attendance (C) _____ Jaime Hodges, Laure Otey-Williams,
Susan Nixon
C Choir Trip 2020 _____ Michelle Sublett
Concert Decorating _____ Mariellen Hubbard
Concert Performance _____ Kirsti Davidson, Jenna Giannini,
Kianna Marshall, Sarah Ross
Concert Powerpoint _____ Barb and Tom Fraticelli
Concert Program _____ Donna Wardell
Concert Round-up _____ Pamela Ruble
Cookie Monday Moms (C Choir) _____ Maria Gonzalez, Jamie Hodges
Events and Promotions _____ Jojo Friday
Fall Retreat _____ Maria Gonzalez, Lisa Moore
Formal Costumes (A/B/B+) _____ Virginia Bryant, Madeline Walk

Formal Costumes (C)	Michelle Cordle, Beth Hally
Chorister Account Fundraisers	Lydia Anthony, Stacey Westervelt
Grant Proposals	Mary Henold, Asha Riego De Dios
Historian	Maria Gonzalez
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Patron Support	Patrick Hodges
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Scholarship	Leanne Hall
Spirit Wear	Kathy Lynch, Kimberly Hostetter
Social Media	Sarah Bell, Aidyn Dowling, Rick Riego De Dios
Website	Noah Davidson, Kirsti Davidson

Patrons of the RVCC

Thank you to all of the personal, corporate, and grant donors to the RVCC!

Note: Donations listed are from November 22nd, 2021 – December 9th, 2022

*Note: Donations from Alumni and Alumni Family are highlighted with an asterisk **

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Corporate Gold Level of \$2,500



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Couldn't have done the two-hour weekly drives without you all!!
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Terry Hubbard *
Wendy Warren * - In Honor of Emily Warren

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Special Thanks

Bethel Baptist Church - Thank you to Bethel Baptist Church for being so kind and generously providing rehearsal and storage space to the RVCC.

Support Our Goal to Raise \$50,000

Due to the long-term effects of the pandemic, enrollment in the RVCC choirs is down by 45% in this rebuilding year. As an arts organization that has traditionally relied on tuition-based funding, this reduction in singers has put a significant financial strain on our organization. This year we are asking for donations to raise \$50,000. I humbly ask you to consider a gift to the Roanoke Valley Children's Choir. Thank you for supporting music education in the Roanoke Valley!

Donate.ChildrensChoir.com

Join the Choir! Come Sing With Us!

Join.ChildrensChoir.com

Free Newcomer Classes for students in 2nd-12th Grade!

Thursday, December 15th, 2022 at Bethel Baptist Church

6:00pm: “Ready~Set~Sing” Class for Elementary

7:00pm: “Find Your Voice” Class for Middle School

8:00pm: “Share Your Voice” Class (*and audition*) for High School

Sign Up Here! childrenschoir.com/how-to-join



RCC

NEWCOMER CLASSES

FREE SINGING CLASSES FOR NEW MEMBERS!
No preparation or sign up needed!

ELEMENTARY AT 6PM
MIDDLE SCHOOL AT 7PM
HIGH SCHOOL AT 8PM

LOCATION:
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2022

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