

VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
JOINT CHOIRS CONCERT **AT THE MISSION**

GATHERED IN SONG



**VENTURA COLLEGE
CONCERT & CHAMBER CHOIRS**
BRENT WILSON, DIRECTOR

**VENTURA COLLEGE
COMMUNITY CHOIR**
LUVI AVENDANO, DIRECTOR

**MOORPARK CONCERT CHORUS
AND VOCAL ENSEMBLE**
DAVID CASTILLO, DIRECTOR

OXNARD CONCERT CHORUS
CHRISTINA RAMSEY, DIRECTOR

FREE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE
MISSION BASILICA SAN BUENAVENTURA
211 E. MAIN STREET, VENTURA 93001

FRIDAY
APRIL
24
7:00 PM
2 0 2 6

The Ventura College Performing Arts Department presents
Ventura College Choirs Concert
with the Moorpark and Oxnard College Choirs

**Moorpark College Concert Choir
and Vocal Ensemble**

David Castillo, director
Andrew Anderson, piano

Oxnard College Concert Choir

Christina Ramsey, director
Dorrie Kelly, piano

**Ventura College Concert Choir
and Chamber Singers**

Brent Wilson, director
Mark Holmstrom, rehearsal pianist & organist
Dorrie Kelly, piano

Ventura College Community Choir

Luvi Avendano, director
Dorrie Kelly, piano

with guest artists

Leanna Crenshaw, Adrien Roberts, Gaia Hubbard,
Todd Honeycutt, Brian Hotchkin, and Byron Mayes

THE PROGRAM
OC and VC Concert Choirs

Thixo Onothando

arr. Michael Barrett (b. 1970)

VC Concert Choir

(Please hold applause until the last piece of the set is finished)

Weep you no more

Douglas Wagner (b. 1952)

Hope Lingers On

Andrea Ramsey (b. 1977)

Oceans and Stars

Amy Bernon (b. 1967)

Fame is a Fickle Food

Ruth Morris Gray (b. 1961)

OC Concert Choir

Pan y Toros

F.Asenjo Barbieri (1823–1994)

La del soto del parral

Reveriano Soutillo(1880–1932) y Juan Vert (1890–1931)

OC and VC Concert Choirs

Bring me a little water. Silvy

arr. Moira Smiley (b. 1976)

VC Community Choir

(Please hold applause until the last piece of the set is finished)

Selections from “Old American Songs”

- I. Zion’s Walls
- II. The Boatman’s Dance
- III. Simple Gifts
- IV. At the River
- V. The Little Horses
- VI. Long Time Ago
- VII. Ching-a-ring-shaw

MC Vocal Ensemble

Music from both sides of the Pacific

Tiptipa Kemmakem

Nilo Alcalá (b. 1978)

A Cloudless Day

from *Heavenly Home: Three American Songs*

arr. Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970)

Little Man in a Hurry

from “The City and the Sea “

Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Itanong Mo Sa Bituin

from *Kathá: Three Poems by José Corazón de Jesús*

Saunders Choi (b. 1988)

MC and VC Concert Choirs

Selections from the “Petite Messe Solennelle”

By Gioachino Rossini (1792–1868)

(Please hold applause until the last movement is finished)

I. Kyrie

II. Credo

III. Cum Sancto

Please check out the Performing Arts website at Ventura College for a list of upcoming events in the Performing Arts Center.

We cannot offer unique program without the kindness of our donors. If you're interested in giving to the Performing Arts, please visit

<https://venturacollegefoundation.org/donate/>

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SPECIAL THANKS

Luvi Avendano, David Castillo, Brian Hotchkin, Olivia Barker, Christina Ramsey, the VC Music Faculty, Ashley Walters, Helen Yunker, Miriam Schwab, Laura Solis, Gabriel Aragon, and Anthony Mansueto

VC**Concert Choir**

Manny Bravo
 Lauren Cabral
 Sophie Chapman
 Jorge Delgadillo
 Hunter Gilbert
 Nate Hunnicutt-Evans
 Joselyn Lopez
 Victor Magana
 Jesus Martinez
 Elizabeth Mihatov
 Kimball Ouerbacker
 Eric Pantoja
 David Parsons
 Lizbeth Perez
 Audrey Redmond
 Dorothy Schaefer
 Jack Sturgeon

VC**Community Choir**

Bethany Arredondo
 Cecilia Arredondo
 Axel Bermudez
 Carlos Chapman
 Sophie Chapman
 Robyn Cromie
 Elizabeth Mihatov
 Joseph Orozco
 Kimble Ouerbacker
 Dorothy Schaefer
 Marcia Yoshida
 Reginald Whigham
 Alexis Zapata

OC**Concert Choir**

Angel Anorve
 Victor Bonucchi
 Cameron Fitzpatrick
 Jhosua Garcia
 Sandi Hernandez
 Soleil Jones
 Romeo Parrilla
 Jonna Arabelle Ramos
 Jennifer Regio
 Isabella Solorzano

MC**Vocal Ensemble**

Locelyn Alonso
 Kylee Anthony
 Lacob Geronimo
 Summer Anna Jones
 Laylor Jones
 Johan Kremenetski
 Tate Maxon
 Colin McCarty
 Muali Mirfakhraei
 Akina Nash
 Bridget Regan
 Helen Reveles
 Talie Sanchez
 Theodore Sheldon
 Zoe Solarte Valdes
 Isabella Vogelaar
 Ava Winkle
 Ian Wood

VC**Chamber Singers**

Martin Aguilar Nucico
 Axel Bermudez
 Conner Burch
 Audrey Cunningham
 Ryn Lakes
 Isaiah Maldonado
 Jesus Martinez
 Camilla Mendez
 Lizbeth Perez
 Hannah Rezendes
 Seth Salinas
 Dorothy Schaefer
 Steve Strange
 Mariah Young
 Alexis Zapata

MC**Concert Choir**

Jocelyn Alonso
 Tommy Amezcua
 Kylee Anthony
 Colette Elise
 Rye Chandler
 Jacob Del Toro
 Naomi Fuentes
 Denise Garcia
 Mel Garcia
 Julie Gong
 Angelica Guevara
 Cash Harrington
 Summer Anna Jones
 Tommie Lockwood
 Jonah "The Jonah" Lopez
 Mya Lopez
 Eliot Lorenzo
 Albert Martinez
 Colin McCarty
 Payton Sherrie Mead
 Muali Mirfakhraei
 Samuel O'Brien
 Kat Pelayo
 Gianne Mikaela Po
 Robert Posner
 Helen Reveles
 Hector Rosales
 Kelsey Roth
 Talie Sanchez
 Kayla Saxton
 Ana Sharp
 Lukas Shepherd
 Zoe Solarte Valdes
 Felix Stec
 Ingrid Surio
 Andrew Tran
 Elijah Thomas
 Karla Trautman
 Emille Velarde
 Hugo Venegas
 Deborah Vukovitz
 Leonora Vukovitz
 Reginald Whigham



Andrew Anderson is a musician deeply invested in the performance of classical and contemporary music, in both solo and collaborative settings. He has worked with many established composers, including Donnacha Dennehy, Eve Beglarian, Lukas Ligeti, Courtney Bryan, and most recently with Pulitzer Prize finalist Ted Hearne in preparation for the LA Phil premiere of his oratorio PLACE. As a performer, he has had the great opportunity to perform at such venues as the Walt

Disney Hall, REDCAT, and the Carlsbad Music Festival. As a collaborator, he has worked as vocal coach and performer for several opera productions, including the Southern California premiere of the Ned Rorem's *Our Town*. Andrew attended the University of California, Irvine (BMus, 2017), and at the California Institute of the Arts (MFA, 2019), where he was recipient of the Fletcher Jones Foundation and Dumont Scholarships. His primary teachers have been Nina Scolnik and Vicki Ray. In addition to performing piano, Andrew teaches privately and is an aspiring piano technician.

Luvi Avendano is an active singer, conductor, and educator in Southern California. Recent engagements include performances with The Industry, Pacific Opera Project, Opera Santa Barbara, National Opera Association, The Opera Buffs, and The California Philharmonic. Opera credits include Germont in *La traviata*, Alfio in *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Dr. Dulcamara in *L'elisir d'amore*, Escamillo in *Carmen*, Marcello in *La bohème*, Count Almaviva in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte*, and the title role in *Don Giovanni*, among several others. Luvi Avendano earned BM and MM degrees in Vocal Performance and Choral Conducting from the University of Redlands and received his doctoral degree at the University of California Santa Barbara. www.luviavendanomusic.com



David Castillo is from New Orleans, Louisiana. He serves as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral and Vocal Activities at Moorpark College, where he also coordinates the Applied Music program. He teaches voice, opera, musical theatre, music appreciation, and music industry, and his students have gone on to USC, UCLA, Berklee, CalArts, and beyond. A longtime member of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, David

has performed as soloist and host with the New York Philharmonic, San Diego
(Continued on next page)

Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, working with conductors including Gustavo Dudamel, Franz Welser-Möst, Rafael Payare, and Eric Whitacre. His Hollywood credits are equally wide-ranging. He has appeared on the 97th and 98th Academy Awards, Amazon Prime's Hunters, and as a session singer on dozens of major film and television soundtracks including Encanto, Wicked, Black Panther: Wakanda Forever, Despicable Me 4, and Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker. David holds a Master of Music from the USC Thornton School of Music and a Bachelor of Music from Loyola University New Orleans.

www.davidcastillo.la

Mark Holmstrom started his life-long work as a church organist at Epiphany Lutheran Church in 1967 moving over to First Lutheran Church of Northridge in 1973 where he later also became Music Director and played keyboards in the praise band. In 2010 he moved to his current church position at Camarillo United Methodist Church which boasts a hybrid Rodgers/Shantz organ. He had many opportunities to play the Steiner-Reck tracker action organ in Samuelson Chapel during his 17 years at California Lutheran University, while



accompanying the CLU Choirs and later as University Organist. A highlight of his time with the CLU Choir was the 2006 Scandinavian Tour where he was privileged to play Preludes for the Choir Concerts on the magnificent organs in the Cathedrals in Norway and Sweden. He has accompanied the Los Robles Chamber Singers (under James Stemen) and the Los Robles Master Chorale (under Leslie Leighton), the Wagner Ensemble (led by Roger Wagner's daughter, Jeannine Wagner) and several Comedy Tonight's productions including Ruddigore, Oklahoma, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum and Pirates of Penzance. He currently accompanies the choirs and vocal students at Ventura College, under Brent Wilson, and has played in the pit orchestra in many of the Opera and Musical productions. He also plays keyboards in the Camarillo Seniors of Note Big Band.



Dorrie Kelly is an accomplished pianist, educator, and community music leader based in Ventura County. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Hofstra University and has extensive experience teaching K-8 general music, choir, and a variety of instrumental and vocal ensembles. Currently, she teaches an after-school music program at CAPE and maintains a private piano studio serving students in Camarillo and Newbury Park. (Continued on next page)

Dorrie actively serves in multiple capacities at Camarillo United Methodist Church, where she directs the Children's Ministries and the Songbirds Children's Choir, and participates in numerous campus music programs. She also leads instruction in choir and violin for elementary and middle school students. In addition to her work in education, Dorrie has contributed to worship teams at churches across the country.



Christina Pezzarossi Ramsey is a mezzo-soprano from Miles City, Montana. She currently serves as Choral Director at Oxnard College and teaches applied voice at Ventura College. Her operatic career spans a wide range of roles and companies. Notable credits include Margaret in *The Light in the Piazza* and *Rosswisse* in *Die Walküre* with Opera Santa Barbara, Wellgunde in *Das Rheingold*, Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* with Central City Opera, Paula in *Florenzia en el Amazonas* and Gertrude in *Roméo et Juliette* with Pensacola Opera, and Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* with Opera San Jose. In 2024

she debuted with Opera in the Heights reprising Margaret in *The Light in the Piazza*, and sang the title role in *Carmen* with Opera San Luis Obispo. In concert, she has performed Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with both the Santa Barbara Symphony and Pacific Symphony, Rossini's *Stabat Mater* with Pensacola Symphony, and Handel's *Messiah* with Laguna Beach Chorale. Christina holds a DMA in Voice from UC Santa Barbara.

www.christinapezzarossimezzo.com

Brent Wilson is a conductor and stage director whose career has included performances with Boston Lyric Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Opera Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Theatre Saint Louis, and engagements in Italy, Bulgaria, Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the Czech Republic. He has appeared with leading ensembles such as Boston Baroque, the Handel and Haydn Society, and Music of the Baroque(Chicago). As a conductor, Wilson served as Assistant Conductor and Chorus Master at Opera Santa Barbara for over 20 productions. At Ventura College, he is Director of Voice, Choir, Opera, and Musical Theatre. He has taught at Boston University's Tanglewood Institute, Augustana, and Viterbo University, and actively mentors students performing in national Broadway tours. He is also the Director of Choral Studies at University of California, Santa Barbara, and the Chorus Master/Assistant Conductor for the Varna International Music Festival in Bulgaria. Wilson holds degrees in voice and performance from Augustana and Boston University, and in computer science/mathematics from Augustana. An avid endurance athlete, he has completed five Ironman triathlons, 14 marathons, and has run across Alta Via 75 mile trail in the Italian Dolomites in a weekend.

