



University of North Texas ChoralFest 2022

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Dr. Kristina Caswell MacMullen, conductor

CAMERATA

J. Christine Le, conductor

CONCERT CHOIR

Dr. Jessica Nápoles, conductor

KALANDRA

Dr. Kristina Caswell MacMullen, conductor

CHORALE

Thomas Rinn, conductor

A CAPPELLA CHOIR

Dr. Allen Hightower, conductor

Friday, September 30, 2022

7:30 pm

Winspear Hall

Murchison Performing Arts Center

PROGRAM

University Singers
Dr. Kristina Caswell MacMullen, conductor
J. Christine Le, conducting associate
Daeun Kim, collaborative pianist

Va, pensiero, *Nabucco* (1842) Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901)

Kalinda (2003)..... Sydney Guillaume (b. 1982)

Camerata
J. Christine Le, conductor
Chiao-Ju Hung, collaborative pianist

How Can I Keep from Singing? (1999)..... Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

Storm Comin' (2011)..... Ruth Moody (b. 1975)

Concert Choir
Dr. Jessica Nápoles, conductor
Jacob Augsten, conducting associate
Chiao-Ju Hung, collaborative pianist

Ambe (2017) Andrew Balfour (b. 1967)

North (2014) Ryan O'Neal (b. 1983)

PROGRAM

Kalandra

Dr. Kristina Caswell MacMullen, conductor
Jacob Augsten, conducting associate
Daeun Kim, collaborative pianist

Caritas abundat in omnia (1175) Hildegard von Bingen (1098–1179)
arr. à Quattro 2021 Zanaida Robles (b. 1979)

Stars in Your Bones (2017) Joan Szymko (b. 1957)

Chorale

Thomas Rinn, conductor
Matthew Wilkinson, collaborative pianist

The Pasture, *Frostiana* (1959) Randall Thompson (1899–1984)

Bonki abaphandle (2020) Michael Joseph Barrett/Mbuso Ndlovu
(b. 1983)/(b. 1982)
Danny Hale and Caleb Greenwood, djembe

A Cappella Choir

Dr. Allen Hightower, conductor
Kenneth Sieloff, conducting associate
Dong Hyun Kang, collaborative pianist

There Will Be Rest (1999) Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)

from *Vier Quartette*, Opus 92 Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)
1. O schöne Nacht (1877)

Seek Him that Maketh the
Seven Stars (1998) Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)

Seventieth program of the 2022–2023 season
Photography and videography are prohibited

BIOGRAPHIES

Conductor-teacher **Kristina Caswell MacMullen** has devoted her career to sharing music and inspiration with students and audiences. Her collaborations with fellow musicians continue to confirm her abiding hope for the future and an unflinching belief in the power of choral music.

Currently, MacMullen serves as an Associate Professor of Choral Conducting at the University of North Texas where she conducts the University Singers, Kalandra, and instructs both undergraduate and graduate students in conducting and rehearsal pedagogy. Prior to her appointment at UNT, Kristina spent eight years on the faculty of The Ohio State University. While at OSU, her interdisciplinary work earned her the Sir William Osler Award for Humanism in Medicine.

MacMullen believes that great potential lies in choral performance and creative communication. She strives to guide her students, as they desire to impact the world they will inherit for the better. Creative projects include interdisciplinary performances addressing human trafficking, the Kubler-Ross stages of grief, play theory, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, female archetype exploration, American song, civic engagement, and the nature of tears.

As an active adjudicator and clinician, MacMullen has conducted All-State and honors choirs throughout the United States. She has presented and co-presented interest sessions at state, regional, national and international conferences. Recent and upcoming engagements involve students in New Mexico, Michigan, South Carolina, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, and Texas. Her teaching and conducting is featured on the DVD *Conducting-Teaching: Real World Strategies for Success* published by GIA (2009). Her editions for treble choir are published by Boosey & Hawkes, Musicatus Press, and MusicSpoke.

MacMullen earned both the Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from Michigan State University. She completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Texas Tech University. Kristina has enjoyed a diverse career as a public-school teacher, interacting with students in rural, suburban, and urban settings, elementary through high school. She also sings with the professional ensemble Mirabai.

Allen Hightower is a seventh generation Texan, and resides in McKinney, with his wife Dr. Kristin Hightower and their two daughters Caroline and Julianne. As the director of Choral Studies at UNT, Allen leads the master's and doctoral programs in choral conducting, and oversees eight ensembles. Allen serves as the conductor of the A Cappella Choir and Grand Chorus, which collaborates annually with the Symphony Orchestra in performances of major choral-orchestral works. As a member of UNT's Early Music faculty, he leads the vocal ensemble Vox Aquilae, an artistic partner of the Baroque Orchestra. Since arriving at UNT in 2016, the A Cappella Choir has received invitations to perform for the Texas Music Educators Association in 2020, National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association in 2021, and Southwestern Division of ACDA in 2022. Vox Aquilae and the Baroque Orchestra were featured in the 2022 virtual conference of the National Collegiate Choral Organization.

BIOGRAPHIES

As a teacher and conductor, he has visited 30 states, Asia, and Europe. His students hold positions of leadership as choral conductors in public schools, colleges and universities, and churches and community choirs throughout the United States.

Prior to his appointment at UNT, Hightower held the Weston Noble Endowed Chair in Music at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he served as conductor of the renowned Nordic Choir and artistic director of Christmas at Luther. As Luther's director of Choral Activities, he gave leadership to a choral program that included four conductors, six choirs, and over 530 singers. Under his direction, the Nordic Choir performed at the 2014 North Central Division of ACDA, recorded six compact discs, made annual concert tours throughout the United States, and toured Europe on two occasions.

From 2000-2010, he served as professor of music and director of Choral Studies at Sam Houston State University. During his tenure, the SHSU Chorale toured Europe, performed for the 2007 National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association, the 2010 Southwestern Division of ACDA, and the 2003, 2006, and 2010 conventions of the Texas Music Educators Association. His public school teaching career included tenures at Klein High School in Spring, Texas and at Odessa Permian High School in Odessa, where he led the PHS Kantorei and Satin Strings in performance at the 1996 TMEA convention.

Outside of his work in the academic setting, Allen has served as the artistic director of the Houston Masterworks Chorus and Orchestra, leading an annual concert series of choral-orchestral masterworks. As a church musician, he has served Baptist, Congregational, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches in Texas, California, and Minnesota. He currently serves on the Music and Worship staff of Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, Texas, and is the church music vice-president of the Texas Choral Directors Association. Dr. Hightower has served as an adjunct professor of conducting at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

As a conducting student of the Texas choral legend Bev Henson, Allen earned his undergraduate degree in music education and piano from Sam Houston State University. He earned a master's degree in choral conducting from the Eastman School of Music where he was a student of Baroque scholar Alfred Mann, and a master's degree in orchestral conducting from Baylor University, where he served as assistant conductor to Stephen Heyde and accompanist to Donald Bailey and the Baylor Chamber Singers. Allen earned his doctorate in conducting from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he served as assistant conductor to Donald Neuen. Hightower pursued additional orchestral conducting studies with Jung-Ho Pak at USC, choral conducting studies with Joseph Flummerfelt at Westminster Choir College, and choral-orchestral conducting with Helmuth Rilling at the Oregon Bach Festival. After winning first prize in the graduate division of the American Choral Directors Association's Conducting Competition in 1997, Allen served as assistant to Paul Salamunovich, conductor of the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Hightower conducts the Houston Symphony Chorus for 2022-2023.

BIOGRAPHIES

Jessica Nápoles is Professor of Choral Music Education at the University of North Texas. She teaches undergraduate coursework in choral methods, conducts the Concert Choir, and mentors graduate students in research. Dr. Nápoles served as Interim division chair for Conducting & Ensembles in 2019-2020 and Interim division chair for Music Education in Fall of 2020. A native of Florida with a Cuban-American background, Dr. Napoles taught middle school chorus in the public schools of Miami and Orlando, FL. She received her Bachelor of Music Education, Master of Music Education, and PhD in Music Education from the Florida State University. Prior to her appointment at UNT, she taught at the University of Utah for 11 years.

Dr. Nápoles is an active conductor, clinician, and adjudicator, frequently engaging in guest conducting opportunities locally, regionally, and nationally. She has conducted All State and honor choirs in Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Utah. She has conducted the Southern, North Central/Central, and Western division honor choirs for the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). In 2019, Dr. Nápoles made her Carnegie Hall debut as choral conductor for the WorldStrides OnStage Honors Performance Series. She was asked to return in 2020 and again in 2021.

In addition to her conducting invitations, Dr. Nápoles is a well known researcher, with numerous publications in journals such as the Journal of Research in Music Education, Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education, Journal of Music Teacher Education, Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, and the International Journal of Music Education. She is currently serving 6-year terms on the editorial boards of the Journal of Research in Music Education, the premier research journal in music education and the International Journal of Research in Choral Singing, the ACDA research journal. Her research interests include music teacher education, testing practitioner practices empirically, expressive conducting, and teacher talk. She has presented at conferences on these topics nationally and internationally.

Dr. Nápoles is meaningfully engaged with the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) at the national level. She is currently a member of the Research Standing Committee. Additionally, she served as Assistant Conference Chair for the 2019 Kansas City Conference and previously as the Honor Choir Coordinator for the 2015 conference in Salt Lake City and the 2017 conference in Minneapolis. Additionally, she served as Assistant Conference chair for the 2021 virtual conference and the 2019 Kansas City Conference, and previously led the writing team in drafting a COVID-19 task force for ACDA. Nápoles has guest conducted the World Strides Honors Performance Series National Honor Choir, Carnegie Hall; North Central/Central TTBB ACDA Honor Choir (2020); Maine All State Chorus (2018, 2019). Other appearances include conference headliner, Wyoming Music Educators Association (2021); invited scholar-in-residence, Louisiana State University (2020); conference headliner, Missouri Choral Directors Association (2019).

BIOGRAPHIES

Jacob Augsten, a native of Griffin, Georgia, is a conductor, teacher, and singer dedicated to building community through collaborative choral artistry. He is currently pursuing a doctor of musical arts degree in choral conducting at the University of North Texas, where he studies under Drs. Allen Hightower, Kristina MacMullen, and Jessica Nápoles. In addition to his studies at UNT, Augsten is currently the conducting associate for UNT's Concert Choir and Kalandra, was previously the instructor of Music Fundamentals, and is the former conducting associate of Vox Aquilae, UNT's flagship early music ensemble. Augsten also serves as director of music at First Presbyterian Church of Denton. Augsten was the assistant conductor of the Perimeter College Chorale in 2019 and 2020, and he has conducted performances with the Georgia State University Symphony Orchestra, Orpheus Men's Ensemble, the choir and orchestra at First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, and the Atlanta Chamber Choir. Augsten holds the master of music degree in choral conducting from Georgia State University, where he studied conducting under Dr. Deanna Joseph, and the bachelor of music degree in music education from Clayton State University, where he was the winner of the Cheryl Boyd-Waddel Award, the Robert O. Allen Music Prize, and the Alma Lily Farfan-Northway Music Scholarship.

J. Christine Le has served as conductor, clinician, adjudicator, and collaborative pianist in Louisiana, Michigan, Florida, and Mississippi. She taught chorus and music theory in Florida and Louisiana public schools for 9 years. Choirs under Ms. Le's direction have performed at state, regional, and national ACDA conferences. A founding member and past associate conductor of the Orlando Sings Symphonic Chorus, Ms. Le conducted Haydn's *Die Schöpfung* with The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra in 2022. Ms. Le was the first middle school guest clinician for Jacksonville Sings! in September 2019, and she has conducted honor choirs in several Florida counties. Ms. Le has adjudicated choral festivals in Michigan and Florida, including the Orlando Worldstrides Heritage Festival. She has presented at the Louisiana ACDA and Florida Music Educators Association conferences. Ms. Le earned her bachelor's degree in choral music education from Centenary College of Louisiana, studying under Dr. Julia Thorn. She completed her master of music at Michigan State University, studying under Dr. David Rayl, Dr. Sandra Snow, and Dr. Jonathan Reed. She is currently a student at the University of North Texas, studying under Drs. Allen Hightower, Kristina Caswell-MacMullen, and Jessica Nápoles. Ms. Le is a member of ACDA, NAfME, and Chorus America.

BIOGRAPHIES

Thomas Rinn currently serves as a teaching fellow in the College of Music while pursuing his PhD in music education at the University of North Texas and is director of music at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church in Richardson. He holds a master of music education from Florida State University and a bachelor of music, from the University of Texas at San Antonio. He has twenty years of public-school teaching experience as high school choral director. Choirs under Rinn's direction have been honored with invitations to perform for the Texas Music Educators Association and Southwest American Choral Directors Association. Rinn's research interests include music teacher preparation, recruitment and persistence in elective music, and social media in music education. He has presented at conferences nationwide and has recent publications in *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education* and the *Journal of Research in Music Education*. Rinn is a frequent choral clinician, guest conductor, adjudicator, and presenter of teacher training nationwide. Mr. Rinn has served as president of the Texas Choral Directors Association, high school vice-president for the Texas Choral Directors Association, a TMEA Region Vocal Chair, and currently serves as chair of the Texas UIL Vocal Sight-Reading area.

Kenneth Sieloff is a first-year graduate student at the University of North Texas where he is pursuing a master's degree in choral conducting. Prior to UNT, Sieloff served as director of choirs at Permian High School in Odessa, Texas. In his time at Permian HS, Mr. Sieloff's choirs performed at the 2018 Texas Music Educators Association Conference and 2020 Southwestern ACDA Conference. In 2017 he was named a "Young Director of Distinction" by the Texas Choral Directors Association. Along with his passion for working with young musicians in the classroom, Sieloff has long been dedicated to the art of conducting. In 2011 he competed in the American Choral Directors Association's National Student Conducting Competition in Chicago, IL and won first place. Sieloff enjoys serving as an active clinician and adjudicator throughout Texas. Sieloff holds a bachelor of music education degree from The University of Michigan, where he studied voice with Professor Martha Sheil and conducting with Eugene Rogers, Paul Rardin, and Jerry Blackstone. Ken loves to spend time with his wife Annie, daughter Charlotte, and dogs Lily and Sadie. He enjoys the great outdoors, including hunting, and spending time with friends whenever he has the chance.

PERSONNEL

University Singers

Soprano

Madeline Aman
Victoria Cerda
Abigail Cockrum
Olivia Cottar
Kae Hurley
Madison Juneau
Sara Knoy
Sorrel McCarthy
Reagan Miller
Anastasia Nelson
Anna Poole
Rebecca Walther
Maryn West

Alto

Abigail Bahng
Kerraline Bemis
Kara Bonorden
Alden Bostwick
Emma Cockerham
Lyra Ehninger
Rachel Howes
Ris Kemp
Julianna LoBiondo
Kianna Montanez
Tessa Newman
Jade Wesley
Lia Wiese
Eleanor Williams

Tenor

Tristino Ali
Tim Anderson
Gavin Godbey
Jacob Jeter
Henry Lee
Alexis Mendoza-Sanchez
Rudy Polk
Michael Starr
Kahan Taraporevala
Nathan Taylor
Tyler Warwas
Sidney Washington
Julian Yanas

Bass

Michael Binkley
Colin Busch-Kennedy
Ely Eckles
Conall Hawkins
Luke Knittle
Findlay Morton
Christopher Rodriguez
Gray
Nate Smith
Jesse Spencer
Solomon Sun
Sam Wood

Camerata

Soprano 1

Lynn Bui
Zoe Crider
Mia Cruz
Nadia DeMille
Dylan Hamilton
Erica Menasco
Delaney Nita
Josellyn Olmos
Leah Sellers
Victoria Taylor
Addisen Wells

Soprano 2

Tabitha Allen
Emma Carlson
Paulina Diaz
Michelle Grigsby
Taylor Jones
Presley Jorgensen
Ava Kinghorn
Iris Lin
Anna Martin
Stella Marvel
Raven Matthews
Emily Rhodes
Katie Rodriguez-Keklak
Manishika Suresh

Alto 1

Averie Attaway
Keyaira Benjamin
Jennie Broughton
Gesuina Campos
Maile Hawryluk
Arlyn Juarez
Yuzuki Kondo
Aileene Rojas
Angela Thomas
Catherine Trausch

Alto 2

McKensi Bryce
Emily Arkadina Cadena
Lauren Campbell
Hailey Green
Mary Lamberson
Jill Milligan
Marnique Neille
Sassy Stanbush

Concert Choir

Soprano

Lauren Abell
Julia Amundson
Amy Baumgardner
Matti Beezley
Emma Campbell
Kayla Flores
Ashley Howell
Addison Kaser
Liz King
Jessica Miller
Talitha Murphy
Kaitlyn Rivera
Katie Grace
Stephenson
Hailey Stottlemyre

PERSONNEL

Alto

Emma Barrow
Sarah Barrow
Ella Brown
McCaa Clancy
Abigail Cockrum
Macey Deck
Lily Cohen
Julia Eichholz
Autumn Gordy
Rachel Howes
Elizabeth Mattson
Meredith Simmons
Emily Tucker
Grace Wilson

Tenor

Logan Dovalina
Dozie Enemo
Jacob Freshour
Bodi Gill
Elijah Jackson
Benjamin Johnson
Chris Mason
Nathan Morales
Caiden Reisinger
Hunter Mathieson
Moises Ybaben-
Burciaga

Bass

Christian Anderson
Benjamin Bassett
Philip Callaway
George Cox
Ian Granado
Brady Hanson
Tyler Hudson
Jaden Jackson
Cooper
Jace Kershen
Cameron Purcell
Matthew Richards

Kalandra

Soprano

Matti Beezley
Delia Esparza
Brianna Ferrer
Abigail Gonzalez
Evelyn Hernandez
Jemila Herron
Isabel Lara
Christina Lopez
Gracie Miller
Aubrey Myers
Ali Palacios
Miracle Price
Mary Rumsey
Katelyn Sprivey
Maragaret Standfield
Abigail Wilson

Alto

Cicity Bennion
Sara Cano
Beige Cowell
Madison Frost
Lauren Gomulka
D'Lo Hampton
Ayla Hanson
Jocelyn McBrayer
Erin McSpadden
Tess Miller
McKenna Schenck
Teagan Serink
Diana Tiscareño
Meilan Troeung
Isabela Urroz Arena
Kristina Wueger

Chorale

Tenor 1

Kris Correa
Joseph Huerta
Hart Lu
Noah Salem
Eli Stockton
Daniel Triplett
Noah Turner
Benjamin Williams

Tenor 2

Nathan Crowson
Greyson Farley
Phillip Flores
Daniel Gonzalez
Daniel Kim
Weixin Li
Noah Martin
Caiden Reisinger
Jacob Royle
Stefan Vitale
Joshua Young

Bass 1

Timothy Bergan
Crayton Buchanan
Jonathan Byrd
Aidan Davidson
Seth Delzell
Caleb Greenwood
Danny Hale
Jevon Harbert
Dawson Hardin
Austin Jones
Isaac Kizziar
Spencer Knutti
Simon Kowalski
Jacob Lord
Findlay Morton
Ryan O'Dell
Ryan Padilla
Ethan Pritchard
Gabe Scott
Gregory Serrato
Mark Sierra

PERSONNEL

Bass 2

Aidan Barboza
Sheldon Ellisor
Julius Estrella
Andrew Fragle
Ryan Giraldi
Nathaniel Gustafson
Samuel Hightower
Sungyun Kim
Miles Love
Max McClenney
Simón Ramírez
Jack Rich
Jacob Schultz
Joseph Sioui

A Cappella

Soprano

Danah Berry
Harli Daniel
Reagan Dunn
Taylor Fenner
Emma Garcia
Marissa Guerro
Danielle Harrington
Madison Lang
Hyejin Lee
Kyuyim Lee
Katelyn Spivey
Katherine Stedman
Ruth Sytsma
Hannah Watkins

Alto

Nicole Barbeau
Sarah Decker
Trinity Del Regno
Madeline Friesen
Raquel Guest
Meredith Hinshaw
Elizabeth King
Kassidy Montan
Brianna Nelson
Madison Pfaffenberger
Anna Schmelter
Savanna Singleton
Chloe Spellmann

Tenor

Caleb Aguirre
Samuel Benavidez
Ezechiel Daos
Joshua Durrwachter
Jack Forden
Cecil Garrison
Xavier Howard
Benjamin Johnson
Marquis McBride
Chase Shaw
Kenneth Sieloff
Craig Sith
William Swinney
Nicholas Veazey

Bass

Jacob Augsten
Seth Bazan
Joseph Boatwright
Hawkins Burns
Brian DeStefano
Matthew Dexter
Xavier Garcia
Peter Mooney
Cameron Purcell
Zachary Rohwer
Max Rubenstein-Miller
Timothy Sanchez
Avery Sanderlin

FACULTY AND STAFF

Choral Studies

Allen Hightower - Director of Choral Studies & Conductor, A Cappella Choir, Vox Aquilae, & Grand Chorus

Kristina Caswell MacMullen - Conductor, University Singers & Kalandra

Jessica Nápoles - Conductor, Concert Choir

Jamey Kelley and Jessica Nápoles - Choral Music Education

Joshua Habermann - Choral Literature

Jacob Augsten - Conducting Associate, Concert Choir & Kalandra

J. Christine Le - Conductor, Camerata & Conducting Associate, University Singers

William McLean - Assistant Conductor, Dallas Symphony Chorus & Conducting Class

Thomas Rinn - Conductor, Chorale & Conducting Class

Kenneth Sieloff - Conducting Associate, A Cappella Choir; Choral Librarian; DCS Assistant

Daeun Kim - Collaborative Pianist, Kalandra & University Singers

Chiao-Ju Hung - Collaborative Pianist, Camerata & Concert Choir

Matthew Wilkinson - Collaborative Pianist, Chorale

Dong Hyun Kang - Conducting Associate, Vox Aquilae; Collaborative Pianist, A Cappella Choir & Grand Chorus

Vocal Studies

Faculty: Stephen F. Austin, Daniel Bubeck, Richard Croft, Stephen Dubberly, Molly Fillmore (Division Chair), Nereida García, William Joyner, Jennifer Lane, Jeff MacMullen, Stephen Morscheck, Elvia Puccinelli, Jeffrey Snider, Carol Wilson

Teaching Fellows: Natasha Bekker, Megan Gackle, Jessica Glenn, Kara Libby, Kori Miller, Andrea Pinder, Christopher Rodriguez, Andrés Silva Valencia

College of Music Administration

John W. Richmond - Dean

Warren H. Henry - Senior Associate Dean, Academic Affairs

Felix Olschofka - Associate Dean, Operations

Emilita Marin - Assistant Dean, Business and Finance

Raymond Rowell - Assistant Dean, Scholarships and External Affairs

Kirsten Soriano Broberg - Director, Undergraduate Studies

Jaymee Haefner - Director, Graduate Studies

Matt Hardman - Director, Communications, Marketing and Public Relations

Joel D. Wiley - Director, Admissions

Upcoming Events

High School Choral Invitational - Oct. 18

Kalandra & Concert Choir - Nov. 10

A Cappella Choir - Nov. 13

Chorale & Camerata - Nov. 15

University Singers - Nov. 29