

Fall 2024

Dear Friends:

Welcome to our 2024-2025 season!

After a grueling hot and humid summer, Fall is finally here and the New England Chamber Choir (NECC) returns with a couple of changes.

First of all, I have assumed the position of president of NECC, and would like to take this opportunity to thank Anita Duffy for her 13 years of hard work guiding us with her capable hands. We all wish her good health, happiness, and a nice nap! Next we have found a new rehearsal home at Bethany Lutheran Church in Cromwell. They have welcomed us and we look forward to our new interaction.

We are delighted to offer the following performances this Christmastide:

***Handel's Messiah*** (Christmas portion)

Sunday, **December 1**, 2024 at 4 p.m. in the Haddam Neck Congregational Church, 408 Quarry Hill Rd, East Hampton.

***Music for Christmas XLIX***

Following Mr. Donohue's tradition of presenting Christmas music through the centuries, this year's concert consists of chants, joyful hymns, and magnificent choral writing by composers including Lassus, Schütz, Silcher, Vaughn Williams, Victoria, and 2 works by our Maestro Richard Wm Donohue.

Sunday, **December 8**, 2024 at 4 p.m. at Columbia Congregational Church, 325 Route 87, Columbia

Sunday, **December 15**, 2024 at 4 p.m. at Saint John Catholic Church, 19 St. John Square, Middletown

***Christmas Carol Sing***

A mix of ensemble selections by the choir and Christmas carols sung by the audience.

Tuesday, **December 17**, 2024 at 7pm at Covenant Living of Cromwell

Friday, **December 21**, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam,  
52 Middle Haddam Rd, Middle Haddam

The New England Chamber Choir, like music organizations nationwide, has not escaped the economic downturn. Individuals have cut back on discretionary spending and there are no guarantees of grants or corporate support. This year we are the grateful recipients of the Sonja Pascale grant from a private donor.

As we embark on our season, we need your support. We have never sold tickets or charged concert admission. We believe it is important that everyone has access to truly great, live music on a regular basis. We manage with a very small, all volunteer board, but we can't do it alone. Over 90% of our funding comes from the generosity of individual donors, many of whom have been with us for decades. We exist today not because of our strength and perseverance, but because we have received continuous support from all of you, our wonderful audience members. Your contributions have let us not only survive but grow and evolve. Today I ask you to please consider making a gift so that we may continue to present works that stimulate the intellect and reach deep within the soul. The New England Chamber Choir is a nonprofit 501(c)-3 organization and we welcome your tax deductible gift in any amount. An envelope and donation slip is enclosed for your convenience.

With best regards,

Lynn Westling  
President