

Masterworks Children's Chorale – 2022-23 Concert Season

September 18, 2022, 6:00-8:00 p.m. *A Masterworks Oktoberfest*

"The Shed," Eckert's Farm, Belleville

Our season opener party with food, drink, and—best of all—music!

Masterworks soloists with accordionists Mardy Eisloeffel and Margaret Mager

I hear the harps eternal: Poetry in Music

October 8, 2022, 7:30 p.m. - Carmelite Monastery, Ladue, MO

October 9, 2022, 3:00 p.m. - Saint Clare Catholic Church, O'Fallon

A dynamic blend of music and spiritual poetry, from Bach to Whitacre.

Masterworks Chorale and Soloists

October 30, 2022, 3:00 p.m. *Music for Young Voices: The Magic of Singing*

Saint Clare Catholic Church, O'Fallon

Music for treble voices, with excerpts from Mozart's The Magic Flute

Masterworks Children's Chorus with Jennifer Adams, flute

December 11, 2022, 7:30 p.m. *Christmas at the Cathedral*

Saint Peter's Cathedral, Belleville

Southern Illinois' most beautiful holiday concert, with candlelight procession.

Masterworks Chorale, Children's Chorus and the Gateway Brass Quintet

February 4, 2023, 5:30 p.m. Masterworks Gala - *Carnavale*

Saint Clair Country Club, Belleville

Mardi Gras celebration and dinner auction

Performances by the Chorale & Children's Chorus

February 24-26, 2023 – Masterworks / Christine Brewer residency at the Hett

Friday, February 24, 10:00 a.m. *Coffee Concert with Christine Brewer*

Saturday, February 25, 2:00 p.m. *Master Class* [free to the public]

Sunday, February 26, 3:00 p.m. *Old Time Radio Show*, Steve Jankowski, MC

Hettenhausen Center for the Arts, McKendree University, Lebanon

Masterworks Chorale and principal soloists, Children's Chorus and Jazz Ensemble

Sunday, April 23, 2023, 3:00 p.m. *Voices of Spring: Sing We and Chant It*

Saint Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville

Enchanting music for trebles from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance – and more

Masterworks Children's Chorus

Sunday, April 30, 2023, 3:00 p.m. *A Schubert Spring*

Saint Clare Catholic Church, O'Fallon

The melodious Mass in G major and lyric gems from the Prince of Song

Masterworks Chorale and Orchestra with Stella Markou, soprano

www.singmasterworks.org / [Facebook.com/singmasterworks](https://www.facebook.com/singmasterworks)



Dr. Stephen Mager, Artistic Director and Conductor

A Masterworks Weekend with Christine Brewer

Morning Coffee with Christine
Friday, February 24, 10:00 a.m.

Master Class
Saturday, February 25, 2:00 p.m.

Old Time Radio Show
Sponsored by Art on the Square Foundation
Sunday, February 26, 3:00 p.m.



**The Hettenhausen Center
for the Arts**



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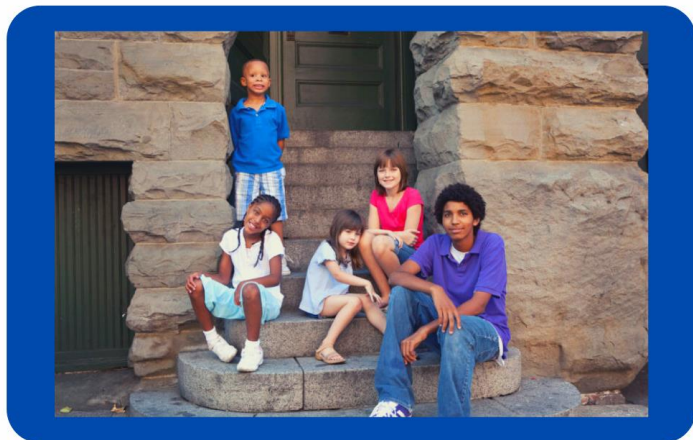


• 49th CONCERT SEASON • 2022-23 •





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Summer Youth Music Camp 2023 **Save the Dates!**



July 10 - 14, 2023 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Saint Paul United Church of Christ

Belleville, Illinois

See details and register at www.singmasterworks.org.

*The Masterworks Chorale is supported in part by the Illinois Arts Council Agency
and by the National Endowment for the Arts.*



See Masterworks on Facebook.com/singmasterworks



Thanks to our supporters!

Masterworks Chorale appreciates each and every one of our donors for their support of our mission to nurture choral music and its inspirational appeal. We especially thank our supporters for this 2022-2023 concert season:

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You, too, can help support Masterworks Chorale through a tax-deductible donation (*Patron* \$50 / *Sponsor* \$100 / *Benefactor* \$250 / *Guarantor* \$500 / *Conductor's Circle* \$1000 / *Angel* \$2500 / *Premier* \$5000). Visit us at www.singmasterworks.org to make a contribution to support our 49th concert season. Thank you for helping us *Keep Masterworks Singing!*



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The Masterworks Chorale is supported in part by an **Illinois Artstour grant** from the Illinois Arts Council Agency; and by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art; and by the generosity of individual contributors,



With Christine
and the Masterworks *Café Chorale*

Friday, February 24, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Dave recently retired after thirty-five years in pipe organ tuning and service for The Wicks Organ Company. He currently lives in the home his parents bought in 1954 in the Southwest Garden District of the City of St. Louis, and volunteers with the Red Cross and Tower Grove Park.

Masterworks Principal Singers



Jeffrey Ballard, principal tenor, trained as an instrumental and vocal major at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and also studied abroad at the Rachmaninoff State Conservatory in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, where he studied choral and orchestral conducting. A native of St. Louis, he has sung with several local choruses, including the St. Louis Symphony Chorus, the American Kantorei, the In Unison Chorus, and the Bach Society of Saint Louis, with whom he appeared as tenor soloist in a performance of the Vaughan Williams *Mass in G minor*. Jeff serves as principal singer at Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, and is an annual guest director of the St. Anselm Abbey Schola Holy Week services. Masterworks credits include solo appearances in Kodály's *Missa Brevis*, Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*; Copland's *Lark*; Cantata BWV 4, *Christ lag in Todesbanden* by Bach; and stellar performances of selections from Handel's *Messiah*. Jeff is also the Assistant Conductor for the Masterworks Chorale.



Brandon Smith, principal baritone, is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Saint Louis, where he studied voice and opera performance with Stella Markou. He has also studied with Vinson Cole at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Brandon was the featured soloist in performances of the Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs*. He was also the baritone soloist in the Chorale's performances of Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem*, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*, and Bach's *Cantata BWV 4*, and Faure's *Requiem*. Brandon is a winner of the Sigma Alpha Iota-Saint Louis Alumnae Chapter scholarship. In 2012, he was named the Outstanding Musician in Opera at UMSL, and honored in 2013 as the university's Outstanding Vocal Musician. Brandon has performed as guest soloist with several Saint Louis community orchestras. He also participated as a soloist in last season's Master Class with Christine Brewer.

from *One Touch of Venus* (1943)
I'm a Stranger Here Myself

music by Kurt Weill
words by Ogden Nash

Don't Sit under the Apple Tree (1942)
(...With Anyone Else But Me)

words and music by Charlie Tobias,
Lew Brown, and Sam Seft
arranged by Alan Billingsley

Kimberly Green, Kara Jacob, Elizabeth Johns

from *One Touch of Venus* (1943)
Speak Low

music by Kurt Weill
words by Ogden Nash

It Don't Mean a Thing (1931)
(...If It Ain't Got That Swing)

music by Duke Ellington
words by Irving Mills
arranged by Jay Althouse

from *Annie Get Your Gun* (1946)
Anything You Can Do (...I Can Do Better)

words and music by Irving Berlin

Christine Brewer, soprano
Jeff Ballard, baritone

As Time Goes By (1931)

words and music by Herman Hupfeld
arranged by Russ Robinson

Megan Schmid-Smith, soprano
Brandon Smith, baritone

Finale: *Blue Skies* (1926)

words and music by Irving Berlin
arranged by Steve Zegree

Jeff Ballard, baritone

The Masterworks Chorale and Jazz Ensemble
Christine Brewer, soprano

* * *

Thank you for coming to hear us this morning!

*The Masterworks Chorale thanks the staff of the Hettenhausen Center, McKendree University for their kind hospitality, especially Executive Coordinator of Events, **Julia Hunt**, Tech Director, **Doug Magnussen**, and Director of Theatre Productions, **Michelle Radke Magnussen**.*

*Special thanks to our guest soprano, **Christine Brewer**.*

**The Masterworks Board of Directors
welcomes you!**

Thank you for your attendance and support.

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Masterworks Chorale, Inc.

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*This event is underwritten in part by a grant from
the Illinois Arts Council Agency Artstour program,
with support by Art on the Square,
and through the generosity of individual contributors.*

Masterworks Principal Singers



Cary Nall Robinson, principal soprano, a native of Festus, Missouri, studied voice at Southeast Missouri State University, where she received a Bachelor of Music Education degree in Vocal Music. She has been a featured soprano soloist in various works including Handel's *Messiah*, Rutter's *Requiem*, and Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Cary was a winner of the St. Louis District Metropolitan Opera Auditions in 1994. She has taught music and chorus at the elementary, middle, and junior high levels at schools in Missouri, Georgia and Japan, and has served as choir director for numerous community churches. Cary joined the Chorale in 2018, and has been an instructor for the annual Masterworks Summer Youth Camp since 2019.



Megan Schmid-Smith, principal soprano, has sung with the Masterworks Chorale since the 2017-18 season. She has appeared regularly as a featured soloist in repertoire ranging from German Lieder to Celtic folk music to Broadway. Megan holds a degree in Music Education with a vocal emphasis from McKendree University. She is in her seventh year of teaching in the Collinsville School District as a K-6 music teacher as well as choir director. She sang Mozart's *Ach wie fühl's* in last season's *Master Class* with Christine Brewer.



Andrea Lair, principal mezzo-soprano, holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Music Education at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis. She has performed in numerous roles with the UMSL Opera Theatre, in productions of *Die Fledermaus*, *The Mikado*, *Hansel and Gretel*, and *Dido and Aeneas*. A past second place winner in the NATS competition, she has also performed with the UMSL University Singers and the ensemble Vocal Point. Andrea served as the Assistant Conductor for the Masterworks Children's Chorus, 2017-20, and has served as Camp Director of the Masterworks Summer Youth Experience. She is a music instructor and choral director at McNair Elementary School in the Hazelwood School District, for whom she has also presented clinics for elementary grade choirs.



Do You Love to Sing?

Masterworks Chorale invites new members!

Auditions for our 2022-2023 concert season are ongoing!

The Masterworks Chorale is now holding auditions for enthusiastic singers! Auditions are uncomplicated and conducted in a low stress environment. Moderate experience is suggested.

The Chorale offers a disciplined, professional approach to the experience, understanding and appreciation of music through musicianship, quality literature and excellence in performance. We provide an opportunity to perform and promote quality choral music for the benefit of the community.

Weekly rehearsals:

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC)



Masterworks Chorale's 2022-2023 Season:
(subject to change)

Sun. Sept. 18, 2022 - Masterworks Oktoberfest
Sat. Oct. 8 & 9, 2022 - Poetry in Music
Sun. Dec. 11, 2022 - Christmas at the Cathedral
Sat. Feb. 4, 2023 - Masterworks Gala
Sun. Feb. 26, 2023 - Old Time Radio Show
Sun. April 30, 2023 - A Schubert Spring

For more audition information visit
<https://www.singmasterworks.org/audition>
Vaccines encouraged, masks optional.

The Masterworks Chorale
Dr. Stephen Mager, Artistic Director

Master Class
With Christine Brewer
and Masterworks Principal Singers

Saturday, February 25, 2023 2:00 p.m.

Saturday Program
Selections from Opera and the Stage Musical

*Please turn off cell phones, pagers and electronic devices. Please, no texting.
The taking of photographs or use of recording equipment is prohibited..*

from *Cabaret Songs* [1978]

“Amor”

William Bolcom

(b. 1938)

Andrea Lair, mezzo-soprano
Stephen Mager, piano

from *Sweeney Todd* [1979]

“Not While I’m Around”

Stephen Sondheim

(1930-2021)

Jeffrey Ballard, tenor
Cynthia Johnson, piano

from *Così fan tutte* [1790]

“Una Donna a quindici anni” (A young lady of fifteen years) (1756-1791)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Kimberly Green, soprano
Stephen Mager, piano

from *Carousel* [1945]

Soliloquy

(“I wonder what he’ll think of me”)

Richard Rodgers (1902-1979)

Oscar Hammerstein II (1895-1960)

Brandon Smith, baritone
Ron McGowan, piano

from *The Ballad of Baby Doe* [1956]

“Willow Song”

Douglas Moore

(1893-1969)

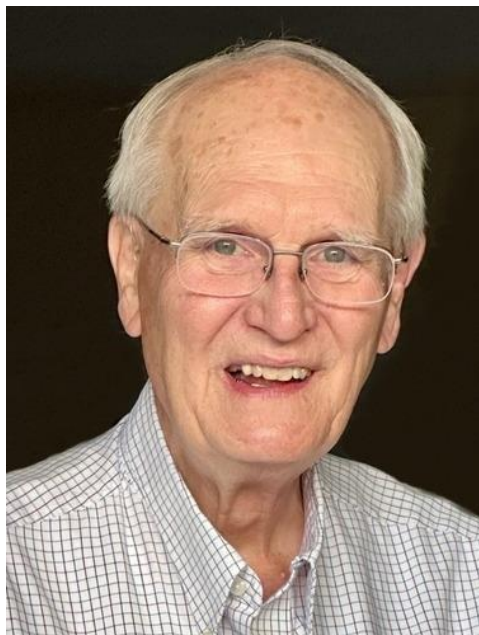
Megan Schmid-Smith, soprano
Margaret Mager, piano

In Memoriam

*We dedicate our Broadway Pops concert
To the memory of*

JERRY BOLEN

June 23, 1944 – January 8, 2023



Musician, performer, and teacher, Jerry Bolen was for decades our regular *Broadway Concert* drummer, appearing with Masterworks Chorale and Children's Chorus annually, until last season, when health considerations caused him to step down. Jerry also participated in several of our Children's Chorus summer camp events, and shared his many percussion instruments -- his "toys" (!) -- with our eager young musicians. He and his wife Sue were regular Masterworks supporters, and often attended Masterworks concerts and Gala events. We last saw him at our December 11 *Christmas at the Cathedral* concert.

Jerry was a very kind and gracious man, and for us musicians, always a pleasure to work with. He was also a devoted husband, father and grandfather. And were he still with us, Jerry would be joining us in these performances with artistry, energy, and joy.

Stephen Mager, *Music Director and Conductor*



Stephen Mager holds a Doctor of Music degree from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, where he also completed his master's studies. His teachers have included Jan Harrington, Julius Herford, Thomas Binkley, Robert Shaw, Margaret Hillis, Robert Porco, Dale Warland, John Poole, and Carmen-Helena Tellèz. His doctoral recitals included performances of Stravinsky's *Mass*; *L'Enfance du Christ* by Hector Berlioz; and Mager's own *Missa Lucis*. Dr. Mager was conductor of the Masterworks Children's Chorus from 1989 until

2000. Other conducting credits include the Arcangeli Chamber Chorus; The Providence Singers, Saint Louis; St. Louis Chamber Chorus; The Baden Chamber Orchestra; Saint Louis University Chorale; and education outreach performances for Opera Theatre of Saint Louis and the Washington National Opera.

An active composer, Stephen Mager has written extensively for chorus and orchestra. His works have been performed by such distinguished ensembles as the Cleveland Orchestra and Chorus; VocalEssence, Minnesota; and the Dallas Symphony Chorus. His opera, *Dream of the Pacific*, was commissioned by Opera Theatre of Saint Louis for the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition (2004), and subsequently produced by Opera Omaha (2005), Kansas City Lyric Opera (2005), and Washington National Opera (2006). His choral symphony, *Sinfonia Pastorale*, received its premiere in 1995 with the Masterworks Chorale under Dr. A. Dennis Sparger. From 2004 until 2021, Dr. Mager was the composer-in-residence for the Bach Society of Saint Louis, which commissioned several major choral works: an Easter choral cycle, *The Lamb's High Feast* (2005); *I saw eternity* (2006); and in 2008, *Missa Lucis* ("Mass of Light"). His *Te Deum* for chorus and organ was premiered by the Bach Society in 2012. His publishers include Oxford University Press and MorningStar Music.

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Thanks for the Memories, Jerry!

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here at the Hett!**



Masterworks Broadway Pops 2023

Old Time Radio Show

With Christine Brewer

Susan Niederer, *piano*

Wayne Coniglio, *bass*

Joe Pastor, *drums*

Stephen Mager, *conductor*

and Steve Jankowski, *master of ceremonies*

Sunday, February 26, 2023 3:00 p.m.

Sunday Program

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The taking of photographs or use of recording equipment is prohibited.*

Opener

from *A Date with Judy* (1948)

It's a Most Unusual Day

music by Jimmy McHugh

words by Harold Adamson

arranged by Steve Zegree

Show Stoppers

Jeepers Creepers (1938)

music by Harry Warren

words by Johnny Mercer

arranged by Jay Althouse

All the Things You Are (1939)

music by Jerome Kern

words by Oscar Hammerstein II

arranged by Mark Hayes

Bugler's Holiday (1954)

music by Leroy Anderson

arranged by Sally K. Albrecht

Megan Schmid-Smith, Cary Robinson, Jesi Hempstead, Andrea Lair

It Had to Be You (1924)

music by Isham Jones

words by Gus Kahn

arranged by Steve Zegree

The Masterworks Chorale and Jazz Ensemble

Steve Jankowski, *Master of Ceremonies*



Steve Jankowski has come full circle. He assumed the role of interim director of WSIE radio in January 2016. Jankowski began a highly successful, 35 year-long broadcasting career after becoming a member of the WSIE on-air staff as an SIUE student in 1972. His broadcast career involved work at some of the top radio and TV stations in St. Louis, including KSDK, KMOV, KMOX and KEZK. From December 2006 to October 2015, Jankowski served SIUE as the Director of the Office of Alumni Affairs and Executive Director of the SIUE Alumni Association. He officially retired in 2018.

Jankowski is a frequent guest speaker and emcee, having served as the master of ceremonies for the Illinois Congressional Delegation prayer breakfast for nearly 20 years. He takes great pleasure in developing his skills in carpentry, writing, photography and spending as much time as possible with his three grandchildren.

Guest Artist



Pianist Susan Niederer taught music in the Mascoutah public schools for thirty-four years. She received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from McKendree (College) University, where she studied voice and organ with Glenn Freiner, and piano with Robin Chadwick (Seiber) and Richard Bass. She earned her Master of Education degree, with an emphasis on curriculum and instruction, from Olivet Nazarene University, and continued post-graduate studies in education through the University of St. Thomas, MN. She served as

accompanist for the Masterworks Chorale from 2002 until her retirement following the 2021-22 season. She accompanied the Masterworks Children's Choruses from 1985 to 2001; 2008 to 2012, and 2014 to 2020. Susan also performs as a principal soprano with the Bach Society of Saint Louis.

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Come and hear

A Schubert Spring
Sunday April 30, 2023, 3 p.m.

Saint Clare Catholic Church
O'Fallon, IL

Details at

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www.facebook.com/singmasterworks

from ***One Touch of Venus*** (1943)

music by Kurt Weill
words by Ogden Nash

I'm a Stranger Here Myself

Speak Low

Christine Brewer, soprano

from ***Oklahoma!*** (1943)

music by Richard Rodgers
words by Oscar Hammerstein II
arranged by William Stickles

Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'

The Surrey with the Fringe on Top

Many a New Day

The Masterworks Children's Chorus

Radio Drama Featurette: *The Marital Moment* with Wayne and Sandra

Gershwin Classics

from ***Shall We Dance*** (1937)

They All Laughed

music by George Gershwin
words by Ira Gershwin
arranged by Mark Hayes

from ***Porgy and Bess*** (1935)

Summertime

music by George Gershwin
words by DuBose Heywood

Christine Brewer, soprano

from ***Girl Crazy*** (1930)

I Got Rhythm

music by George Gershwin
words by Ira Gershwin
arranged by Mark Hayes

The Masterworks Chorale and Jazz Ensemble

TWENTY-MINUTE INTERMISSION



22³ SEASON

A JOURNEY OF VOICES
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022 | 7 PM

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CONCERT
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2022 | 7:30 PM

HANDEL'S MESSIAH
SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023 | 3 PM

BACH'S ST. MATTHEW PASSION
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023 | 2 PM

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Music Director and Conductor, A. Dennis Sparger

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Guest Artist



Grammy Award-winning American soprano **Christine Brewer's** appearances in opera, concert and recital are marked by her own unique timbre, at once warm and brilliant, combined with a vibrant personality and emotional honesty reminiscent of the great sopranos of the past. Named one of the top twenty sopranos of all time (BBC Music) her range, golden tone,

boundless power and control make her a favorite of the stage and a highly sought-after recording artist, one who is "in her prime and sounding glorious." (Anthony Tommasini, New York Times)

On the opera stage, Christine is highly regarded for her striking portrayal of the title role in Richard Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*, which she has performed with the Metropolitan Opera, Opera de Lyon, Theatre du Chatelet, Santa Fe Opera, English National Opera and Opera Theatre of St. Louis. Attracting glowing reviews with each role, she has performed with opera companies throughout the country and in Europe. She created the role of Sister Aloysius in the world premiere of Doug Cuomo's opera *Doubt* with the Minnesota Opera in 2013, a role that was performed by Meryl Streep in the film version of the story. She reprised the role in 2016 with Union Avenue Opera of Saint Louis.

Christine has worked with many of today's most notable conductors, and her discography includes over twenty-five recordings. Her latest recording on Naxos, *Divine Redeemer*, features selections with concert organist Paul Jacobs.

Christine is a visiting professor at Webster University, and also presents masterclasses around the country. She will give masterclasses at Murray State and Washington University later this spring. Coming engagements include a return to Union Avenue Opera in July, 2023 for Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*; and a performance of Richard Strauss' valedictory *Four Last Songs*, to open the season for the Elgin Symphony Orchestra in October, 2023.



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Interludes from *Road to Morocco* (1942)

music by Jimmy van Heusen
words by Johnny Burke

Hits from the Age of Swing

Ain't Misbehavin' (1929)

music by Fats Waller and Harry Brooks
words by Andy Razaf
arranged by Peter Gritton

Suite: *An Ellington Jazz Trio*

music by Duke Ellington
arranged by Jay Althouse

Satin Doll (1953)

Solitude (1934)

It Don't Mean a Thing (1931)

Megan Schmid-Smith, soprano
Jeff Ballard, baritone

Hey! Ba-Ba-Re-Bop (1946)

words and music by Lionel Hampton
arranged by Steve Zegree

Jeff Ballard, tenor

Radio Drama Featurette: *The Hap-Hap-Happy Hours of Honey and Dear*

from *St. Louis Woman* (1946)

music by Harold Arlen
words by Johnny Mercer

I Had Myself a True Love

Come Rain or Come Shine

Christine Brewer, soprano

Favorites Old and New

It's Only a Paper Moon (1933)

music by Harold Arlen
words by Billy Rose and Yip Harburg
arranged by Steve Zegree

Cruising Down the River (1946)

music by Nell Tollerton
words by Eily Beadell
arranged by Scott S. Stewart

from *Bye-Bye Blues* (1989)

When I Sing

words and music by Bill Henderson
arranged by Dave Elliott

The Masterworks Children's Chorus with Christine Brewer

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Masterworks Children's Chorus and Youth Chorale

Dr. Stephen Mager, Artistic Director and Conductor

Margaret Mager, Accompanist

Lisa Cripe, Associate Instructor

Lucy Esposito, *O'Fallon*

Elise Grodeon, *Mascoutah*

Lyndle Hefty, *Fairview Heights*

Lillie Kaufman, *Swansea*

Amelia Schuck, *Belleville*

Bethany Underwood, *Freeburg*

Moriah Underwood, *Freeburg*

Special Thanks to:

Ms. Lisa Cripe, Associate Instructor

Masterworks parents for their support and cooperation

The Masterworks Jazz Ensemble

Bass

Wayne Coniglio

Piano

Susan Niederer

Drums

Joe Pastor

*Guest musicians are members of the
American Federation of Musicians, Local 29 and/or Local 2-197.*



The Masterworks Children's Chorus is sponsored by the Masterworks Chorale and shares the same musical objectives of a disciplined and professional approach to the understanding of music through musicianship, quality literature and performance.

Founded in 1985, the Masterworks Children's Chorus is based on the premise that all children possess the capacity for artistic expression if provided an opportunity for its nurturing. To achieve its artistic goals, the Children's Chorus is provided with respected artist/teachers who believe in the importance of challenging young people to pursue excellence.

In its short history, the Chorus has performed with the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra and the Bach Society of Saint Louis; at the Missouri Botanical Garden for the St. Louis Children's Art Festival, the Salute to the Masters Art Festival, Art on the Square, and St. Clair County Teachers' Institute. They have performed on tour in St. Louis, Chicago, Peoria, Kansas City and Indianapolis. Every year the Children's Choruses perform with orchestra at the Masterworks Christmas concert, present their own full-length spring and fall concerts, and participate in the annual *Broadway Pops* concert.

Masterworks is ideal for young people who have a love for music and singing, and seek a quality, challenging musical experience. There are **two performance levels**; both participate in four public concerts each year.

LEVEL ONE: The **Children's Chorus** is open to beginning and less experienced singers, grades 3 to 8. Students are admitted through an elementary audition process. Prior experience is not required, but students are expected to demonstrate a rudimentary grasp of singing skills and an appropriate level of maturity.

LEVEL TWO: The **Youth Chorale** is a select ensemble open to talented students, grades 5 through 12. Admission is by audition. Prior experience is preferred, but not required; older beginners may be accepted at the discretion of the conductor. Students are expected to demonstrate vocal and musical ability, appropriate maturity, and a desire to work toward artistic goals.

Curriculum: Sequential learning opportunities are designed to carry the child from beginning to advanced stages of musicianship and vocal development. Training includes vocal study, musicianship training, and development of sightsinging skills, with particular emphasis on healthy vocal technique and good intonation. Repertoire will focus on selections suitable for young voices, ranging from folk-songs to jazz, and from classics to Broadway, with lyrics in a variety of modern and classical languages.

Broadway Spotlight

from ***Annie Get Your Gun*** (1946)

words and music by Irving Berlin

I Got the Sun in the Morning

arranged by Kirby Shaw

Megan Schmid-Smith, soprano

Christa Jenkins, soprano, Mike Niederer, baritone

Anything You Can Do

Christine Brewer, soprano

Jeff Ballard, tenor

They Say It's Wonderful

arranged by Charles Boutelle

Ryan Sextro, tenor

An Old Fashioned Wedding

Andrea Lair, mezzo-soprano

Brandon Smith, baritone

No Business Like Show Business

arranged by Mark Brymer

from ***Carousel*** (1945)

music by Richard Rodgers

words by Oscar Hammerstein II

arranged by Clay Warnick

You'll Never Walk Alone

Christine Brewer, soprano

A Fond Farewell...

Blue Skies (1926)

words and music by Irving Berlin

arranged by Steve Zegree

Andrea Lair, mezzo-soprano

The Masterworks Chorale and Jazz Ensemble
Christine Brewer, soprano

* * *

*The Masterworks Chorale thanks the staff of the Hettenhausen Center, McKendree University for their kind hospitality, especially Executive Coordinator of Events, **Julia Hunt**, Tech Director, **Doug Magnussen**, and Director of Theatre Productions, **Michelle Radke Magnussen**.*

Thanks to our creative team of script writers:

Jeff Ballard, Kimberly Green, Steve Jankowski, and Sandy Wagner.

*Special thanks to our guest soprano, **Christine Brewer**, for sharing with us her musicianship, artistry and wonderful spirit.*



The Masterworks Chorale is an ensemble of auditioned singers who enrich the cultural environment of Metro East with outstanding performances of significant choral literature. The Chorale sponsors the Masterworks Children's Chorus which shares the same musical objectives of a disciplined and professional approach to the understanding and appreciation of music through musicianship, quality literature and performance.

The membership represents a six-county area in Illinois and Missouri and includes a wide variety of professions and musical backgrounds. Many members have music degrees, most have studied voice privately, and several are church organists, choir directors, or music teachers.

The Chorale was joined by the Dave Brubeck Quartet in 1982 for a performance of Brubeck's *The Gates of Justice*. In 1985, the Chorale made its first European Concert Tour and that fall presented the Midwest premiere of a new critical edition of Mozart's *Requiem*. In 1987, the Chorale was invited to join the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under maestro Leonard Slatkin to perform Berlioz' monumental *Grande Messe de Morts*. And in 1993, the Chorale combined with the Bach Society of Saint Louis to perform Haydn's *The Creation* at Powell Hall. In 1995, the Chorale commissioned and premiered Stephen Mager's *Sinfonia Pastorale*.

Outstanding soloists who have appeared with the Chorale include soprano Erie Mills (1987 and 1999), tenor William McDonald (1988), Grammy award-winning narrator William Warfield (1989), mezzo soprano Nancy Maulsby (1989), Gospel composer/ conductor Robert Ray (1994 and 1996), and soprano Christine Brewer (1983, 1985, 1988, 1993, 2016, 2018, and 2022). Since 1986 performances of the Chorale's Christmas concerts have reached a wide audience throughout the greater St. Louis area through broadcasts on the former KFUD-FM CLASSIC 99 and on St. Louis Public Radio KWMU-FM (90.7).

The Masterworks Chorale

Dr. Stephen Mager, Artistic Director and Conductor
Jeffrey Ballard, Assistant Conductor
Susan Niederer, Guest Accompanist

Soprano

Kimberly Green, *Edwardsville, IL* †
Anne Hagstrom, *Belleville, IL*
Kara Jacob, *St. Jacob, IL* †
Christa Jenkins, *O'Fallon, IL*
Osceola Mueller, *O'Fallon, IL*
Cary Robinson*, *Mascoutah, IL*
Megan Schmid-Smith*, *Albers, IL* †

Tenor

Jeffrey Ballard*, *St. Louis, MO* †
Mark Eros, *Belleville, IL*
William Farrell, *Swansea, IL* †
Robert Miller, *Belleville, IL* †
Ryan Sextro, *Collinsville, IL*

*Masterworks Principal Singers

† performers, *Café Chorale* (Friday)

Chorus Manager/ Box Office

Christa Jenkins

Chorus Librarian

Kara Jacob

Personnel Coordinator

Kimberly Green

Alto

Lisa Cripe, *Belleville, IL* †
Julie Harris, *Belleville, IL*
Jesi Hempstead, *Swansea, IL* †
Elizabeth Johns, *Columbia, IL* †
Andrea Lair*, *Hazelwood, MO*
Margaret Mager, *St. Louis, MO* †
Sandy Wagner, *Millstadt, IL* †

Bass

James Campbell, *Belleville, IL* †
Dave Fournie, *Smithton, IL* †
Mike Niederer, *Mascoutah, IL* †
Dave Ressler*, *St. Louis, MO* †
Jon Robinson, *Mascoutah, IL*
Brandon Smith*, *St. Louis, MO* †
Rusty Wagner, *Millstadt, IL* †

Equipment Managers

James Campbell
William Farrell

Administrative Manager

Dr. Samantha Arten

Marketing Associate

Julia Mager

WMCR Radio Show performers

(In order of appearance)

Call Letter Singers	Cary Robinson, Andrea Lair, Jeff Ballard, Brandon Smith
DJ / MC	Steve Jankowski
Jingle Singers	members of the Chorale
Marital Moment	Sandy Wagner, Rusty Wagner
Happy Hour Players	Bob Miller, Kimberly Green