

THE MIDDLEPORT COMMUNITY CHOIR PRESENTS:

LET EVERYTHING THAT HATH

Breath

FRIDAY APRIL 30, 2010
HARTLAND BIBLE CHURCH
8110 WEST AVENUE
GASPORT, NY 14067
AT 7:00 PM

FEATURING
THE GENESEE CHORALE
AS GUEST CHOIR



ADULT \$8, CHILDREN/SENIORS \$6, FAMILY \$15. TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION, WWW.MIDDLEPORTCOMMUNITYCHOIR.COM

THIS EVENT IS MADE POSSIBLE, IN PART, WITH FUNDS FROM THE ARTS NIAGARA DECENTRALIZATION PROGRAM,
A REGRANT PROGRAM OF THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, ADMINISTERED BY THE TONAWANDAS'
COUNCIL ON THE ARTS / CARNEGIE ART CENTER.

Welcome

Good evening! I would like to thank you for attending this final concert of our Spring performance season. This evening's program is a special collaboration of two wonderful choirs.

For two years now I have had the honor of being the Director of the Genesee Chorale. I have also been the Director of the Middleport Community Choir for nearly seven years. It gives me great pleasure to have these two fine choirs together for the first time.

This evening's program will feature the choirs singing separately and will then culminate with both singing as one ensemble. It is my hope that you will leave this church moved both spiritually and emotionally by what you hear.

Thank you for your continued support of the Middleport Community Choir. Without you, collaborations such as these would never be possible.

Ric Jones, Director

Ric Jones is the founder and owner of Imagine Music Publishing. Ric received both his Bachelor and Master Degrees in Music Education from Ithaca College (NY).

Currently, Ric serves as the Director of the Genesee Chorale as well as the Middleport Community Choir.

His educational experience includes directing high school bands, marching bands, pep bands, and chamber ensembles at Corinth High School (NY), Cincinnatus High School (NY), Greater Johnstown High School (NY), Cicero-North Syracuse High School (NY), Medina High School (NY), and Fonda-Fultonville High School (NY).

Ric has also served as Principal Trombonist with the Tri-Cities Opera Orchestra, St. Cecilia Orchestra, and the Gerald Wolff Singers Orchestra.

Ric resides in Medina with his wife Karen, and their three children, Nicholas, Ryder and River.



The Middleport Community Choirs

The Middleport Community Choirs are "a community of churches that sings from the heart." We are two choirs: the vocal choir, The Middleport Community Choir and the hand bell choir, The Middleport Bell Tones.

The MCC is a voluntary organization which is made up of approximately 45 active members from Middleport, Medina, Gasport, Lockport, and Lyndonville.

Our performance repertoire consists of a variety of mediums, including sacred, secular, Broadway, and contemporary choral works.

The vocal choir is under the direction of Ric Jones and is accompanied by Wendy Gypson and Ms. Debby Clark. The handbell choir is under the direction of Debby Clark.

It is the mission of the Middleport Community Choirs to serve God through our musical expression, and to encourage the separate area church communities to come together as one group in a mutual show of friendship and faith. We believe that through our shared musical endeavors, we can better serve the Middleport and surrounding communities.

The Middleport Community Choir (MCC) was created when members of Middleport area parish choirs performed together for special church services. In early 1999, a special effort was made to form a choir that would perform in concert with the visiting St. Andrew's Brass Ensemble from Lubbecke, Germany. The concert was presented on April 5, 1999. Following the concert, our German guests invited the vocal choir and the community handbell choir (The Middleport Bell Tones) to visit Germany in September 2001. The disastrous events of September 11th postponed the trip, but it was rescheduled for September 2002. Seeing the countryside and living with the people was wonderful and singing and ringing in churches and castles, built before America was founded, was inspiring. Since then the MCC has had the pleasure of hosting and performing with our German friends in September 2005. We returned to Germany in August of 2008 and are currently preparing to host our German friends again during the summer of 2011.

Presently the choirs perform at local civic and religious functions throughout the year and present an annual Cantata to the community. Venturing into more secular music, the choirs in conjunction with the Lockport Community Band, have presented "Musical Memories" concerts at the Historic Lockport Palace Theater in October 2003, October 2004, November 2006 and most recently in November 2009, as well as a prisms concert in May of 2006 and 2009.

This Evening's Program

With a Voice of Singing	Martin Shaw
Ain't That Good News	arr. Moses Hogan
Over the Rainbow	arr. Mark Hayes
Don't Get Around Much Anymore	arr. Mark Hayes
Christ Arose	Lloyd Larson
Thy Will Be Done	Craig Courtney
A Blessing of Music	Joseph Martin

Intermission

Jubilate Deo <i>The Genesee Chorale</i>	Giovanni Gabrieli
The Battle of Jericho <i>The Genesee Chorale</i>	Moses Hogan
Be Thou My Vision <i>The Genesee Chorale</i> <i>Glennnda Dove, Flute</i>	arr. Phillip Stopford
Let Everything That Hath Breath <i>The Genesee Chorale & The Middleport Community Choir</i> <i>Fran Thomas, Soloist</i>	Jeffrey L. Ames
Make Our Garden Grow <i>The Genesee Chorale & The Middleport Community Choir</i>	Leonard Bernstein
Soon Ah Will Be Done <i>The Genesee Chorale & The Middleport Community Choir</i>	William Dawson
Battle Hymn of the Republic <i>The Genesee Chorale & The Middleport Community Choir</i>	Peter J. Wilhousky

Program Notes

With a Voice of Singing

This joyous work is a choral classic that is appropriate for any festive occasion. This anthem quotes Vaughan Williams's *For All the Saints*. It has become a universal favorite of choirs and an important piece in standard choral literature.

Ain't That Good News

This dynamic and creative arrangement is from the pen of Moses Hogan. Hogan's contemporary setting of spirituals, original compositions and other works have been revered by audiences and praised by critics from the New York Times and Gramophone magazine. They have become staples in the repertoires of high school, college, church, community and professional choirs worldwide.

Over the Rainbow

Over the Rainbow (often referred to as *Somewhere over the Rainbow*) is a classic ballad song with music by Harold Arlen and lyrics by E.Y. Harburg. It was written for the movie *The Wizard of Oz*, and was sung by Judy Garland in that movie. Over time it would become Garland's signature song. Harold Arlen is a songwriter few people can recall. And on Pratt Street in Buffalo, there's nothing in the place where he grew up to remind you that he was from Buffalo, or what it was that he gave to the world. Harold Arlen was born Hyman Arluck in 1905. The son of a cantor at an East Side Buffalo synagogue, he grew up in a changing neighborhood just off William Street. Harold Arlen never quite knew how he did what he did. He wrote *Over the Rainbow* sitting in his car in front of Schwab's Drugstore in Hollywood. "I just took out my pen and put down what you now know as *Over the Rainbow*," he said in a 1940's-era filmed interview. The song won an Academy Award for the 1939 film "The Wizard of Oz." It was recently named the Best Song of the Century by the Recording Industry Association of America.

Don't Get Around Much Anymore

Don't Get Around Much Anymore is a jazz standard with music by Duke Ellington and lyrics by Bob Russell. The tune was originally titled *Never No Lament* and was first recorded by Ellington in 1940 as a big band instrumental. Russell's lyrics and the new title were added in 1942.

Program Notes (cont'd.)

Christ Arose

“Up from the Grave He Arose” serves as the focal point of this triumphant offering. Easter morning is brought forth in splendid song and a driving accompaniment.

Thy Will Be Done

Unquestionably dramatic, this is a stunning anthem.

Our cup is filled with darkness.

Our cup is filled with death.

Christ took our cup and drank it,

And gave us life,

And gave us hope,

Gave us Himself.

My Father, let this cup pass from me.

Yet not my will, O Lord,

But Thine be done.

In blackest night we hear Him in dark Gethsemane.

Pleading with the Father for one more way,

For one more hope,

For one more day.

Then they took our Savior.

And led Him to a tree;

And there they broke His body,

Poured out His life,

Put Him to death to rise again!

A Blessing of Music

This new benediction by Joseph Martin unfolds gradually, revealing many beautiful layers of sound and meaning.

Program Notes (cont'd.)

Jubilate Deo

Jubilate Deo is a sacred symphony that was first published in Gabrieli's *Sacrae Symphoniae*, Venice, 1597. Many of the motets in this piece were written for civic and religious ceremonies, full of pomp and splendor evident in Bellini's painting of the Procession in the Piazza San Marco. Written for eight-part chorus of mixed voices, this piece demonstrates Gabrieli's strategy of playing off against each other choirs of unequal and varying weight. The constantly shifting division and subdivision of choirs and the complex textures of antiphonal duets, trios and quartets challenges each individual singer's ability to understand his role in the grand scheme of things. *Jubilate Deo* represents at once a crowning achievement of the Renaissance and a prophetic prologue to the Baroque. Based on Psalm 99, the text of the piece "rejoices in the Lord" and "serves the Lord with gladness."

The Battle of Jericho

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana on March 13, 1957, Moses George Hogan was a pianist, conductor, and arranger of international renown. Hogan was appointed artist in residence at Dillard University in New Orleans in 1993 and served as artistic director of the internationally acclaimed Moses Hogan Chorale. The chorale evolved as an outgrowth of the New World ensemble organized by Hogan when he began his exploration of the choral music idiom in 1980. The chorale electrified audiences in the finest and most prestigious concert halls at home and abroad, ranging from Washington, DC's John F. Kennedy Center to the famed Sydney Opera House in Australia. The Chorale's high musical standards and unique repertoire consistently elicited praise from critics worldwide. In the final years of his life, Mr. Hogan became increasingly in-demand internationally as an arranger, conductor and clinician. Hogan's contemporary setting of spirituals, original compositions and other works have been revered by audiences and praised by critics from the New York Times and Gramophone magazine. They have become staples in the repertoires of high school, college, church, community and professional choirs worldwide. *The Battle of Jericho* is one of Hogan's seventy published works. This lively, impassioned composition has challenged choirs and entertained audiences over the years.

Program Notes (cont'd.)

Be Thou My Vision

A traditional Irish melody, this piece is arranged by Philip Stopford and includes a beautiful flute accompaniment. The original old Irish text, *Rop tu mo Baile*, is attributed to Dallan Forgaill in the 6th century. The text had been part of the Irish monastic tradition for centuries before its setting to the tune; therefore, before it became an actual hymn. With its heartfelt poetry and moving melody, this piece beautifully expresses the desires of the Christian heart.

Let Everything That Hath Breath

An exuberant celebration set within the traditional gospel style, this piece belongs to The Anton Armstrong Choral Series of multi-cultural choral music. Like traditional gospel music, this piece fulfills its purpose to uplift the spirit and hearts of all who hear. The text within this piece is taken from several Psalms and seeks to “Magnify the Lord and exalt His name.”

Make Our Garden Grow

Make Our Garden Grow is taken from Bernstein's operetta *Candide* with lyrics by Richard Wilbur. *Candide* is based on a classic satire by Enlightenment philosopher Voltaire, who uses the text to poke fun at just about everything, including philosophy, literature and religion of his time. The choral arrangement is an absolutely amazing, thrilling and challenging piece of music to sing. The message of the text is that in life we should make the best of our world and our lives; the responsibility lies with us to beautify and enrich our lives and our world.

Soon Ah Will Be Done

African-American composer, musician and educator William Dawson composed and arranged a number of choral works based on spirituals. His arrangements of traditional African-American spirituals are widely published and performed in the United States. Most listeners will be able to easily identify with this passionate composition.

Battle Hymn of the Republic

The Wilhousky setting of this 19th century hymn is possibly the most heartfelt musical pronouncement of American patriotism. Divisi sections in all parts are accessible and still richly expressive with harmonic colors and sweeping dynamic contrasts. Emotional and highly effective, it is a truly magnificent setting and the one chosen most often by U.S. military ensembles.

A Choral Invitational

**The Middleport Community Choir invites you
to a Choral Invitational
Saturday, October 23, 2010**

What is an invitational?

Much like an All-County or All-State Choral performance, an invitational is when a group of selected choirs and individuals prepare the same music, and then join together for an all day rehearsal, followed by an evening performance. The Invitational brings communities together in one voice.

Each group that participates will also have the opportunity to perform 1-2 songs independently, with their own director and accompanist if they desire.

The majority of the performance, however, will consist of the complete ensemble with the guest conductor, R. Douglas Helvering.

We would love for you and/or your choral group to join us!

A Summary of the Day:

9:00AM-Noon	Rehearse together
Noon-1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM-3:00 PM	Rehearse together again
3:00-5:30 PM	Choirs Allotted time to rehearse on their own
7:00 PM	Evening Performance

Where:

Royalton-Hartland High School Auditorium
54 State Street
Middleport, New York 14105

Costs:

Music for the invitational will be chosen by the guest conductor. The only financial commitment we ask of you is that you purchase the sheet music. All participants will be notified of musical selections by the end of May 2010.

REGISTER FOR FREE AT: www.MiddleportCommunityChoir.com

Glennnda Dove

Glennnda Dove attended the Eastman School of Music where she studied with Joseph Mariano. She also attended the Royal College of Music in London, England, on full scholarship where she studied with John Francis and received an Associate Diploma. She currently teaches at the State University at Geneseo, Rochester Institute of Technology, and the Hochstein School of Music and Dance, where she has been a faculty member for 32 years. She performs with numerous Rochester groups, including the Rochester Chamber Orchestra, The Rochester Oratorio Society, the Gregory Kunde Chorale and the Equinox Symphony. She has traveled as a clinician, flute choir director and performer.

Thank You

Our Guest Performers - The Genesee Chorale & Glennnda Dove

Diane Ohlson - for donating her time and talents to create our flyers and program covers

Ric Jones & Katrina Karas - for their efforts in creating the program booklet

The Hartland Bible Church - for opening their doors and allowing us to perform in this beautiful church.

Important Upcoming Dates

Saturday May 8, 2010

Orchard Manor

Medina, NY

2:00PM

A Choral Invitational

Guest Conductor: R. Douglas Helvering

Royalton-Hartland High School Auditorium

54 State Street

Middleport, New York 14105

Begins at 9:00AM

Performance at 7:00PM