



BUCKS COUNTY

Choral

SOCIETY

THOMAS LLOYD, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Inspirations

*Music that Uplifts,
Connects, and Transcends*

*Join us for our
2023-2024 Season*



A word from our Artistic Director:

Many of the most inspired works in the choral repertory are settings of texts created for sacred liturgies. Some of the composers of this music were not followers of a faith tradition themselves, but were drawn to creating works that were much broader in scope and intended for a concert audience rather than a congregational setting. Their imaginations were drawn to questions of meaning and mortality that have always resonated deeply in human awareness.

Religious differences and misunderstandings often give rise to conflict in our modern world. As a community choir made up of people from all walks of life, we believe we can build unity and hope by bringing great choral works from across the religious spectrum to our audiences. In our 51st season, we explore works from five distinct faith traditions.

We are also incredibly excited to announce the resumption of our in-person **Singing for Seniors** workshops for the first time in 3 years on Thursday, **November 16** from 10:30am-2:00pm at Foulkeways at Gwynedd. Sue Johnson and I will be the clinicians as we welcome back both our beloved senior choirs and all unaffiliated senior singers. We haven't forgotten our talented youth either - the finalist masterclass for **Voices of the Future** with popular teacher Paul Spencer Adkins will take place Saturday, **March 30** at 11:00am at the James-Lorah Memorial Home in Doylestown.

We hope you will agree with us that this is music that uplifts, connects, and transcends!

*– Thomas Lloyd
The Shirley K. Piercy Artistic Director*

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*Music that Uplifts,
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Reawaken

Mass No.1 in D Minor by Anton Bruckner
Credo by Margaret Bonds

Featuring Symphony in C, soloists Kayla Harriott, *soprano* and Shafiq Hicks, *baritone*
Joined by Bucks County Community College Concert Choir, Rochelle Reed, *director*

Sunday, October 29 at 4:00pm
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Doylestown



Symphony in C



Kayla Harriott
soprano



Shafiq Hicks
baritone

We reawaken our imaginations by hearing the words of the widely familiar Latin mass sung in a neglected but deeply personal setting by the late-Romantic master Anton Bruckner. We pair this moving work with the recently rediscovered music of Margaret Bonds' *Credo*, a setting of a profound original text by W. E. B. DuBois. We are joined in this rediscovery by full orchestra and two exciting young soloists on the brink of stellar careers.

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*Music that Uplifts,
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Reimagine

Lessons and Carols

*A festival of Christmas Music celebrating
Malmark Bellcraftsmen's 50th Anniversary*

Featuring

The Philadelphia Bronze
Hyosang Park, *director*

Saturday, December 9 at 7:30pm

Sunday, December 10 at 4:00pm

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Doylestown



Philadelphia Bronze Handbell Ensemble

We reimagine the beloved Anglican tradition, Nine Lessons and Carols, which emerged from the late-Victorian desire to bring popular Christmas carols from the home into the cathedral. The virtuosic ringing of the 12-member professional handbell ensemble Philadelphia Bronze will celebrate an important anniversary for a Bucks County landmark, Malmark Bellcraftsmen.

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Reflect

Music that Uplifts, Connects, and Transcends

Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*

An Inspired Choral Landmark

Sunday, March 17 at 4:00pm

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Doylestown

Perhaps no other choral work offers as full an opportunity for reflection as the undulating, magnificent phrases of Sergei Rachmaninoff's setting of a central Eastern Orthodox liturgy, the *All-Night Vigil*. Before he fled his homeland in the wake of the Russian Revolution, Rachmaninoff composed what would become one of the pinnacles of world choral literature. If you love Rachmaninoff's piano concertos and symphonies, you will be surprised at how the long, winding phrases derived from ancient Slavonic chant resemble the familiar melodies of Rachmaninoff's symphonic style. The choir will be adding additional low basses for the distinctive choral sonority of the Russian choir.



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Remember

Music that Uplifts, Connects, and Transcends

Ernest Bloch's *Avodath Hakodesh* (Sacred Service)

*A Revered Concert Setting
of the Jewish Liturgy*

with Nashirah

The Jewish Chorale of Greater Philadelphia
Julia Zavadsky, *director*

Sunday, May 19 at 5:00pm

Rodeph Shalom, Philadelphia

Sunday, June 2 at 4:00pm

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Doylestown



Julia Zavadsky
director

Remembering the history of family, loved ones, and community is the cornerstone of Jewish liturgy. We conclude our season with the preeminent concert setting of these inspired texts, Ernest Bloch's dramatic and luminous *Avodath Hakodesh*. For two special performances in Doylestown and at Temple Rodeph Shalom in Philadelphia, we will be joined by Nashirah – The Jewish Chorale of Greater Philadelphia. The program will also include the premiere of a new work by Cantor Natasha J. Hirschhorn, and Thomas Lloyd's recent setting of Psalm 46, *River of Gladness*.

TO BUY TICKETS BY MAIL

SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS Choose from one of two options:

A. Full Season Subscription (four concerts) ___ # subscriptions x \$80.00 = \$ _____

B. Pick-3 Plan (pick any three concerts) ___ # subscriptions x \$66.00 = \$ _____

Please select which subscription concerts you will attend:

Oct. 29, 2023 _____ Mar. 17, 2024 _____

Dec. 9, 2023 _____ May 19, 2024 _____

Dec. 10, 2023 _____ June 2, 2024 _____

INDIVIDUAL CONCERT TICKETS - \$25 Advance Sale (\$30 at door)

Oct. 29, 2023 _____ # tickets x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Dec. 9, 2023 _____ # tickets x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Dec. 10, 2023 _____ # tickets x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Mar. 17, 2024 _____ # tickets x \$25.00 = \$ _____

May 19, 2024 _____ # tickets x \$25.00 = \$ _____

June 2, 2024 _____ # tickets x \$25.00 = \$ _____

GROUP TICKET SALES Advance purchase of 10 or more tickets \$20.00 each

Reawaken _____ # tickets x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Reimagine _____ # tickets x \$20.00 = \$ _____ on date: _____

Reflect _____ # tickets x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Remember _____ # tickets x \$20.00 = \$ _____ on date: _____

Please ADD MY GIFT in support of the artistry of the Choral Society: \$ _____

Total for tickets and donation \$ _____

IT'S EASY TO ORDER YOUR TICKETS or MAKE A DONATION

at: WWW.BUCKSCHORAL.ORG or by phone: 215-230-3836.

COMPLETE FORM AND MAIL TO:

Bucks County Choral Society, P.O. Box 702, Doylestown, PA 18901

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Thank you for your support of Bucks County's Premier Large Choral Ensemble!

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buckschoral.org

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