

ONLINE BROADCAST PROGRAM

*eS* THE Elora  
SINGERS  
MARK VUORINEN, CONDUCTOR

# RADIANT DAWN

## A FESTIVAL OF CAROLS



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# THE Elora SINGERS

MARK VUORINEN, CONDUCTOR



The Elora Singers acknowledges and honours the land upon which we gather, rehearse and perform as the historic and traditional territory of the First Nations peoples, and in particular that of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. Elora is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

# The Elora Singers

	Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
<b>Mark Vuorinen</b> <b>Artistic Director</b>	Katy Clark Rebecca Genge Jennifer Krabbe	Julia Barber Kirsten Fielding Simon Honeyman	Mitch Aldrich Chris Fischer Nicholas Nicolaidis	Michael Cressman Jeff Enns Richard Hrytzak
<b>Organ</b> Christopher Dawes	Teresa Mahon Rebecca McKay Kate Wright	Christina Stelmacovich Jessica Wright	Bryan Rankine Andrew Walker	Alan MacDonald Graham Robinson David Yung

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**The Elora Singers**, an all-professional Grammy- and JUNO-nominated chamber choir, was founded in 1980 and is the ensemble-in-residence of the Elora Festival for three weeks each summer. Through a regular concert series, recordings, and touring, The Elora Singers has established a reputation as one of the finest chamber choirs in Canada. With twelve releases on the NAXOS label, The Elora Singers is known for its rich, warm sound and clarity of texture. The choir is renowned for its diverse styles, for its commitment to Canadian repertoire, and for collaborations with Canadian and international artists. Recent and upcoming collaborations include VOCES8, the State Choir LATVIJA, Canadian composers Stephanie Martin and Peter-Anthony Togni and the TorQ Percussion Ensemble. A new Christmas recording, *Radiant Dawn*, will be released on November 21.

**Mark Vuorinen** is Artistic Director and Conductor of The Elora Singers and the Elora Festival and Waterloo Region's Grand Philharmonic Choir. He is also Associate Professor and Chair of Music at Conrad Grebel University College at the University of Waterloo and is the President of Choirs Ontario. A recipient of many awards, Mark was the 2016 Laureate of the Ontario Arts Council's Leslie Bell Prize, and received a 2016 National Choral Award from Choral Canada (Association of Canadian Choral Communities) for his research on Estonian composer Arvo Pärt. Mark holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Toronto and Master of Music degree from Yale University's School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music.

**Christopher Dawes** is a Toronto-based performer, conductor and media professional active in many facets of the musical scene and working with many of the region's top musical institutions. He serves as Organist and Director of Music to Rosedale Presbyterian Church, Accompanist to the Orpheus Choir of Toronto, Music Director of the 18-voice a cappella Marion Singers of Greater Toronto, and Artistic Director to the 80-voice Georgetown Choral Society. For two decades he has served as collaborative pianist to graduate and undergraduate instrumental and choral conducting programs of the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, and as a Director of Canada's Summer Institute of Church Music.

# Radiant Dawn: A Festival of Carols

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 | 7:30 PM

Thou Shalt Know Him	Mark Sirett
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	Traditional arr. David Willcocks
O Radiant Dawn	James MacMillan
Gabriel's Message	Traditional, arr. Jim Clements
I sing of a maiden	Patrick Hadley
Lully, Lulla, Lullay	Philip Stopford
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing	Traditional, arr. Paul Halley
Les anges dans nos campagnes	Bob Chilcott
The Three Kings	Jonathan Dove
I Wonder As I Wander	Philip Stopford
The First Nowell	Traditional, arr. Ola Gjeilo
Candlelight Carol	John Rutter
We Wish You a Merry Christmas	Traditional, arr. Nigel Short
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas	Hugh Blaine & Ralph Martin, arr. Ryan Brandau

Heartfelt thanks to St. John's. Elora. for the use of their beautiful space.

# A Gift of Music

In December 2020, The Elora Singers shared the gift of music with our broader Canadian community. Through the generous support of our government funders, sponsors and donors, we were able to record our “Hope and Refuge” and three Nativity Festival online concerts which we offered for free to residents, patients and medical staff at retirement and long-term care homes, hospitals and social service support centres across Ontario and Canada over the holiday season. We estimate the potential reach was over 100,000 people.

This Christmas, we are offering The Elora Singers’ “Radiant Dawn: A Festival of Carols” online concert for free to public health workers in our communities to thank them for their tremendous dedication to running successful vaccination clinics, for helping those most vulnerable, and for keeping us all safe.

On behalf of everyone at The Elora Singers, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

The Board of Directors and Staff  
The Elora Singers



A new recording from The Elora Singers, featuring traditional and contemporary arrangements by:

Sir David Willcocks  
Bob Chilcott  
Jonathan Dove  
Jeff Enns

Ola Gjeilo  
James Macmillan  
Philip Stopford  
Arvo Pärt

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# Texts & Translations

## Thou Shalt Know Him

Mark Sirett

*...continued*

Thou shalt know him when he comes,  
Not by any din of drums,  
Nor his manners, nor his airs,  
Nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,  
Not by crown or by his gown,  
But his coming known shall be,  
By the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.

Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Traditional  
arr. David Willcocks

O come, O come, Emmanuel!  
Redeem thy captive Israel,  
That into exile drear is gone  
Far from the face of God's dear Son.

Refrain  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Come, thou Branch of Jesse! draw  
The quarry from the lion's claw;  
From the dread caverns of the grave,  
From nether hell, thy people save.

Refrain

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!  
Pour on our souls thy healing light;  
Dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom,  
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

Refrain

O come, thou Lord of David's Key!  
The royal door fling wide and free;  
Safeguard for us the heav'nward road,  
And bar the way to death's abode.

Refrain

O come, O come, Adonaï,  
Who in thy glorious majesty  
From that high mountain clothed with awe  
Gavest thy folk the elder law.

Refrain

# Texts & Translations

## O Radiant Dawn

James MacMillan

O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light,  
Sun of Justice:  
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death.  
Isaiah had prophesied,  
The people who walked in darkness  
have seen the great light:  
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom  
a light has shone.  
Amen.

## Gabriel's Message

Traditional  
arr. Jim Clements

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame.  
"All hail!" said he, "thou lowly maiden, Mary.  
Most highly favoured lady."  
Gloria!

"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honour thee.  
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.  
Most highly favoured lady."  
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
"To me be as it pleaseth God." she said.  
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."  
Most highly favoured lady,  
Gloria!

Of her Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn.  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,  
"Most highly favoured lady;  
Gloria!"



# Texts & Translations

## I sing of a maiden

Patrick Hadley

I sing of a maiden  
That is makeless;  
King of all kings  
To her son she ches.  
He came all so still  
Where his mother was,  
As dew in April  
That falleth on the grass.  
He came all so still  
To his mother's bower,  
As dew in April  
That falleth on the flower.  
He came all so still  
Where his mother lay,  
As dew in April  
That falleth on the spray.  
Mother and maiden  
Was never none but she:  
Well may such a lady  
God's mother be.

## Lully, Lulla, Lullay

Philip Stopford

Refrain:  
Lully, lulla,  
By, by, lully, lullay.  
Lully, lulla, Thou little tiny Child,  
By, by lully, lullay.

O sisters too how may we do for to preserve this day?  
This poor youngling for whom we sing  
By, by, lully, lullay.  
Lully, lulla...

Herod, the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day,  
His men of might in his own sight  
all young children to slay.  
Lully, lulla...

That woe is me, poor Child for Thee,  
and ever morn and day.  
For Thy parting neither say nor sing,  
By, by, lully, lullay.  
Lully, lulla...

# Texts & Translations

## Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Traditional  
arr. Paul Halley

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King:  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th'incarnate deity,  
Pleased as one of us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Refrain

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise each child of earth,  
born to give us second birth.

Refrain

## Les anges dans nos campagnes

Bob Chilcott

Les anges dans nos campagnes  
Ont entonné l'hymne  
des cieux  
Et l'écho de nos montagnes  
Redit ce chant mélodieux:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Bergers, pour qui cette  
fête?

Quel est l'objet de tous ces  
chants?

Quel vainqueur, quelle conquête  
Mérite ces cris triomphants?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Ils annoncent la naissance,  
Du Libérateur D'Israël;  
Et plein de reconnaissance,  
Chantent en ce jour solennel;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Cherchons tous l'heureux village  
Qui l'a vu naître  
sous ses toits;  
Offrons lui le tendre hommage  
Et de nos cœurs et de nos voix:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Dans l'humilité profonde  
Où vous paraissez à nos yeux,  
Pour vous louer, Dieu du monde,  
Nous redirons ce chant joyeux:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

The angels in our lands  
Have sung the hymns of  
the skies  
And the echo of our mountains  
Repeats this melodious song:  
Glory to God in the highest!

Shepherds, for whom is this  
celebration?

What is the object of all these  
songs?

What victor, what conquest  
Deserves these triumphant cries?  
Glory to God in the highest!

They announce the birth,  
of Israel's Liberator;  
And full of gratitude,  
Sing on this solemn day;  
Glory to God in the highest!

Let's all look for the happy village  
Who saw him being born  
under its roofs;  
Let us offer Him tender homage  
And from our hearts and voices:  
Glory to God in the highest!

In profound humility  
Where you appear to our eyes,  
To praise you, God of the world,  
We will repeat this joyful song:  
Glory to God in the highest!

# Texts & Translations

## The Three Kings

Jonathan Dove

The first king was very young,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
With doleful ballads on his tongue,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
He came bearing a branch of myrrh  
Than which no gall is bitterer,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
Gifts for a baby King, O.  
The second king was a man in prime,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
The solemn priest of a solemn time,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
With eyes downcast and reverent feet  
He brought his incense sad and sweet,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
Gifts for a baby King, O.  
The third king was very old,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
Both his hands were full of gold,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
Many a gaud and glittering toy,  
Baubles brave for a baby boy,  
O balow, balow la lay,  
Gifts for a baby King, O.

## I Wonder As I Wander

Philip Stopford

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
How Jesus, the Saviour, did come for to die.  
For poor ornery people like you and like I:  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cows' stall,  
With wisemen and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,  
And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing:  
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing;  
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,  
He surely could have had it, 'cause he was the King!

# Texts & Translations

## The First Nowell

Traditional, arr. Ola Gjeilo

The first Nowell the angels did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:

Refrain

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star,  
Shining in the east beyond them far:  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

And by the light of that same star,  
Three Wise Men came from country far:  
To seek for a King was their intent,  
And to follow the star wheresoever it went.

Refrain

Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
Fell reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence,  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Refrain

## Candlelight Carol

Words and music  
by John Rutter

How do you capture the wind on the water?  
How do you count all the stars in the sky?  
How can you measure the love of a mother,  
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Refrain:

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow  
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.  
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him,  
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep;  
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour,  
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.

Refrain

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger:  
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay,  
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation:  
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.

Refrain

# Texts & Translations

## **We Wish You a Merry Christmas**    Traditional arr. Nigel Short

We wish you a merry Christmas,  
we wish you a merry Christmas,  
we wish you a merry Christmas  
and a happy new year!

### Refrain

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin:  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
and a happy new year!

Now bring us some figgy pudding,  
now bring us some figgy pudding,  
now bring us some figgy pudding,  
and bring some out here!

### Refrain

For we all like figgy pudding,  
for we all like figgy pudding,  
for we all like figgy pudding,  
so bring some out here!

### Refrain

And we won't go until we've got some,  
and we won't go until we've got some,  
and we won't go until we've got some,  
so bring some out here!

### Refrain

## **Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas** Hugh Blaine & Ralph Martin arr. Ryan Brandau

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,  
let your heart be light.  
From now on our troubles will be out of sight.

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,  
make the yuletide gay.  
From now on our troubles will be miles away.

Here we are as in olden days,  
happy golden days of yore,  
Faithful friends who are dear to us  
gather near to us once more.

Through the years we all will be together  
if the fates allow.

Hang a shining star upon the highest bough,  
and have yourself a merry little Christmas now.

# The Elora Singers



**Katy Clark** is working on her DMA in Voice Performance at the University of Toronto, where she studies with Nathalie Paulin. Katy was a recipient of the 2017-2018 Rebanks Family Fellowship and International Performance Residency at the Royal Conservatory, and has sung with the Amici Chamber Ensemble, the Canadian Opera Company Chorus, Shoestring Opera, and Opus 8. As the founder and producer of London's Village Opera, Katy recently developed and sang in their production of The Great Lakes Suite...and Other Canadian Adventures. She has also sung with the Stratford Symphony Orchestra on their Fairytale program and with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra in The Messiah.

**Soprano**



**Rebecca Genge** performs frequently with ensembles such as Theatre of Early Music, University of Toronto's Schola Cantorum, The Elora Singers, the Pacific Baroque Orchestra and the Victoria Baroque Players. In 2017, she made her operatic debut as Papagena in the Magic Flute with Pacific Opera Victoria and returned to the company as Jano in Janacek's Jenufa. As an avid choral singer, she has been a part of several recordings including Trinity Choir's Four Thousand Winter for SONY, on which she is a featured soloist. Rebecca is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Historical Performance at the University of Toronto. She is excited to return for her fourth season with The Elora Singers.

**Soprano**

# The Elora Singers



Winner of the 2014 Jim and Charlotte Norcop Prize in song, soprano **Jennifer Krabbe** has found success on both the operatic, and concert stage. Recent performances include Paquette in Bernstein's *Candide* with the Grand Philharmonic Choir and The Elora Singers, Mozart's Mass in C Minor with the Mississauga Choral Society and Toronto Beach Chorale, Handel's *Messiah* with the TSO and Toronto Beach Chorale, and Bach's B Minor Mass with both Chorus Niagara and the Orpheus Choir of Toronto. Jennifer is a founding member of *Collectif*, a collective of musicians dedicated to exploring and expanding the world of art song performance by presenting innovative, song-based theatre.

**Soprano**



**Teresa Mahon** sings regularly with professional ensembles such as The Elora Singers, *Aspirare Vocal Collective*, the Toronto Oratory Choir, the Song Shul's Toronto Festival Choir, the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and the Tallis Choir. She has appeared with the Toronto Consort, Theatre of Early Music, Choir 21, and the Toronto Masque Theatre. Recent highlights have included performing as one of the soloists in the *Praetorius Vespers* with the Toronto Consort, as the soprano soloist in *Gangway! Theatre Co's "Nutcracker-Messiah"*, *Allegri's Miserere* (Tallis Choir, St. James Cathedral Choir), and *Vaughan Williams' Mass in G Minor* (St. James Cathedral Choir). She can be heard as a featured soloist on the recording *The Wonder of Christmas* (The Elora Singers).

**Soprano**

# The Elora Singers

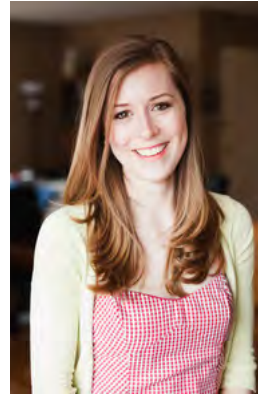


**Rebecca McKay** holds a Bachelor of Music (BMus) in Voice and Music Education, Master of Arts (MA) in Community Music at Laurier. She is an accomplished singer, voice instructor, community musician and choral instructor.

An active musician, Rebecca has performed with the Laurier Singers' Chamber Choir, Da Capo Chamber Choir, Stratford Summer Music, Spiritus Ensemble, St. John's Elora Professional Choir, The Elora Singers, and is an active recitalist and vocal pedagogue.

While her performance work is primarily in the classical genre, Rebecca considers herself a cross-over artist, singing in a variety of styles from musical theatre to rock.

**Soprano**



**Kate Wright** is delighted to be returning for her 7th season with The Elora Singers. Kate holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Western University, and a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University, where she specialized in Arts in the Community. An experienced choral soprano, she has sung with many professional groups in London, Guelph, Elora, Kingston, and Toronto. As an educator, she has taught vocal, ukulele, guitar, and band. A passionate Early Childhood Music Specialist, she conducts 3 training choirs in the Oakville Choir for Children & Youth with children aged 4-9, and teaches Parent & Child music classes for children from birth-5 years in Toronto.

**Soprano**



# The Elora Singers



**Julia Barber** is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of Toronto under Professor Lorna MacDonald. On the opera stage, she has performed Zerlina (Don Giovanni), Hänsel (Hänsel und Gretel), Stéphano (Roméo et Juliette), Paquette (Candide), and Jo (Little Women). As a soloist, she has been featured with The Elora Singers, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, and Mississauga Symphony Orchestra; art song with the Aldeburgh Discovery Series and Bayfield Festival; and music theatre and popular classics with Jewish Music Week and the Toronto Festival Singers. As a choral singer, she performs with The Elora Singers, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Toronto Festival Singers, Incontra Vocal Ensemble, St. James Cathedral Choir, and Hedgerow Singers.

**Mezzo-soprano**



**Kirsten Fielding** started her professional choral career at the age of 9 singing at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ontario. She currently sings with The Elora Singers, The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Musicus Bortnianskii, and The Tallis Choir of Toronto. She has recorded with many of these groups on projects that include the Grammy-nominated Elora Singers Eric Whitacre CD and The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir's Grammy-nominated Messiah. On stage, selected credits include The Narrator in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat (Met@Toronto, St.Anne's); Val in A Chorus Line (Curtain Call); Miss. Stacey in Anne of Green Gables (Red Barn); and Anybodys in West Side Story (Scarborough Music Theatre)

**Mezzo-soprano**

# The Elora Singers



**Simon Honeyman** is delighted to join The Elora Singers this season. He has been working steadily as a choral countertenor for the last decade, performing with ensembles such as Tafelmusik, Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal, Theatre of Early Music, La Chapelle de Québec, Toronto Masque Theatre, Against the Grain Theatre, and others. He is a founding member of One Equall Musick, Opus 8, and most recently Aspirare Vocal Collective. Simon also occasionally finds time to perform and record with award-winning songwriters including Gabrielle Papillon, The Daguerreotypes, and Eric Farr.



**Christina Stelmacovich's** singing has been described as "...stylistically spot-on and vocally splendid." (Dave Richards, Toronto Concert Reviews). Her career has included performances in Canada, the United States, Austria, Italy, England and Mexico. She has appeared as a soloist with the City of Birmingham Choir and the Renaissance Singers of England, The Elora Singers, the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Tafelmusik, Early Music Vancouver, Early Music Voices of Calgary and the New World Orchestra of Mexico City. When not performing, Christina works as the Manager of The Elora Singers, as an adjudicator with the Kiwanis Music Festival and as a Mom.

**Countertenor**

**Mezzo-soprano**

# The Elora Singers



**Jessica Wright** has been featured as a soloist with Tafelmusik, The Toronto Consort, Theatre of Early Music, Toronto Masque Theatre, Toronto Bach Festival and The Elora Festival. Jessica is the General Manager of Aspirare Vocal Collective, a Toronto-based vocal ensemble focused on choral chamber music of the 20th and 21st centuries. Recent highlights include performances of the Monteverdi Vespers with the Toronto Consort, the Sorceress in Purcell's Dido and Aeneas with the Theatre of Early Music, as well as the Canadian premiere of Sir James MacMillan's Seven Last Words from the Cross under the composer's direction.



**Mitch Aldrich** has performed across Canada and the US and is equally at home on choral, music theatre, operatic, and popular music stages. Returning for his second season with The Elora Singers, Mitch also sings with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Toronto Festival Singers, and the Aspirare Vocal Collective. Last year he made his Toronto Symphony Orchestra debut as Prince Charles Edward in *Candide*. Favourite stage credits include: *Motel* (Fiddler on the Roof), *Laurie* (Little Women), and *Man 1* (Songs For a New World). Mitch is also a Voice Instructor, Music Director (*Annie*, *Wizard of Oz*), Stage Director (*Lion King*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Seussical*, *Shrek the Musical*), and Choreographer (*Lion King*, *Annie*).

**Mezzo-soprano**

**Tenor**

# The Elora Singers



Tenor **Chris Fischer** has earned a reputation as an intelligent, flexible and sensitive performer on the concert stage. Recent highlights have included two Canadian premieres (Andrew Miller's Birth of Christ and Craig Hella Johnson's Considering Matthew Shephard), as well as being featured as a soloist with The Elora Singers on a new recording of Reena Esmail's This Love Between Us. Now in their eighth season as a member of The Elora Singers, Chris leads choral outreach programs at the Wellington Terrace Long-Term Care Home in Fergus and at the Elora Centre for the Arts.



**Nicholas Nicolaidis** is a versatile and accomplished singer, conductor and vocal pedagogue. He emigrated to Toronto from Johannesburg, South Africa in the spring of 2019. Nicholas began his vocal studies at the world famous Drakensberg Boy's Choir School and completed a Bachelor of Music Degree from the University of the Witwatersrand, with post graduate singing studies with professors from the Royal College of Music in London, England. He has a wide solo repertoire, but specializes in oratorio, lieder, and the jazz standards. His international engagements have taken him to England, Wales, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Mauritius, Seychelles, Norway, Greece and Germany.

A fun fact: Nicholas is a keen ornithologist and an avid tennis player!

Tenor

Tenor

# The Elora Singers



**Bryan Rankine** has been a member of The Elora Singers since 1999. Growing up in Elora, just around the corner from St. John's Church, he has had a connection with the Singers and Festival since his teenage years. Bryan is currently a Vice-Principal in the Waterloo Region District School Board.



**Andrew Walker** has been praised for his "well-crafted high notes that filled the hall." Andrew pursued his musical training at St. Michael's Choir School, and served as Choral Scholar at Truro Cathedral in the United Kingdom in 2013-2014. In addition to his over five years with The Elora Singers, he has performed in both the chorus and as a soloist with such groups as Orchestra Toronto, the Choir of the Cathedral Church of St. James, the Toronto Consort, the Toronto Chamber Choir, the Theatre of Early Music, and the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. He made his Toronto Symphony Orchestra debut as the Governor in Bernstein's *Candide* in April 2018. Andrew serves as President-Elect of Choirs Ontario, and recently received his Master's degree in Canadian Studies. Andrew lives in Ottawa where he works in cultural policy and government relations.

**Tenor**

**Tenor**

# The Elora Singers



**Michael Cressman** studied Vocal performance at Wilfrid Laurier University under the direction of David Falk. Credits include Les Miserables (US third National Tour), Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story (Stage West) Music Man (Drayton Entertainment), Magic of Love (Lighthouse Festival Theatre, original cast recording) The Chocolate Soldier, Titanic (Shaw Festival) Hey! Mr. Producer!, Runnin' Wild (Cameron MacIntosh/Jean Anne Ryan). With Jean Anne Ryan Productions, Michael's performing has taken him to Alaska, Hawaii, South America, the Caribbean and both Eastern and Western seaboard. Michael is enjoying his 11th year with The Elora Singers.



**Jeff Enns** is a native of Waterloo where he studied organ, viola and composition at Wilfrid Laurier University. His music has been commissioned by choirs across North America and performed and broadcast around the world. He sings with The Elora Singers and the Canadian Chamber Choir, for which he is also composer-in-residence. Jeff teaches violin and viola at the Beckett School in Waterloo, and Rockway Mennonite High School in Kitchener, as well as maintaining a private studio. He is also organist and choir director at the Church of the Holy Saviour Anglican in Waterloo where he directs a very active music program.

**Bass**

**Bass**

# The Elora Singers



**Richard Hrytzak** regularly sings with The Elora Singers, Opera Atelier and Spiritus Ensemble, and occasionally with Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Choir 21, and Nota Bene Baroque Players. He also conducts the choir at Grand River Unitarian Congregation. Outside of singing and conducting, Richard co-owns and brews at Counterpoint Brewing Company, a craft brewery in Kitchener.



**Alan MacDonald** has been praised by Opera Canada for his "wonderful timbre, diction and sonority." A recent graduate of Vancouver Opera's Yulanda M. Faris Young Artist Program, Alan was recently heard in Chorus Niagara's staged Matthäus-Passion and Opera 5's double bill of Ethel Smyth operas, Suffragette. Other recent performances include the roles of Prince Yamadori and the Imperial Commissioner in Madama Butterfly with Vancouver Opera, Vox Christus with the Vancouver Bach Choir in Bach's Matthäus-Passion, Elvis Costello's The Juliet Letters with the Koerner Quartet, Beethoven's Symphony no 9 with the Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra and the creation of four roles in the world premiere of Shane Koyczan and Neil Weisensel's Stickboy with Vancouver Opera.

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Bass-baritone **Graham Robinson** has contributed to Canada's cultural hub for over a decade. With a background in theatre and film as well as decades immersed in Baroque and contemporary music, Graham is widely known for his "character-sensitive" approach to performance and an unyielding pursuit of "concise artistic communication". He is regularly featured with Tafelmusik, Soundstreams and The Elmer Iseler Singers among many other ensembles across Canada and is excited to be a part of this new chapter for The Elora Singers.



**David Yung** is pleased to join The Elora Singers for "Radiant Dawn: A Festival of Carols". David has served as a longtime member of the Tafelmusik Chamber Choir, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and Mendelssohn Singers as well as the Nathaniel Dett Chorale, having toured extensively with this organization throughout Canada and the US. He is a founding member of the Aspirare Vocal Collective and Soundstreams' Choir 21, and has performed with the Elmer Iseler Singers, The Elora Singers, Amadeus Choir, Arcady, Opera Atelier, Tallis Choir, Etobicoke Centennial Choir, and Black Creek Festival Chorus. David has worked in musical styles spanning the medieval to contemporary, and has even sung back-up vocals for Roger Hodgson (Supertramp). He is an experienced church and synagogue musician, currently serving as a Bass Lead at St. Thomas's Anglican Church and Holy Blossom Temple, and sings regularly with the National Catholic Broadcasting Council as a Daily Mass Cantor. David completed his undergraduate degree at Western University, studying voice with Dr. Darryl Edwards.

**Bass**

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The Elora Singers have taken great care to follow Ontario's COVID-19 health and safety regulations.

All of our musicians, staff and crew are fully vaccinated, are required to respond to a set of screening questions, and have tested negative to a rapid COVID test before each rehearsal and performance.

In accordance with Ontario regulations, a COVID safety plan is available upon request.

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