



FDCS CHORAL SOCIETY

Bringing Choral Masterworks to Life Since 1968

2025-2026 Concert Season

Sunday, March 8, 2026

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of American Independence
with Jive for Five! brass quintet and string ensemble
3 pm, Decker Auditorium
1 Triton Circle, ICCC campus, Fort Dodge

Sunday, May 10, 2026

Music from the big screen
3 pm, Historic Phillips Auditorium
1015 5th Ave N, Fort Dodge

Choral Passages Vol. 36, No. 4, February 2026



FROM THE PODIUM

Jacob Pedersen, Artistic Director

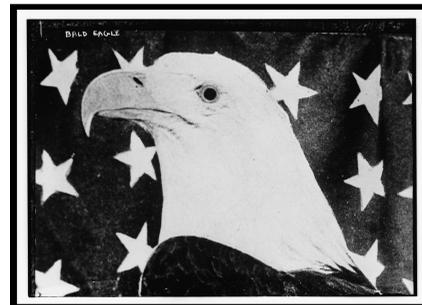
If only we were able to have this concert on July 4th, my favorite holiday. During that day, I love nothing more than to drop everything that is going on and spend time celebrating with friends

or family. My celebration is never static. I have gone on road trips, watched community band performances of “Stars and Stripes Forever,” gone on a Wisconsin wine tour, played yard games in my neighbor’s backyard, or grilled burgers and brats with family. Of course, no matter where I am on that day, I will be wearing something gaudy featuring red, white, and blue.

The day allows me to forget everything. I mentally check out and live in the moment, all while reflecting on our rich history – the men and women who have fought for our independence, and how amazing our history is even with all the goods and bads, the ups, and downs. Our music for this concert, a celebration of 250 years of independence, will explore works that hold significant value to the United States and show a diverse history of literature through those years.

We welcome Jive for Five! back to this concert and are lucky to have them perform. We also will welcome Rollie Jensen and Shari Lehman to add percussion and piano textures to our performance. We hope to see you in Decker Auditorium after a long hiatus from Iowa Central. Thank you to the board for your continued support, and the community for supporting and attending our concerts. Thank you to all the choir members for their continued comradery and beautiful music.

If you are interested in singing with us for our final concert of the season, we look forward to seeing you at 7:00pm on March 9th, at Grace Lutheran Church, 211 S 9th St, Fort Dodge.



2025-2026 FDCS Board

- President ... Mark Andrew
- Vice President ... Tim Hanneman
- Secretary ... Charlton Pendry
- Treasurer ... Alec Pendry
- At Large ... Lynda Mumm
- ... Sean O'Connor
- ... Delaney Schara
- ... Al Yungclas
- Ex Officio ... Jacob Pedersen



On July 4, 2026, America will celebrate 250 years of American Independence that began with a single sheet of parchment – the Declaration of Independence. The Declaration was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, declaring the thirteen American colonies independent from Great Britain, though the official signing by most delegates happened later, primarily on August 2, 1776. The original document is on public display in the Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom at the National Archives Museum in Washington DC, alongside the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. When it was moved to a more-protective case in 2001, the archivers wrote: The condition of the parchment Declaration of Independence is a sign of the place it has held in the hearts of many Americans. Years of public display have faded and worn this treasured document.

The Declaration of Independence contains powerful ideas on which our government was founded: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

LOVE TO SING? PURSUE HAPPINESS!

First rehearsal for our May 10 concert:

March 9, 7 - 9 pm, Grace Lutheran
printable rehearsal schedule at:
fdchoralsociety.org/news



Jive for Five!

Once again we will be collaborating with one of our favorite groups, Jive for Five!, for our celebration of the 250th anniversary of American Independence. Jive

for Five! is a renowned brass quintet of superior music educators and performers from Fort Dodge, Humboldt and Belmond. From classical to jazz to rock — they do it all, and we have so much fun making music with them. Join us!

Tim Miller, trumpet Dan Cassady, trombone
Dave Swaroff, trumpet Paul Bloomquist, tuba
Kathy Yoakam, French horn



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fort Dodge, IA
Permit 4

FDCS Scholarships Now Open

Applications are now being accepted for \$1,500 Fort Dodge Choral Society Scholarships for the 2026-2027 school year. Applicants must be college students majoring in vocal music, performance, or education, with a sophomore, junior, or senior status by the beginning of the award year – Fall 2026. To be eligible, applicants must be either: (1) attending an Iowa community college, college, or university, presently and during the award year, or (2) students from the Fort Dodge area attending any college or university. Students who have received two FDCS scholarships are not eligible to re-apply.

Applications are available:

- * on our website: fdchoralsociety.org/scholarships,
- * through e-mail to: fdcscholar@gmail.com, or
- * by sending a self-addressed envelope to Scholarship Committee, 1216 1st St, Webster City, IA 50595

Applications & all supporting materials must be postmarked, emailed, or hand-delivered to the committee address by April 15, 2026. ~~ Stephanie Hill, Scholarship Chair

Fort Dodge Fine Arts Association
on behalf of
Fort Dodge Choral Society
824 N 8th St
Fort Dodge, IA 50501



Fort Dodge Choral Society
presents
**JOURNEY THROUGH THE
MUSIC OF OUR HISTORY**
Celebrating Our Nation's 250th Anniversary

**Sun. March 8, 2026
3:00PM**

Decker Auditorium
1 Triton Circle, Fort Dodge
Adults \$12 • Students Free

check out our facebook

Choral Passages

Volume 36, Number 4 February 2026

Choral Passages is the official newsletter of Fort Dodge Choral Society, published 5 times per year to inform members of the activities and concerns of the Society. Subscriptions are free by sending your name, address and phone number to:

824 N 8th St
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
Or by calling (515) 576-0718
Or email: fdchoralsociety@gmail.com



Follow us on
Facebook

Newsletter by
Charlton Pendry

fdchoralsociety.org
webmaster: Collin Ellsbury