

# Visions of Christmas



PORTLAND  
CHOIR & ORCHESTRA  
*Inspiring the Northwest*

December 2, 2023  
Newmark Theatre

## Concert Program

HARK! THE GLAD SOUND

Philip Doddridge , Joseph Hoffman

O HOLY NIGHT

Cappeau de Roguemaure, Adolphe Adam, Arr. Craig Courtney

WISHES AND CANDLES

Alan & Marilyn Bergman, Stephen Paulus

JESUS, ONCE OF HUMBLE BIRTH

Parley P. Pratt, Giacomo Meyerbeer, Arr. Cameron Joel Rose

THIS CHRISTMASTIDE

Jane McCulloch, Donald Fraser

Soprano: Tara Janson

GOD BLESS US EVERYONE

Alan Silvestri & Glen Ballard, Arr. William Ross

Soprano: Kristi Crusan

Tenor: Chris Harris

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## 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

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A CHRISTMAS CAROL: MAIN TITLE

Alan Silvestri & Glen Ballard, Arr. William Ross

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF YEAR

Eddie Pola & George Wyle, Arr. Chris R. Hansen

Baritone: Michael Blinco

I WONDER AS I WANDER

Attributed to John Jacob Niles, Arr. Barlow Bradford

THE SECRET OF CHRISTMAS

Sammy Cahn, James Van Heusen, Arr. Ronald Staheli

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

Christina Rosetti, Gustav Holst, Arr. Dan Forrest

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

James Montgomery, Henry T. Smart, Arr. Dan Forrest

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## Welcome

Welcome to the 2023 Christmas season! *Hark! Glad Sounds Await!! Come together, one and all, in the Christmas Spirit.*

With all the merriment this time of year brings, what memories come into your mind? As you will hear from the Choir and Orchestra, there are certain themes we would like you to think about at today's concert, throughout this season, and use throughout the new year.

For example, for young and old, *Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year. There may be parties for hosting and marshmallows for toasting and perhaps caroling out in the snow.* And then there may be quiet moments of wonder as you wander through stores or, more likely, look through items available for purchase on-line as you think about the special gift you want to offer to another person. Even more significantly, there are some who have learned that the *Secret of Christmas* goes beyond snow, beyond sending cards, beyond giving gifts. The deeper, richer meaning of Christmas *is not the things you do at Christmas time, but it is what you do all year through.*

As you listen to today's program, we hope you will immerse yourself in the immense beauty of the words and music that uniquely capture the reason why this season feels so memorable, so special. Through the artistry of our musical program, we invite you to allow yourself to float with the cold winds that can make winter seem so bleak. We wish to fill your soul with rapturous music just like that of angels and archangels that were present at the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. It was a most Holy Night ... *a night divine, where stars were brightly shining ... ushering in the thrill of hope ... where we were taught to love one another.*

This year, at a time where contention is so keenly visible, we have a wish for the children, the young and the old that they *may never go hungry, to never be cold.* We wish that there will be *candles and love and laughter, memories to treasure forever after ... where families can be gathered together ... always*

remembering there are people who walk alone ... wandering and hoping for *a roof over their head and a bed of their own.*

Ken Hollenzer, Executive Director

David M. Thomas, Artistic Director

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Thank you for buying tickets to our concert today. If you want to support more of this kind of uplifting, family-friendly music please consider supporting Portland Choir & Orchestra with an additional tax-deductible donation like these sponsors. Just [click here](#) to visit our sponsorship page.

### **Thank You To Our 2022-2023 Season**

#### **Donors:**

Anonymous - \$50,000  
Meinzer Family Trust - \$14,000  
PGE Employee Giving - \$1,580  
Nathan Hurst - \$1,000  
Watkins Family Charitable Fund - \$500  
Amazon Smile - \$283  
Benevity Fund - \$390  
YourCause LLC - \$120  
Mike Terry - \$100  
The Kaiser Foundation - \$87  
The Kroger Company - \$84  
Amy Gross - \$50

### **Thank You To Our PGO Golf Classic**

#### **Sponsors:**

Eldon Reese Advisory Group  
Northstar Mortgage  
Vial Fotheringham LLC  
Arvory  
Portland Piano Company  
Golden Valley Brewery  
Mad Greek Deli

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\*Section Leader

**The Choir**

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**Soprano 1**

Jamey McClellan\*  
 Elizabeth Polay  
 Emily Thomas  
 Katrina Wheeler

**Soprano 2**

Ingrid Adams  
 Liberty Barnes  
 Alyson Broberg  
 Kristi Crusan  
 Jennifer Davidson  
 Jenny Davis  
 Deb Dougal  
 Lauren Drossel  
 Tammy Fry  
 Cynthia Greathouse  
 Tara Janson  
 Brittany Jones  
 Susie Josephson  
 Barbara Laney  
 Wendy Latta  
 Jamie McKell  
 Erin Owens  
 Jennie Peterson  
 Brooke Ryles  
 Sherisse Suggs  
 Ellyn Willmore

**Alto 1**

Janet Apostalon  
 Laurie Bailey  
 Amy Bak  
 Stefani Carlton  
 LeAnne Draney  
 Stephanie Fry  
 Jenny Gennings\*

Kristen Hess  
 Kathryn Latour  
 Samantha Lopez  
 Theresa Oliver  
 Jodi Peterson  
 Pamela Russell  
 Helen Shellman  
 Ellie Tracy  
 Kathleen Westhora  
 Lindsey Yun

**Alto 2**

Kara Anderson  
 Margie Armstrong  
 Jennifer Edwards  
 Stephanie Ellsworth  
 Jackie Emmett  
 Stephanie Fields  
 Wendy Garner  
 Cheryn Hunter  
 Kyleen Hunter  
 Kathy Jensen  
 Rachel Mohlman  
 Deanna Peabody  
 Courtney Pixton Atack  
 Mary Anne Shamrell  
 Nicole Stoddard  
 Daya Tracy

**Tenor 1**

Keith Biggs  
 Darren Boss  
 Marci Dayley  
 Chris Harris\*  
 LeGrand Scott Jackman  
 Steve Pitzel  
 Tarry Smith

Patty Weenig

**Tenor 2**

Joe Everton  
 Erik Hoggan  
 Ken Hollenzer  
 Doug Lowder  
 Austin Rupert  
 Gerald Whisenant  
 Brian Williamson

**Bass 1**

Curtis Bedont  
 Adam Cluff  
 Marc Davis  
 Mark Deason  
 Erich Drossel  
 Helaman Escobar  
 James Evensen  
 Clark Green  
 Donald Jensen  
 Steve Maxfield  
 Rob Perkins  
 Craig Walker  
 Ryan Wosley

**Bass 2**

Michael Blinco\*  
 Ben Davis  
 Dustin Geddes  
 Russ McMurdie  
 John Meagher  
 David Monson  
 Michael Rex  
 David Riddle  
 Howard Russell

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# The Orchestra

**\*\***Concertmaster

**\*** Principal

**1st Violin**

Ann Christensen\*\*  
Marya Kazmierski  
Tara Burke  
Erin Hatch  
Alberta Barnes

**2nd Violin**

Briana Nielson\*  
Brian Bennett  
Bev Louthan  
Jessica Scott  
Elisa Boynton  
Lacey Peters

**Viola**

Carson Mangum\*  
Anamaria Ghitea  
Maren Knopp  
Kim Burton

**Cello**

Kristopher Duke\*  
Hannah Hiskey  
Amelia Hunnicutt  
Paula Flynn

**String Bass**

Garrett Jellesma\*  
Dennis Caravakis

**Flute**

Rachel Rencher\*  
Pippa Randolph

**Oboe**

Pablo Izquierdo\*

**Oboe/English Horn**

Karen Strand

**Clarinet**

Alicia Charlton\*  
Steven Gordon

**Bassoon**

Nicole Buetti\*  
Gary Zaganiacz

**French Horn**

Jen Harrison\*  
Kurt Heichelheim

**Trumpet**

Brett Randolph\*  
Jason Gunderson

**Trombone**

Kenneth Biggs\*  
Heidi Aispuro

**Tuba**

Stephen Fulks\*

**Percussion**

Brian Gardiner\*  
Nick Rose  
David Priore

**Timpani**

Will Reno

**Keyboard**

Kathy Jensen  
Judith Nielsen

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# Coming This Season

You won't want to miss our Spring 2024 concert featuring one of the most iconic and beautiful pieces for choir and orchestra ever

written: Carl Orff's Carmina Burana. Tickets are available now at our website [MusicInPortland.org](https://MusicInPortland.org) or by [clicking here](#).



PORTLAND  
CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

*Carl Orff's.*  
**CARMINA  
BURANA**

**Rolling Hills  
Community Church**  
SATURDAY, MAY 11  
2 PM

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**Portland Choir & Orchestra**

## **PCO ARTISTIC STAFF**

Artistic Director - Dr. David M. Thomas  
Orchestra Director - Dr. Edward Higgins  
Assistant Choir Director - Jennie Peterson  
Concertmaster - Ann Christensen

## **ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

Executive Director - Ken Hollenzer  
Finance Manager - Kerry Morgan  
Treasurer - Tara Janson

## **OPERATIONS**

Technology - Mark Deason  
Wardrobe - Marci Dayley  
Orchestra Music Librarian - Curtis Bedont  
Orchestra Personnel Manager - Tara Burke  
Box Office Coordinator - Mark Deason  
Marketing - Kathryn Latour  
Public Relations - Keith Biggs  
Social Media - Ben Davis

## **PRODUCTION**

Executive Producer - Brad Goodwin  
Projected Videos - Brad Goodwin  
Projectionist & supertitles - Peggy Goodwin  
Ticketing - Solomon Gordon  
Equipment Transportation - Michael Rex, Bob Anthony  
Audio - Mark Deason, Rob Perkins, Clark Green, Matthew Percy  
Recording Engineer - Greg Blaisdell  
Photographer & Video Team Leader - Jordan Bigelow

Camera Crew - Ian Lay, Liam Grant, XXXXX

Promotional Collateral Design - Jordan Hayter

Digital Program - Brad Goodwin

Thanks to Newmark House & Production team!

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## **Dr. David M. Thomas, Artistic Director**

David M. Thomas enjoys a strong reputation throughout the Pacific Northwest as a conductor who fuses technique and artistry to provide a compelling and transformative musical experience.



Dr. Thomas excels as a choral musician through his unwavering commitment to healthy vocal production in the choir. He attributes much of his success as a conductor and pedagogue to the early influence of his mother Beverly (soprano and conductor), and his years of study and performance with Dr. Ronald Staheli. Dr. Thomas (baritone) soloed in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's well-known weekly television broadcast, on the Mariinsky Theatre stage, and has prepared choirs or collaborated as a guest conductor with many prestigious ensembles including the Oregon Repertory Singers and the Newport Symphony Orchestra.

After earning additional degrees in Russian language (BA) and choral conducting (MM) at Brigham Young University, Dr.

Thomas received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatoire in St. Petersburg Russia. He has continually integrated Russian music in his performance and research, providing performance coaching for ensembles and soloists, and presenting scholarly work at national and regional level professional conferences. Dr. Thomas is highly sought after as a clinician and adjudicator. Artistic Director of Portland Choir & Orchestra since 2007, Dr. Thomas also finds great joy teaching and performing with his wife Emily (Soprano) and, together, raising their five children.

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### **Dr. Edward Higgins, Orchestra Director**

Applauded as a true bright light in artistry and expression, Dr. Edward Higgins, is currently a Professor of Music at Portland State University in Portland Oregon. He also serves as the Orchestra Director of the Portland Choir & Orchestra and has authored four books with subjects ranging from musical performance practice, to the Motown Record Company and its relationship with the City of Detroit.



Dr. Higgins began his multifaceted career with the Spoleto Festival Orchestra in Spoleto, Italy, where he served as Principal Trumpet on such works as the Grammy-winning recording of Samuel Barber's Antony and Cleopatra. After two seasons, Dr. Higgins went on to hold the Principal Trumpet position of the

Sacramento Symphony. He achieved comparable accolades in the Midwest as a professional tubist, holding principal tuba positions in the La Crosse Symphony and the St. Joseph Symphony Orchestras.

His educational career has seen similar successes with brass pedagogy and conducting positions at the University of California Davis, California State University Sacramento, Winona State University in Minnesota, and Washburn University in Kansas.

Dr. Higgins holds bachelor's and master's degrees in trumpet performance from the Juilliard School, and a doctorate in conducting from the University of Missouri, Kansas City.

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### **Jennie Peterson, Assistant Choir Director**

Jennie Peterson received her Bachelor's degree in Music Education with a secondary education choral emphasis from Brigham Young University in 2007. She has had a passion for choral music from a very young age and has enjoyed participating in and directing various choirs throughout her life.



Jennie is currently a stay-at-home mother of four children. In her spare time, she loves to bake and read. Jennie has been part of the Portland Choir and Orchestra since 2010. She

enjoyed acting as the soprano Section Leader at that time, and she is currently thrilled to be the Assistant Choir Director.

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## **Brad Goodwin, Guest Conductor**

After attending a performance of the Portland Choir & Orchestra in 2009 that he described as “Carnegie Hall in Portland,” Brad became a volunteer. He has been involved with every concert since.



He currently produces Portland Choir and Orchestra concerts and supervises a crew of dedicated volunteers who handle production design, sound, lighting, stage management, transportation, decorations, house management, box office, ushering, post-production recordings, and video. If you look carefully you will see his wife Peggy in the booth controlling all projections and supertitles for the concert.

Brad spent four years as the drum major of the Brigham Young University marching band. Professionally he is a software architect at Oracle, a global software company.