



Sunday, May 19, 2024
3:00 p.m.

First Lutheran Church
Columbia Heights, MN

William H. Mathis, Artistic Director

FINDING HOME:

Broadway Songs of Longing and Belonging

with

Timothy O'Grady, piano; Robert Maderich II, bass; Daniel Wahlstrom, drums

Act I: *Longing*

Skid Row Little Shop of Horrors arr. William Mathis
*Someone tell me the way to get outta here, 'cause I constantly pray I'll get outta here.
Someone give me my shot or I'll rot here.*

There's A Place For Us West Side Story arr. Robert Page
Somewhere there's a place for us; peace and quiet and open air, wait for us, somewhere.

Mister Cellophane Chicago
*Mr. Cellophane shoulda been my name 'cause you can look right through me, walk right by
me, and never know I'm there.*

Adelaide's Lament Guys and Dolls
*From a lack of community property and a feeling she's getting too old, a person can develop a
cold.*

The Man that Got Away A Star Is Born arr. Vocal Chords Sheet Music
*No more his eager call; the writing's on the wall, the dreams you dreamed have all gone
astray.*

It's The Hard Knock Life Annie arr. William Mathis
No one cares for you a fig when you're in an orphanage. It's the hard knock life.

On the Street Where You Live My Fair Lady arr. William Mathis
*And oh, the towering feeling just to know somehow you are near; the overpowering feeling
that any second you may suddenly appear.*

Sunrise, Sunset Fiddler on the Roof arr. John Leavitt
*Sunrise, sunset; swiftly fly the years. One season following another, laden with happiness
and tears.*

Corner of the Sky Pippin
*Don't you see I want my life to be something more than long? I've got to be where my spirit
can run free. Gotta find my corner of the sky!*

Intermission

Act II: *Belonging*

Consider Yourself Oliver! arr. Norman Leyden
Consider yourself our mate, we don't want to have no fuss for after some consideration we can state, consider yourself one of us.

I've Got the Sun in the Morning Annie Get Your Gun arr. Kirby Shaw
Got no heirlooms for my kin, made no will, but when I cash in I'll leave the sun in the mornin' and the moon at night.

Anyplace I Hang My Hat is Home St. Louis Woman
Birds roostin' in the tree pick up and go, and the goin' proves that's how it oughta be. I pick up too... cause anyplace I hang my hat is home.

No One Is Alone Into the Woods
Things will come out right now, we can make it so. Someone is on your side, no one is alone.

Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree Sisters of Swing arr. Raymond Berg
Don't sit under the apple tree with anyone else but me, till I come marching home.

Lida Rose / The Music Man
Will I Ever Tell You
Lida Rose, I'm home again. Lida Rose, oh won't you be mine?
Dream of now, dream of then, dream of a love song that might have been. Do I love you, ah yes I love you, but will I ever tell you, ah no.

Edelweiss / The Sound of Music/Traditional Welsh
All Through The Night arr. Kristen Husby
Guardian angels bless and keep you all through the night. Bless my homeland forever.
Edelweiss, edelweiss,
Every morning you greet me.
Small and white, clean and bright,
You look happy to meet me.
Blossom of snow, may you bloom and grow,
Bloom and grow forever.
Edelweiss, edelweiss,
Bless my homeland forever.

Act II (*continued*)

Children Will Listen Into The Woods arr. Jacob Naverud
Careful the wish you make, wishes are children. Children will look to you for which way to turn, to learn what to be.

Goodnight Ladies / The Music Man arr. William Mathis
Pick a Little, Talk A Little
Goodnight ladies, we're going to leave you now.

Make Our Garden Grow Candide
I'll teach my hands to bake our loaf of daily bread. We'll do the best we know. We'll build our house and chop our wood, and make our garden grow.

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BIOGRAPHIES

Kristen Husby, Concept and Stage Direction

Kristen holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theater Performance from Viterbo University. After countless school, community, and college productions followed by 25+ shows across the Twin Cities, greater Minnesota, Iowa, and Michigan, she prefers weeknights at home and the ability to keep up with laundry to the rigors of nightly theater rehearsals. Kristen serves as President of the Board for Chorus Polaris and is a board member at-large for Sandbox Theatre, sings with Chorus Polaris and Hymnus Angelicus, and plays the role of Vice President of Enterprise Compensation Design at Wells Fargo. She and her partner Matt reside in the Longfellow neighborhood with their new rescue dog Abby.

William H. Mathis, Music Director

Bill retired after a 50-year career as a church musician and conductor. A graduate of Westminster Choir College, Bill has served churches and colleges in the Midwest, California, and Oklahoma. He is an active clinician, leading workshops or guest conducting in 35 states. He is noted for a rehearsal style that leads to musical understanding. He has been the conductor of Chorus Polaris since 2017.

Raymond Berg, Community Connection, arranger of *Sisters of Swing*

As a veteran of the Twin Cities' music theater scene, Raymond has conducted 31 productions at the Ordway, as well as productions at the Guthrie, Jungle Theatre, Mixed Blood, History Theatre, Old Log, and many others. A recipient of two Ivey Awards for Best Musical Direction (Ordway's *Love Janis* and Jungle's *Urinetown*), Raymond was also a founding arts instructor at the St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists, where he collaborated to develop their core arts practice curriculum. He has taught at Children's Theatre Company, McNally Smith, and the MN Opera's OperaVenture program.

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Show Information

Dates of original Broadway productions, composers, fun facts

Little Shop of Horrors Music by Alan Menken, Lyrics by Howard Ashman
Off-Off Broadway May 6, 1982 - June 6, 1982
Off-Broadway July 27, 1982 - November 1, 1987
October 2, 2003 - August 22, 2004
Joey Fatone was playing Seymour when the show closed.

West Side Story Music by Leonard Bernstein, Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
September 26, 1957 - June 27, 1959
This was Sondheim's Broadway debut.

Chicago Music by John Kander, Lyrics by Fred Ebb
June 3, 1975 - August 27, 1977
Patrick Swayze is one of many actors who have played Billy Flynn on Broadway.

A Star Is Born
Collaboration between:
Max Steiner: composer for the film and score.
Harold Arlen: Composed the iconic song "The Man That Got Away."
Ira Gershwin and E.Y. Harburg: Lyrics, Movie Musical - 1937
The film was initially released with a sepia-toned ending, rather than the black and white format used for the majority of the movie. This was a stylistic choice to signify the shift in tone and the tragic conclusion of the story.

Guys and Dolls Music and Lyrics by Frank Lesser
November 24, 1950 - November 28, 1953
The show actually had a test run of eight performances at the Bristol Hippodrome in England before hitting Broadway.

Annie Music by Charles Strouse, Lyrics by Martin Charnin
April 21, 1977 - January 2, 1983
Sarah Jessica Parker did not originate the role, but did play Annie during the first Broadway run.

My Fair Lady Music by Frederick Loewe, Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner
March 15, 1956 - September 29, 1962
During the original 1956 Broadway run, Rex Harrison, who played Professor Higgins, insisted that all the telephones on stage be real and functional because he disliked using prop phones.

Fiddler On The Roof Music by Jerry Bock, Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick
September 22, 1964 - September 2, 1972
The character of the Fiddler himself doesn't actually have any spoken lines throughout the entire musical. He communicates solely through his violin playing. Imagine trying that on your next work Zoom call.

Show Information (*continued*)

Pippin

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

October 23, 1972 - June 12, 1977

The character of the Leading Player, who is the charismatic host and manipulator of the show, was actually an amalgamation of several smaller roles. Director Bob Fosse was so impressed by Ben Vereen's audition that they combined these parts to create the larger-than-life character we know today.

Oliver!

Music and Lyrics by Lionel Bart

January 6, 1963 - November 14, 1964

Lionel Bart couldn't actually read or write music. For **Oliver!**, he would hum the melodies he composed, and composer Eric Rogers would then transcribe them into written notation. Sorry, Eric, there's probably an app for that now.

Annie Get Your Gun

Music and Lyrics by Irving Berlin

May 16, 1946 - February 12th, 1949

The original Annie Oakley, the real-life sharpshooter the musical is loosely based on, attended the opening night.

St. Louis Woman

Music by Harold Arlen, Lyrics by Johnny Mercer

March 30, 1946 - July 6, 1946

This show was one of the first Broadway musicals to feature a predominantly Black cast and creative team. While not the absolute first (shows like "Shuffle Along" in 1921 came before), "St. Louis Woman" helped pave the way for greater diversity.

Into the Woods

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

November 5, 1987 - September 3, 1989

Early drafts of the musical included characters from even more fairy tales, including Rumpelstiltskin and The Three Pigs.

Sisters of Swing: The Story of the Andrews Sisters

Written by Beth Gilleland and Bob Beverage

Musical Arrangements by Raymond Berg

Community Connection - premiered at the Great American History Theatre in St. Paul, MN, April 2002.

Did you know the Andrews Sisters had more Top Ten hits than the Beatles or Elvis? After starting here in Minnesota, the *Sisters of Swing* show has played to audiences in 129 productions across the U.S., Germany, the Netherlands, and Austria.

The Music Man

Music and Lyrics by Meredith Wilson

December 19, 1957 - April 15, 1961

The show went through over forty drafts before opening on Broadway. If at first you don't succeed...

(continued on next page)

Show Information (*continued*)

The Sound of Music

Music by Richard Rodgers, Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

November 16, 1959 - June 15, 1963

The Sound of Music was the last collaboration between Rodgers and Hammerstein. Sadly, Hammerstein passed away from stomach cancer just nine months after the show's premiere.

Candide

Music by Leonard Bernstein, Lyrics by Richard Wilbur, John

Latouche, Dorothy Parker, Lillian Hellman (who also wrote the book), and Leonard Bernstein. Later versions included some lyrics by Stephen Sondheim.

December 1, 1956 - February 1, 1957

It was a flop, despite future legend Barbara Cook in the lead role, and played only 73 performances. It's better known for the 1974 revival which included a completely re-worked book. Due to the extensive rewrites and multiple contributors, Candide is considered a work in progress by some. There's no single definitive version, and the show continues to be adapted and performed with variations.

#

OUR 2024-25 SEASON:

November 3, 2024: "Music for Life's Journey"
First Lutheran Church

April 6, 2025: w/Mississippi Valley Orchestra, featuring
Mozart's *Requiem*

May 18, 2025 w/StreetSong

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and information!**

CHORUS POLARIS

William H. Mathis, Artistic Director
Timothy O'Grady, Collaborative Pianist

The Ensemble

SOPRANO

Hailey Barry
Jennifer (Jen) Broden
Kristi Castillero
Carolyn Caswell
Julie Crawford
Janine Emerick
Kristen Husby
Cheryl Joseph
Christine Sanderson
Delores Schmidt

ALTO

Becky Flory
Esther Hope
Grace Maunula
Robin McCormack
Ije Omeoga
Nancy Petersen
Barb Ruble
Diane Thornton
Jill Wilhelmi

TENOR

Alex Asp
Fred Jensen
Brett Johnson
Keith Liuzzi
Warren Moe
Bill O'Brien
Frank Petersen
Ben Polach
Jeff Saarela

BASS

Shawn Connor
Steven Hodulik
Josh Hunt
Andy Kroll
Nick Lewis
Jaakob Maunula
Ryan Nattrass
Dick Reiersen
Ryan Slusher
Brian Tamminen
Bill Van Schyndel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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William H. Mathis, Artistic Director
David W. Hood, Executive Director

STAFF

William H. Mathis, Artistic Director
David W. Hood, Executive Director
Tim O'Grady, Collaborative Pianist
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Laura Coale, Section Leader (A)
Keith Liuzzi, Section Leader (T)
Ben Polach, Section Leader (T)
Steven Hodulik, Section Leader (B)
Ryan Nattrass, Section Leader (B)
Gail Gordon, Librarian
Nick Lewis, Librarian (Interim)
Linda Ribbach, Administration
Nathaniel Hood, Operations

Finding Home Props and Set:

Jill Wilhelmi
Ralph Jacobson

Are you interested in volunteering with, auditioning for, or joining the board of, Chorus Polaris? Send an email to:

sing@choruspolaris.org

Auditions for our 2024-2025 season will be held in August. Rehearsals are at First Lutheran Church. Subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on social media to keep apprised of scheduling and location.

THANK YOU!

We are sincerely thankful for our corporate and individual donors who support us so generously and make our productions possible. We extend our gratitude to the following companies for their support this season, and encourage you to visit them.

Castle Building & Remodeling (<https://www.castlebri.com/>)

Ecstatic Eclectic (<https://ecstaticeclecticvintage.com/>)

Megan Dushin, Masterson Method Certified Practitioner

(<https://www.megandushin.com/>)

Otten Bros. Garden Center (<https://ottenbros.com/>)

Tierny Voice Studio (<https://tierneyvoicestudio.com>)

Chorus Polaris extends additional gratitude and special thanks to:

Raymond Berg

Danny Dahlquist, Director, Morris Park Singers

First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights

Matt Harris

Kari Heisler, Director of Vocal Music, Hudson High School

Dan Husby

Verna Husby

Mary Laymon

Stephen Lenius

Nick Lewis, Music Librarian, 9-11 Memorial Tribute Choir

Paul McKenzie

Heather Stone

The Mysterious Old Radio Listening Society

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to our collaborative pianist, Tim O'Grady and his *former* fiancée, Sarah Younger. They were married yesterday!

Tim, thank you for your dedication and commitment to your craft, and for sharing your talent with us. Sarah, thank YOU for putting up with us and sacrificing time with Tim so he can be with us! We are eternally grateful for you both, and wish you a lifetime of music and happiness together!

THANK YOU!



CONGRATULATIONS!!

AUDIENCE SURVEY

Thank you for attending the concert! We're glad you did and hope you enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed presenting it! We would appreciate you taking a few moments to let us know a little about you and to give us your thoughts on the concert.

The questions below ask for information often requested by grant makers. Completing this survey could help Chorus Polaris compete more effectively for grants (your answers will be anonymous), and helps us learn who makes up our audiences.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. We sincerely appreciate it!

How did you hear about this concert?

- ☐ From a participant or family member
- ☐ Poster
- ☐ Newspaper article
- ☐ Online calendar event listing
- ☐ Email from Chorus Polaris
- ☐ Social Media
- ☐ Other:

How easy was it to get tickets? (check one)

- ☐ Difficult
- ☐ Neither difficult nor easy
- ☐ Easy

How smooth was the check-in when you arrived at the concert? (circle one)

- 5 – Excellent
- 4 – Good
- 3 – Average
- 2 – Mediocre
- 1 – Poor

How would you rate the quality of the concert? (circle one)

- 5 – Excellent
- 4 – Good
- 3 – Average
- 2 – Mediocre
- 1 – Poor

Would you attend another Chorus Polaris concert? (circle one)

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

AUDIENCE SURVEY - page 2

Which of the following includes your current age? (check one)

- ☐ K-12 (5-17 years)
- ☐ 18-20
- ☐ 21-50
- ☐ 50-64
- ☐ Over 64

Which of the following includes your ethnicity?

- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black (incl. African-American)
- ☐ Hispanic/Latinx
- ☐ Native/Indigenous American
- ☐ White/European descent
- ☐ Other: _____

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- ☐ Less than high school
- ☐ High school
- ☐ Undergraduate degree (incl. technical school degree/diploma)
- ☐ Masters degree
- ☐ Doctoral degree
- ☐ Other: _____

What is the ZIP code of your primary home location? _____

[OPTIONAL] What else would you like us to know? Feel free to comment about yourself, Chorus Polaris, or both. Use the space below to write your comments.

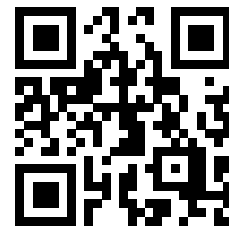


CHORUS POLARIS

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CHORUS POLARIS is a fully qualified charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and as such, accepts tax-deductible donations. To make a tax-deductible donation, visit choruspolaris.org/donate, scan the QR code on the right, or text POLARIS to 53-555.



Thank you for your support!

We'd love to have your feedback! If you prefer to complete the survey online, please scan the QR code on the left to let us know your thoughts on today's concert.

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Whose land are we on?

The first people in the Twin Cities region were the Wahpekute band of the Dakota Tribe. The Dakota were then a "semi-nomadic people who knew the land, not only as a resource, but a relative and partner in the way of life." According to the History of the Wahpekute, "living in the 'big woods' set the Wahpekute apart from many of the other Dakota people, who were used to living in open plains." This is where the name "wahpekute" originated from, meaning "Shooters Among the Leaves." As we now inhabit and share the land with their descendants, we are all now both beneficiaries and stewards of the land.