Sopranos

Erin Merelli
Gabriela Wenda-Collier
Jaycee Chinn
Kim Bosse
Kim Meyer
Lauren Camacho
Lisa Abo
Lisa Dewane
Maurine Reed
Sarah Daly
Susannah Hazelriga

Altos

Ann Hahn-Baiyor Bekki Henthorn Carla Miller Jeanne Tucker Kay Fullerton Kenny Godde Sandy Nance Sara Matlock Shanna Huitt

Tenors

Andrea Waner Cande Copeland Jim Wharton Jo Childers Martha Narey Timothy Osborn

Teresa Veenstra

Basses

David Valdez
Dustin Carlson
Jim Kreitler
Robert Gibson
Ron Abo
Walter LaMendola

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Folks and Favorites Holiday Concert

December 9, 2023

Taylor Gonzales, Conductor Brenda Olmsted, Piano

With gratitude to Jefferson Avenue United Methodist Church for sharing this beautiful space and to Jim Richards for making sure we have heat for our rehearsals! **Conductor and pianist Taylor Gonzales** is thrilled to join the Foothills Community Choir as Music Director for the 2023-2024 season. Following a successful performance as a guest conductor in Spring 2023, Taylor fell in love with the community of artists that make up the choir and committed to the organization long-term.

Taylor holds several conducting positions in the region. He is the Music Director of the Wild Beautiful Orchestra, and the Chancel Choir Conductor for Trinity United Methodist Church in Denver. He previously served as the Associate Conductor for the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra, and as a cover conductor for the Littleton Symphony Orchestra and Stratus Chamber Orchestra. He is also the co-founder and former Music Director of the Puget Sound Concerto Orchestra.

Taylor grew up in Central Oregon before trading in the dry High Desert landscapes for the green, rainy pastures of Washington State. He earned a music degree from the University of Puget Sound and went on to earn his master's degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Denver. As a pianist, Taylor performed with numerous orchestras including the University of Puget Sound Symphony Orchestra and the Sunriver Music Festival Orchestra. When not performing, Taylor enjoys exploring artsy Denver neighborhoods, dreaming up the next big musical project, or playing with the cat, Pippin.

Brenda Olmsted is an accomplished collaborative pianist. She is the pianist for the Foothills Community Choir, she plays the piano for church services at her church and is a piano teacher. She started taking lessons at the age of seven and fell in love! She played for the chorus in junior high school and then became head accompanist in the 10th grade. She loved playing for the concert and show choir and for the school musicals. She played the organ for her high school commencement ceremonies for several years. She played the piano and organ for the junior choirs at her church growing up. Brenda left Pennsylvania and relocated to Colorado with her family, and quickly found a church and a community choir that she became the accompanist for. She has been the accompanist for a community choir for about thirty years, along with some weddings and senior community centers here and there. Brenda's love and compassion for music flows through her every single day! She is always humming and singing songs in her head all the time. She loves to sight read, play for fun, and teach students of all ages!

Program

How Can I Keep From Singing? (Greg Gilpin/ Text adapted from Quaker Song), Featuring Bekki Henthorn, Erin Merelli, and Timothy Osborn

The Water is Wide with Bring Me a Little Water, Sylvie (arr. Rollo Dilworth)

Wayfarin' Stranger (arr. Craig Zamer), Featuring Martha Narey, Cande Copeland, and Maruine Reed

O Love (Elaine Hagenberg/George Matheson)

Shady Grove (Appalachian Folk Tune, arr. Tom Shelton), Featuring Andrea Waner, Timothy Osborn, Carla Miller, Sarah Daley, Lisa Dewane, Sandy Nance, and Maurine Reed

Happy Holiday (Happy Holiday, Irving Berlin and The Holiday Season, Kay Thompson, arr. Mark Brymer), Featuring Cande Copeland and Sarah Daley

Hanerot Halalu (Light the Candles) (Traditional Hanukka Song, arr. Becki Slagle Mayo), *Featuring Lisa Dewane and Maruine Reed*

Winter Wonderland (Felix Bernard/Dick Smith, arr. Ed Lojeski), Featuring Kim Bosse and Teresa Veenstra

Sing-Along Carol Silent Night (Franz Gruber/Joseph Mohr)

Verse 1	Verse 2
Silent night! Holy night!	Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright	Shepherds quake at the sight.
'round yon virgin mother and	Glories stream from heaven
child!	afar,
Holy infant, so tender and mild,	heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!
sleep in heavenly peace,	Christ the Savior is born!
sleep in heavenly peace.	Christ the Savior is born!"

Let It Ring, Let It Swing, Let it Snow (arr. Mac Huff), Featuring Kim Bosse and Lisa Dewane