

# ***Songs of the Season***

***A journey through love, joy, and celebration***

*From now through December 10, FCC will earn incentives on every donation made through our Colorado Gives campaign. A donation of any size helps us continue to bring the transformative power of vocal music to our community.*



Saturday, December 7, 2024  
3:00 PM

**Taylor Gonzales, Music Director**  
**Brenda Olmsted, Collaborative Pianist**

Presented by



*Foothills Community Choir believes in music's power to unite people of all walks of life. We welcome, value, and empower all to participate fully in our musical community.*

*Thank you to our sponsors*



**Jeri McCarthy**

*With gratitude to Jefferson Avenue United Methodist Church for sharing this beautiful space.*

## Singers

### Sopranos

Amelia Rysavy  
Cheryl Martinez  
Emmi Taylor  
Erin Hamilton  
Gabriela Wenda-Collier  
Jane Banzhaf  
Jane Harvey  
Jaycee Chinn  
Kim Meyer  
Lauren Camacho  
Lisa Abo  
Lisa Dewane  
Maurine Reed  
Sarah Gibson Daly

### Tenors

Andrea Waner  
Jo Childers  
Martha Narey  
Quatez Scott  
Timothy Osborn

### Altos

Ann Hahn-Baiyor  
Ann Warren  
Apryl Brodersen  
Bekki Henthorn  
Carla Miller  
Kara Szymanski  
Kay Fullerton  
Kim Bosse  
Mary Metropulos  
Sandy Nance  
Sara Matlock  
Tricia Grace-O'Leary

### Basses

Dustin Carlson  
Jim Kreidler  
Jim Wharton  
Robert Gibson  
Ron Abo  
Walter LaMendola

## Bios

**Conductor and pianist Taylor Gonzales** brings a vibrant blend of artistry and leadership to the Foothills Community Choir, where he began serving as Music Director in Fall 2023 following a successful guest conductor engagement in April 2023.

Taylor holds multiple prominent conducting roles in the region. He is the Music Director of the Wild Beautiful Orchestra, a dynamic collective of Denver-based musicians dedicated to creating transformative musical experiences for diverse audiences. He also conducts the Chancel Choir at Trinity United Methodist Church in downtown Denver and leads the Silver Singers Choir located in Lakewood, CO. Beyond conducting, Taylor is a dedicated piano teacher, sharing his passion for music with students of all ages. Previously, Taylor served as Associate Conductor of the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra and worked as a cover conductor for the Littleton Symphony Orchestra and Stratus Chamber Orchestra. He co-founded the Puget Sound Concerto Orchestra, where he served as the orchestra's first Music Director.

A native of Central Oregon, Taylor traded the High Desert for the lush, rainy landscapes of Washington State to pursue his passion for music. He earned his bachelor's degree in music from the University of Puget Sound and later completed a master's degree in orchestral conducting at the University of Denver. As a pianist, Taylor performed with orchestras including the University of Puget Sound Symphony Orchestra and the Sunriver Music Festival Orchestra.

When not on the podium or at the piano, Taylor enjoys exploring Denver's vibrant arts scene, dreaming up innovative musical projects, and spending time with loved ones.

**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

### ***Swifter Than Flame (2024)***

Music by Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979)  
Text by Carl John Bostelmann (1906-1974)

### ***Winter Sings Its Song (2014)***

Douglas E. Wagner (b. 1952)

### ***Ave Verum Corpus (1791)***

Wolfgang Amade Mozart (1756-1791)

Ave, verum corpus  
natum de Maria Virgine,  
Vere passum immolatum  
in Cruce pro homine.  
Cujus latus perforatum  
unda\* fluxit (et)\* sanguine,  
Esto nobis praegustatum  
in mortis examine.

Hail, true body  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
Who truly suffered, sacrificed  
on the Cross for man.  
Whose pierced side overflowed  
with water and blood,  
Be for us a foretaste  
In the trial of death.

### ***O Love (2016)***

Music by Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979)  
Text by George Matheson (1842-1906)

### ***Sing Me To Heaven (1991)***

Music by Daniel E. Gawthrop (b. 1949)  
Text by Jane Griner (b. 1950)

### ***Jingle Bells***

Arranged by Ray Charles (1930-2004)

### ***A Musicological Journey Through the Twelve Days of Christmas (1991)***

Craig Courtney (b. 1948)

***Featuring Dr. Michael Ballard, narrator***

### ***Sleigh Ride (1948)***

Music by Leroy Anderson (1908-1975)  
Text by Mitchell Parish (1900-1993)

**-- Please join us for a reception after the concert --**