



Mid-Columbia
Mastersingers
2021-22 Season

Christmas

with the **MASTERSINGERS**

Sunday, December 19, 4pm

The REACH Museum

General Admission \$15 - K-12 students FREE

Vaccination verification or negative COVID test required for entry

www.mcmastersingers.org

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MID-COLUMBIA
MASTERSINGERS

PROGRAM

Winter Wonderland	Dick Smith/Felix Bernard, arr. Stephen DeCesare
Sleigh Ride	Leroy Anderson, arr. Mark Brymer
Walking in the Air	Howard Blake, arr. John Leavitt
A Holly Jolly Christmas	Johnny Marks, arr. Stephen DeCesare
O Tannenbaum	Traditional German, arr. Paul Ayres
Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!	Jule Styne, arr. Greg Gilpin
I'll Be Home for Christmas	Kim Gannon/Walter Kent, arr. Stephen DeCesare <i>Maren McGowan and Arlo McGowan, soloists</i>
We Wish You the Merriest	Les Brown, arr. Mac Huff <i>John Masulonis, soloist</i>
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas	Hugh Martin/Ralph Blane, arr. Stephen DeCesare

PERFORMERS

Justin Raffa, Director

Adrienne Fletcher, Piano

SOPRANO

Phinney Brown
Janet Diediker
Donna Glass
Alicia Mahon
Talitha McCall
Maren McGowan
Jane Schmoetzer
Barb Tanner

ALTO

Laurel Adams
Elaine Bacon
Elizabeth Erickson
Lisa Hill
Sharon Isotalo
Emilia Keener
Tanya Knickerbocker
Kathy Payne

BARITONE

Mickey Beary
Ryan Grandy
John Masulonis
Arlo McGowan
Michael Scott
Brandon Shobe
Rick Walling

JUSTIN RAFFA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Justin Raffa serves as a megaphone for the arts in eastern Washington. He is a conductor, singer, educator, and above all, a passionate arts advocate.

He is the Artistic Director of the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers in Tri-Cities, WA, and also Chorusmaster for the Yakima Symphony Orchestra Chorus. He has served as chorusmaster or music director with many regional organizations, including Oregon East Symphony, Mid-Columbia Musical Theatre, Columbia Basin College, Washington-Idaho Symphony.

As a professional singer, he performs with the Oregon Bach Festival, True Concord Voices and Orchestra, Male Ensemble Northwest and Chor Anno. He has served as an adjudicator for festivals and competitions throughout the Northwest, and regularly visits local music classes and choirs as a visiting artist.

Throughout his career, Justin has received numerous awards and recognition for his efforts to give the arts a place of prominence in his community. He currently serves as an arts mouthpiece on the boards of Visit Tri-Cities and Leadership Tri-Cities, as a member of Richland Rotary, and as a frequent emcee for charitable events across the community.

Justin has been on the Washington State Arts Commission since 2016, and also serves on the Northwest ACDA board as Repertoire & Resources Chair for Community Choirs.

Originally from South Jersey, Justin is a proud graduate of Westminster Choir College. He started his choral career and arts advocacy work in the remote border town of Bisbee, AZ. He then received his master of music degree in choral conducting from the University of Arizona and headed off to Tri-Cities, WA, where he now lives with his partner, Molly, and their long-haired dachshund Coda.

ADRIENNE FLETCHER, ACCOMPANIST



Adrienne Fletcher currently serves as the Music Director of the Mid-Columbia Youth Symphony Orchestras and the Assistant Conductor of the Mid-Columbia Symphony. She is the Resident Music Director and Office Specialist at the Academy of Children's Theatre. Fletcher has previously served as Assistant Conductor for Wenatchee Valley Symphony Orchestra, Guest Conductor for Yakima Youth Symphony Orchestra, Assistant Conductor for Central Washington University Symphony Orchestra and Opera Production, and Guest Conductor for the Kittitas Valley Youth Orchestra. She has been a Music Director and a vocal coach for Valley Musical Theatre, Warehouse Theatre, Ellensburg High School, and Central Washington University's Opera Workshop.

Fletcher remains active as a performing musician. As a harpist, she has played with several ensembles including Olympia Symphony, Tacoma Concert Band, and Tacoma Opera. She works frequently as a vocal coach and collaborative pianist in the Tri-Cities and surrounding area, and has also been seen on stage as a singer and actor throughout the region. Recent credits include Lucy Van Pelt in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and Sarah Brown in *Guy and Dolls* with Valley Musical Theatre, Alice Beineke in *The Addams Family* with Warehouse Theatre, and The Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* with CWU Opera Workshop.

Fletcher holds a master of music degree in orchestral conducting and vocal performance/pedagogy from Central Washington University and a bachelor of musical arts degree in harp performance from Pacific Lutheran University. A native of Forest Grove, Oregon, Adrienne Fletcher currently resides in Richland, Washington with her two cats, Sadie and Optimus.



Youth Choir is Back!

Visit www.mcmastersingers.org or follow us on Facebook for details.

MID-COLUMBIA MASTERSINGERS



**Follow us on Facebook
for upcoming dates**

SONG TEXTS

WINTER WONDERLAND

Sleigh bells ring
are you listening
in the lane
snow is glistening
A beautiful sight
we're happy tonight
walking in a winter wonderland

Gone away is the bluebird
here to stay is a new bird
He sings a love song
as we go along
walking in a winter wonderland

In the meadow we can build a snowman
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown
He'll say: Are you married?
we'll say: No man
But you can do the job
when you're in town

Later on
we'll conspire
as we dream by the fire
To face unafraid
the plans that we've made
walking in a winter wonderland

In the meadow we can build a snowman
and pretend that he's a circus clown
We'll have lots of fun with mister snowman
until the the other kids knock him down

When it snows
ain't it thrilling
Though your nose gets a chilling
We'll frolic and play
the holiday way
walking in a winter wonderland

SLEIGH RIDE

Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring ting tingling too
Come on it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you
Outside the snow is falling and friends are calling, "Yoo hoo!"
Come on it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you

Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, let's go
Let's look at the show, we're riding in a wonderland of snow
Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, it's grand just holding your hand
We're gliding along with a song of a wintery fairyland

Our cheeks are nice and rosy and comfy cozy are we
We've snuggled close together like two birds of a feather would be
Let's take that road before us and sing a chorus or two
Come on it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you

There's a birthday party at the home of farmer Gray
It'll be the perfect ending of a perfect day
We'll be singing the songs we love to sing without a single stop
At the fireplace we will watch the chestnuts pop, pop, pop, pop

There's a happy feeling nothing in this world can buy
When they pass around the coffee and the pumpkin pie
It'll nearly be like a picture print by currier and ives
These wonderful things are the things we remember all through our lives

WALKING IN THE AIR

We're walking in the air
We're floating in the moonlit sky
The people far below
Are sleeping as we fly
I'm holding very tight
I'm riding in the midnight blue
I'm finding I can fly
So high above with you

On across the world
The villages go by like dreams
The rivers and the hills
The forests and the streams

Children gaze open-mouthed
Taken by surprise
Nobody down below
Believes their eyes

We're surfing in the air
We're swimming in the frozen sky
We're drifting over icy
Mountains floating by

Suddenly swooping low
On an ocean deep
Rousing up a mighty monster
From his sleep

We're walking in the air
We're dancing in the midnight sky
And everyone who sees us
Greet us as we fly

SONG TEXTS

A HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS

Have a holly, jolly Christmas
It's the best time of the year
I don't know if there'll be snow
But have a cup of cheer

Have a holly, jolly Christmas
And when you walk down the street
Say hello to friends you know
And everyone you meet

Oh, ho the mistletoe
Hung where you can see
Somebody waits for you
Kiss her once for me

Have a holly, jolly Christmas
And in case you didn't hear
Oh by golly have a holly jolly Christmas
This year

O TANNENBAUM

O Christmas tree, o Christmas tree
How true are your leaves!
You're green not only in the summertime,
No, also in winter when it snows.
O Christmas tree, o Christmas tree
How true are your leaves!

O Christmas tree, o Christmas tree
Much pleasure you bring me!
How often has not at Christmastime
A tree like you given me such joy!
O Christmas tree, o Christmas tree,
Much pleasure you bring me!

LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW!

Oh, the weather outside is frightful
But the fire is so delightful
And since we've no place to go
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

It doesn't show signs of stopping
And I brought some corn for popping
The lights are turned way down low
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

When we finally kiss goodnight
How I hate going out in the storm
But if you really hold me tight
All the way home I'll be warm

The fire is slowly dying
And, my dear, we're still goodbyin'
But as long as you love me so
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

I'm dreaming tonight of a place I love
Even more than I usually do
And although I know
It's a long road back
I promise you

I'll be home for Christmas
You can plan on me
Please have snow and mistletoe
And presents on the tree

Christmas eve will find me
Where the love light gleams
I'll be home for Christmas
If only in my dreams

WE WISH YOU THE MERRIEST

We wish you the merriest, the merriest
The merriest, yes the merriest
We wish you the merriest, the merriest
The merriest Yule cheer

We wish you the happiest, the happiest
The happiest, yes the happiest
We wish you the happiest, the happiest
The happiest New Year

May your tree be filled with happiness
Happiness and friendliness for all
May your heart be filled with cheerfulness
Happiness and cheerfulness for all

HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Have yourself a merry little Christmas
Let your heart be light
From now on
Your troubles will be out of sight

Have yourself a merry little Christmas
Make the Yule-tide gay
From now on
Your troubles will be miles away

Here we are as in olden days
Happy golden days of yore
Faithful friends who I dear to us
They 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

MID-COLUMBIA MASTERSINGERS

Thanks to our donors!

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ADDRESS

1177 Jadwin Ave, Ste 110
Richland WA 99352

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 10am-2pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

509-460-1766
info@MCMastersingers.org
www.MCMastersingers.org



WASHINGTON STATE
ARTS COMMISSION



**ARTS CENTER
TASK FORCE**

The Mid-Columbia region is the fourth largest metropolitan area in Washington State and is unique in its lack of adequate cultural infrastructure, despite its vibrant performing arts community.

Arts Center Task Force is the 501c3 organization working to build the Mid-Columbia Performing Arts Center; a state-of-the-art venue and gathering space that will elevate the perception of the Tri-Cities as a vibrant destination to live, work, stay, and play by providing a home for our many excellent performing arts organizations, including the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers.

**LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED AT
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Home for the Holidays

Season 2

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DECEMBER 3

Streaming from the Archives: Chamber Choir Christmas with Flute and Harp (2016)

DECEMBER 4

Live and Streaming: Chanukah concert at The Space at Lotus of the Moon

DECEMBER 5

Live and Streaming: Chanukah concert at Temple Beth Sholom

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Live and Streaming: Mastersingers Youth Choir in Concert

DECEMBER 12

Streaming from the Archives: Noche de Paz (2019)

DECEMBER 17

Streaming from the Archives: The First Nowell with Richland Players (2018)

DECEMBER 18

Streaming Virtual Choir: Songs of Joy and Light (2020)

DECEMBER 19

Live and Streaming: Christmas with the Mastersingers at the REACH Museum

www.mcmastersingers.org

