

Saturday Dec. 14 & Sunday Dec. 15 1st Presbyterian Church - 3PM

\$15 Tickets Available at the Door Free for 18 and Under





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CONDUCTOR

ACCOMPANIST

Brian Uerling

Kim Bakkum

JOHN RUTTER CAROLS

(Hold Applause Please)

Angels' Carol

Candlelight Carol

Love Came Down at Christmas

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

Dormi, Jesu

Star Carol

O Holy Night

ADOLPHE ADAM

Mark Jackson, Soloist

(Intermission)

Santa Baby

P. SPRINGER / J. JAVITS
Elizabeth Calvert, Soloist

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

H. MARTIN / R. BLANE Kendra Apodaca, Soloist

Rudolf, the Red-Nosed Reindeer

J. MARKS
Jude and Brian Uerling, Duet

Sleigh Ride

L. ANDERSON / M. PARRISH

Good King Wenceslaus

TRADITIONAL, ARR. L. SOWERBY

Christmas Canon

J. PACHELBEL / P. O'REILLY

Somewhere In My Memory

L. BRICUSSE / J. WILLIAMS

Do You Hear What I Hear?

N. REGNEY / G. SHAYNE

PROGRAM NOTES

by Brian Uerling

Sir John Milford Rutter (b. 1945) is British composer, conductor, editor, arranger and recording producer, mainly of choral music. His style reflects the influence of early twentieth century French and English choral traditions, as well as that of lighter music and American classic songwriting. He studied at Clare College, Cambridge, and is well known for founding the Cambridge Singers in 1981.

Adolphe Adam (1803-1856) was a French composer. He is best known today for his ballets "Giselle" and "Le Corsaire". "O Holy Night" was first performed in Roquemaure on Christmas Eve, 1847.

"Santa Baby" was released in 1953 by Eartha Kitt. It was considered "too spicy" for radio broadcast at the time, but is now a standard covered by (among others) Madonna, Taylor Swift, Ariana Grande and Gwen Stefani.

"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced by Judy Garland in the 1944 MGM musical "Meet Me in St. Louis". Esther (Garland) sings this song on Christmas Eve to cheer up her little five year old sister, Tootie, who is despondent about a looming move to New York City, leaving behind their beloved St. Louis.

"Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" is based on the story published for Montgomery Ward customers in 1939. Johnny Marks wrote the music, which was recorded in 1949 by Gene Autrey. It hit #1 on the charts during the week of Christmas that same year.

Leroy Anderson (1908-1975) was an American composer of short, light concert pieces. Many were introduced by the Boston Pops Orchestra under the direction of Arthur Fiedler. In addition to "Sleigh Ride", you might know "Syncopated Clock" and "The Typewriter". John Williams describes Anderson as "the great American master of light orchestral music". "Sleigh Ride" debuted in 1948...the lyrics were added in 1950.

"Good King Wenceslaus" is a Carol that tells a story of Wenceslaus I (907-935) who was known for his kindness and charity. Although

Wenceslaus was Bohemian (now Czech Republic), the tune is Finnish, from a collection known as "Piae Cantiones" (1582). Leo Sowerby (1895-1968) won the Pulitzer Prize for music in 1946, and was known as "the Dean of American church music".

Johann Pachelbel's "Canon in D" from the 1600's is instantly recognizable. It's modern popularity is tied to the 1980 film "Ordinary People" (Donald Sutherland, Mary Tyler Moore, Judd Hirsch, Timothy Hutton). This arrangement is as performed by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra.

"Somewhere In My Memory" is the theme from 1990's "Home Alone". John Williams (b. 1932) has composed music for over 75 films ("Jaws", "Star wars", "E.T."). With 54 Oscar nominations, he is truly an American music icon.

"Do You Hear What I Hear" Is loosely based on nativity stories from the gospels of Matthew and Luke. It was written in 1962 as a response to the Cuban Missile Crisis. Although it has been covered by hundreds of artists, it was Bing Crosby's 1963 version that made it instantly popular. It is a message still desperately needed in our world today...of peace, love, kindness and hope.

BIOS

KENDRA APODACA (SOLOIST)

Mezzo-Soprano, Kendra Apodaca, lives to sing! She has two degrees from the University of Montana in Vocal Performance and Music Education. As an opera and classical singer she has performed professionally in the United States, Canada, and throughout Europe as a touring singer based out of Vienna, Austria. Upon returning to the States, she traded in the big stage for motherhood and teaching. She has enjoyed teaching music (from elementary to band, orchestra, and choir) in Montana, Alaska, and New Mexico. She currently teaches vocal music at Moreno Valley Preparatory, an Early College High School in Angel Fire, NM. In her home life, she resides in Eagle Nest, NM with her husband, three children, and a menagerie of furry and feathered family as well.

KIM BAKKUM (ACCOMPANIST)

Pianist KIM BAKKUM relocated to Taos from the Akron/Cleveland area, where she had been performing, teaching, adjudicating, and working in community arts for twenty-five years. She holds her professional degrees in piano performance from Montana State University, Western Michigan University, and the AIMS Opera and Lieder program in Graz, Austria. She has also completed additional studies in collaborative piano in Vienna, Austria, where she resided for a year. Her collaborations in Vienna included summer seminars with members of the Vienna Symphony in their summer flute and percussion seminars.

Bakkum has enjoyed collaborating for ten years with Singers Companye, a professional choir from Akron. The group has performed internationally in competition; concertized at numerous venues such as the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria; presented residencies in Italy and Spain; and has also been featured in numerous performances at the National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. In addition to her vocal collaborations, she has played at numerouis National Flute Conferences as well as International Clarinet Conferences.

Bakkum has been on the faculty at both University of Akron and Kent State University as a staff accompanist for guest artist, faculty and student performances, as well as a staff pianist/coach at the Taos Opera Institute. She maintains a vibrant, independent, private studio here in Taos.

ELIZABETH CALVERT (SOLOIST)

Elizabeth (Liz) Calvert is a 5th-generation Vermonter who has always loved to sing. She moved to Taos in 2002 and has been singing with TCC since 2008, where she met her voice teacher, Mark Jackson. Liz received her formative music education in the Kodaly Method as a founding member of the Essex Children's Choir under the direction of Constance Jackson Price. She graduated with a BA in Music from Middlebury College in 1995 and attended Taos Opera Institute in 2008. Liz and her husband, Dmitri, operate Community Tech Solutions, a small IT firm working primarily with Schools.

MARK JACKSON (SOLOIST)

Baritone Mark Jackson received his formal music and opera training at Colorado University, Boston Conservatory and New York City. His career has taken him to several places in the world where he has given concerts and opera performances. He moved to Taos 23 years ago. Since then he has given many concerts for the Harwood Museum of Art, performed with The Taos Chamber Music Group, has been a soloist and guest conductor with the Taos Community Chorus. He has worked in the Taos Municipal Schools as a band director, choral instructor and vocal coach. Currently he is the Music Director of the First presbyterian Church of Taos. He gives vocal recitals and master classes, produces concerts, promotes his students and collaborates with several pianists and other accomplished musicians in Taos. He teaches private voice out of his Taos Institute of Vocal Arts Studio.

BRIAN UERLING (CONDUCTOR)

Brian Uerling, Conductor, was a public-school music teacher for 39 years and recently retired to Taos with his lovely wife, Jude, and their rescue dog, Monet. His professional experience includes being a church choir director and organist, as well as a private piano studio instructor, for 47 years. He has directed high school choirs in Albuquerque and Clovis, and most recently, taught music at the elementary school level.

He has toured with choirs in Europe and was fortunate to play the cathedral organ for Evensong at St. Paul's, London as well as playing at Notre Dame. He was the New Mexico Music Educator Association's "Music Educator of the Year" in 2017 and was inducted into their "Hall of Fame" in 2021. Currently, He plays the piano for St. James Episcopal Church/Taos at their 8:00 AM Sunday worship service and is the organist at 1st Presbyterian Church.

WINTER CONCERT SEASON 2024

CONDUCTOR

Brian Uerling

ACCOMPANIST

Kim Bakkum

SOPRANO

Anita Amstutz, Kendra Apodaca, Elizabeth Calvert, Mary Walker Davis, Sarah Dzieweczynski, Esther Fichtelberg, Ann Gastineau, Mary Gray, Lana Green, Lauren Green, Tania McCormack, Barbara Ohm, Anna Mae Patterson, Kristen Poulakis, Diana Terry, Karen Thibodeau, Carol White

ALTO

Lynn Aldrich, Jane Ayles, Ginna Bairby, Ursula Beck, Chris Fairchild, Janine Fornarola, Jenny Friesen, Mary Gutierrez, Mara Herskowitz, Sue Lawrence, Justine Nauman-Greif, Kate Harris, Jean Kenin, Leonor Kennell, Gail Moran, Bette Myerson, Kandace Nachtrab, Jude Uerling, Marianne Wire, Caryle Zorumski

TENOR

Betty Backer, Janice Bibeau, Anita Briscoe, David Case, Bob Draper, Rhonda Grover, Donald Hassemer, Jerry Kennell, Elaine Taylor, Jim White

BASS

Cass Adams, Grady Basler, Paul Davis, Steve Fox, Dennis Gastineau, Mark Jackson, Jim Ludden, Stan Riveles, Dave Schultz, Bill Waugh

BOARD MEMBERS

Jane Ayles, Anita Briscoe, Chris Fairchild, Rhonda Grover, Randy Thorne



Join us Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 each fall and spring season. To learn more about singing with the Taos Community Chorus visit taoschorus.org.

