

the  
women's  
chorus of dallas

*presents*

*Voices  
of  
Women*

In Partnership With  
Texas Woman's University Concert Choir  
Dallas Black Dance Theatre: Encore!

Moody Performance Hall

March 31st, 2026

# Welcome to the Voices of Women!

*A message from Melinda Imthurn, Artistic Director of TWCD*

This concert is special to me because it creates community around celebrating women in music, epitomizing the mission of The Women's Chorus of Dallas.

It's not often that you see a concert program comprised completely of music by women composers, although it is often that you see a concert program completely devoid of women composers! That was the impetus for me starting the Voices of Women concert over a decade ago. It has served as a celebration of women composers every year since then. Through performing and commissioning new music for these concerts, we have given exposure and support to many new voices.

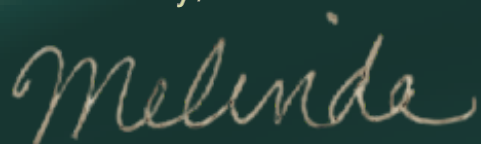
Since our first Voices of Women, finding music by women has become easier - I believe that Voices of Women had a little part in moving things in that direction.

Tonight, we mark ten years of partnering with the Concert Choir from Texas Woman's University and their amazing conductor, Dr. Joni Jensen. Having a top-notch collegiate treble chorus nearby creates a great opportunity for us to enjoy making music together. I know you will be wowed by both the TWU choir alone as well as the incredible sound of our two choirs together.

Tonight is also the first time we welcome student singers from both Dallas College and Dallas ISD high schools. It is a joy it is to sing with them. Creating a community of singers from age fourteen to eighty shows that singing is truly a lifelong endeavor!

And we also thank you, the audience, for joining us in this celebration. Above all, music is meant to be shared. I hope you enjoy this fun and varied program tonight!

Sincerely,



Melinda



Voices of Women 2026 is part of TWCD's 2025 - 2026 season.

Learn more about TWCD and our remaining performances [on our website](#).

The Women's Chorus of Dallas promotes the strength, diversity, and empowerment of women by performing high quality music to entertain, inspire, and serve the community. United in our mission to be an integral part of the community to inspire the souls, touch the hearts, and impact the lives of all who come to hear us.

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# Voices of Women - The Music

## The Women's Chorus of Dallas

Melinda Imthurn, *conductor* | Timothy Sanchez, *pianist* | Hyunjung Kim, *cello* | Bree Hill, *percussion*

Turning Tide.....Emily Drum

American Prophecy.....B.E. Boykin

Inception

Balance

Roots

Featuring Dallas Black Dance Theatre: Encore!

TāReKiŦa.....Reena Esmail

## Something Extra, directed by Timothy Sanchez

Across the Sea.....Heather Masse (of the Wailin Jennys)

## Texas Woman's University Concert Choir

Joni Jensen, *conductor* | Gyuwan Kim, *pianist*

Fire.....Katarina Gimon

Rachel Braunschweig, *percussion*

Truth.....Andrea Ramsey

Jessie Lucas, *percussion*

Anatole.....Joni Jensen

Rachel Braunschweig, Jessie Lucas, Hannah Rhodes, Three Smith, *percussion*

Itken pois.....Anna-Mari Kähärä

Kelicia Zapata, *soloist*

Paige Gurnsey, Erin Mayfield, *percussion*

## The Women's Chorus of Dallas & Texas Woman's University Concert Choir

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing.....Andrea Ramsey

Kâtibim.....Traditional Turkish, arr. Joni Jensen

Still I Rise.....Rosephanye Powell

Alyssa Kinsey, Jessie Lucas, Rachel Mareth, Chelcie Smith, *soloists*

Joined by Dallas College and Dallas ISD singers

# Voices of Women - Inside The Music

Turning Tide.....Emily Drum  
*(World premiere, commissioned by TWCD)*

*From the composer: In searching for hope during a time of chaos, I turned to the ocean waves before me. In their constant motion, I was reminded that the pendulum of humanity is always swinging, just as the tides are always turning.*

American Prophecy.....B.E. Boykin  
*American Prophecy is a choral cycle that explores the meaning of life and death.*

*From the composer: The prophecy is American in terms of a legacy of resilience. It is an ability to persevere past what has aimed to silence or kill us, particularly in terms of Black Americans and Indigenous peoples. The American Prophecy is fulfilled by who will follow us and continue to change the world.*

Inception  
*This movement includes busy percussion parts, reminiscent of stones and bones of the earth. The voices gently duet, then divide into a trio, "growing in broken spaces," as the text proclaims.*

Balance  
*Set in a spirit of contemplation. The choir's proclamation of truth repeats like a mantra until concluding with the Yoruba word "Asé," the divine power that initiates everything into being.*

Roots  
*This movement centers on our legacy for survival, inherited from our ancestors. There's a vision to survive, prosper, and push us into a future of our making. Our souls are a ledger of what and how we've survived collectively, who taught us.*

TāReKiṬa.....Reena Esmail  
*TaReKiTa was written by the composer as a gift to the Urban Voices Project, a Los Angeles choir of unhoused people living in Skid Row. It is based on sounds the Indian drum, the tabla, makes, called "bols" — onomatopoeic sounds that imitate the sound of the drum.*

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing.....Andrea Ramsey  
*Let all the World in Every Corner Sing is a wonderful celebration in music, whose rhythmic surprises keep it exciting throughout.*

# Voices of Women - Inside The Music

Kâtibim.....Traditional Turkish, arr. Joni Jensen

*Translation of lyrics as follows:*

*On the way to Üsküdar, rain  
poured down. My clerk's frock coat  
is long, with its skirt muddled*

*It seems the clerk just woke up,  
his eyes are languid.  
The clerk belongs to me, I belong to the clerk,  
what is it to others?  
How handsome my clerk looks  
with starched shirts!*

*On the way to Üsküdar, I found  
a handkerchief. I filled the handkerchief  
with Turkish delight.*

*As I was looking for my clerk, I found him  
next to me. The clerk belongs to me, I belong  
to the clerk, what is it to others? How  
handsome my clerk looks with starched shirts!*

Still I Rise.....Rosephanye Powell

*Inspired by the text of the Maya Angelou poem of the same name, the composer wrote her own text  
before writing the music to this joyful piece.*

# THE WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS STAFF

## Meet Melinda Imthurn, TWCD's Artistic Director



Artistic Director Melinda Imthurn is in her 21st season as Artistic Director for The Women's Chorus of Dallas. Under her leadership, the Chorus has increased its performance of music by women composers, as well as the commissioning of new works, with a focus on stories that are less often heard. Melinda holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance and a Master of Music degree in Vocal Pedagogy from Texas Woman's University, with continued studies in Contemporary Commercial Music at Shenandoah

Conservatory and in Choral Music at University of North Texas. An accomplished singer, she has performed all over the DFW area and in solo recitals. Melinda is Professor of Music at Dallas College, directing the choir and coordinating vocal studies at the Eastfield Campus. In addition, she maintains a busy private vocal studio, specializing in voice rehabilitation. She is a frequent clinician and adjudicator for choruses and soloists and enjoys the role of mentor to many high school choir directors in Dallas ISD. As much as she cherishes her musical and educational endeavors, the most important roles Melinda currently serves are mother to a spectacular twelve-year-old, Victoria, and partner to her wonderful wife, Vanessa.

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## Meet Timothy Sanchez, Principal Accompanist and Director of TWCD's Something Extra ensemble

A graduate of the University of North Texas with two degrees in music theory and choral studies, principal accompanist Tim Sanchez joins us for his fourth season. In addition to his role as Principal Accompanist of TWCD and Director of the small ensemble, Something Extra, Tim also serves as the Director of Music Ministry for Westwind Church and as an Associate Pianist for the National Children's Chorus. He maintains an active recital schedule, collaborating with various voice types and instruments throughout the year.



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## Meet Faith Ptomey, General Manager for TWCD



General Manager Faith Ptomey is in her first season with The Women's Chorus of Dallas. She brings to the role a lifelong passion for music and a strong background in nonprofit operations, donor relations, and creative leadership. Faith holds a Bachelor of Arts in Worship Leadership from The King's University, graduating summa cum laude. In her work with the chorus, she oversees the operational systems that support and strengthen its artistic mission. Outside of her work with TWCD, Faith finds joy in music, meaningful conversations, and sharing life with friends over good food and coffee.

# TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY STAFF

## Meet Joni Jensen, TWU's Musical Director and Conducting Chair

Dr. Joni Jensen is the Director of Choral Activities and Associate Professor of Voice at Texas Woman's University (Denton, TX). She conducts two TWU choirs and teaches voice and conducting. She received her bachelor's degree in vocal performance and pedagogy and her master's degree in choral conducting from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. She received her DMA in choral conducting, minor in vocal performance, at the University of Arizona. Dr. Jensen studied under renowned conductors and arrangers Dr. Mack Wilberg, Dr. Ronald Staheli, and Dr. Bruce Chamberlain. Dr. Jensen has conducted numerous honor and festival choirs and serves as a choral clinician and adjudicator throughout the United States. She has most recently conducted all-state ensembles in



Oklahoma, Colorado, and Illinois. Under her direction, the TWU Concert Choir (women's chorus) has performed at the Southwest American Choral Directors Association (SWACDA) Conference, the National Collegiate Choral Association Conference (NCCO), the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) National Conference, and the Texas Music Educators' Association (TMEA) Conference in 2020. Dr. Jensen has several pieces published with Walton Music, including "El Vito," which was a Texas all-state piece in 2014. She is also the editor of a series at Hal Leonard for advanced women's choral music and has many pieces published there as well. Dr. Jensen serves as Musical Director and Conducting Chair for Millennial Choirs & Orchestras. Aside from her performing and teaching activities, she has research interests in vocal pedagogy in the choral setting, choral conducting technique, Baroque performance practice, women's chorus literature, and choral arranging.

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## Meet Gyuwan Kim, Principal Accompanist of TWU Concert Choir



Dr. Kim holds his Bachelor of Music (B.M.) degree in piano performance with a minor in violin performance from Kyung Hee University in Seoul, one of the most prestigious private universities in Korea, where he studied piano with Dr. Yung Hae Chun and violin with Professor Juwon Yuk. During his studies, he earned the Music Teacher Certificate and received the Dean's Award as the valedictorian. After graduating with his Bachelor's degree, he moved to the United States to attend the University of North Texas where he earned his Master of Music (M.M.) degree in piano performance with a related field in orchestra conducting and his Doctor

of Musical Arts (D.M.A.) degree in piano performance with a related field in wind conducting. While at the University of North Texas, he studied piano with Dr. Pamela Mia Paul, wind conducting with Professor Eugene Migliaro Corporon, and orchestra conducting with Dr. Clay Couturiaux. As a lifelong learner, he started viola studies with Professor Catherine Forbes in the Graduate Performance Certificate program at the University of Texas at Arlington as a recipient of the full scholarship after his doctoral studies in piano performance. While studying at UTA, he was offered a full-time graduate teaching assistant position, along with a full scholarship for the MM degree in viola performance. Dr. Kim was on the faculty of the Department of Music as a collaborative pianist at Midwestern State University from February 2019 to May 2021. Currently, he is the pianist of the Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and University Chorus, and he serves as the accompanist for the advanced conducting class at Texas Woman's University.

# ABOUT THE WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS

The Women's Chorus of Dallas promotes the strength, diversity, and empowerment of women by performing high quality music to entertain, inspire, and serve the community. United in our mission to be an integral part of the community to inspire the souls, touch the hearts, and impact the lives of all who come to hear us.

The Women's Chorus of Dallas is recognized as one of the nation's finest women's choruses. Founded in 1989 with an initial membership of 35, the Chorus has grown to a diverse group of 100+ members, performing 3 season concerts each year.

Artistic Director Melinda Imthurn has led the Chorus for 21 seasons, pioneering its move to the Dallas Arts District and many successful collaborations and outreach events.

The Chorus annually presents the Voices of Women event in March with area college and high school singers at Moody Performance Hall, and has performed onstage with Moira Smiley + VOCO, Hugh Jackman, Demi Lovato, Lesley Gore, and Victoria Clark, among others.

The Chorus also performs free outreach performances at local social service agencies, bringing the joy of live music to underserved members of the community.

Once the only chorus in Texas predominantly composed of gay women, TWCD is proud of its diverse and welcoming membership for all women, regardless of age, race, or sexual identity.

## HELP US BRING MUSIC TO OUR COMMUNITY

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, our mission to bring music to the community depends on ticket sales, individual contributions, and grant funding. You can help us keep going by making a tax-deductible donation, volunteering your time or services, advertising with us, or sponsoring an upcoming performance. Your gift of any amount keeps TWCD singing and serving the community!



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# ABOUT TEXAS WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR

The TWU Concert Choir is a select, auditioned choir that sings music written for women's voices drawn from the major periods of music. The concert choir has a long history of performances of choral masterworks, and has sung at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas and New York's Carnegie Hall. Participation is open by audition to all students, regardless of major.

## ABOUT DBDT: ENCORE!

Founded in September 2000 by Ann Williams, DBDT: Encore! began as a showcase for top Dallas Black Dance Academy students and evolved into a professional company of multi-ethnic artists from across the nation.

Encore! creates contemporary modern dance performances of the highest artistic quality while bridging cultures and reaching diverse communities. The company offers residencies including master classes, workshops, matinees, lecture-demonstrations, and full performances.

With a diverse repertoire including modern, jazz, African, lyrical and spiritual works, Encore! has performed works by both emerging and internationally recognized choreographers such as Baba Chuck Davis, Milton Myers, Christopher L. Huggins, and Katarzyna Skarpetowska.

The company has collaborated with prestigious organizations including The Dallas Symphony Orchestra, The Dallas Museum of Art, and The Dallas Opera's production of Show Boat. In 2022, they performed with QuestLove at the inaugural QuestLove's Hip Hop Brunch.

Beyond Dallas/Fort Worth, Encore! has performed throughout the United States and internationally at festivals in Canada, Mexico, and Chile, earning a distinguished global reputation.

# THE WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS SINGERS

## SOPRANO I

Alayna Thomas  
Anjali Sharma  
Carlee Cook  
Caroline Pearce  
Chelcie Smith \*  
Christine St. Pierre \*  
Emma Harris  
Kim Foster Fore  
Kirsten Sattler  
Kristin Pearce  
Leda Juengerman  
Lydia Miller  
Mary Diamond  
Mollie Slotter  
Monica Valdez  
Priyanka Thakker  
Susananne Daniels

## SOPRANO II

Ariel Wentworth\*  
Brittany Jones  
Crow Novari  
Esiri Tasker-Armstrong  
Gloria Brown

Grace Ford  
Kyra Solis-Beach  
Laura Morales  
Linda Abramson Evans  
Makalah Jessup \*  
Nikki Rodgers  
Rachel Williams  
Rowan Vasilenko  
Sara Negishi  
Scout Woodward  
Sophia Warner  
Susan Lewis  
Suzy Watson  
Vanessa Hatcher

## ALTO I

Alyssa Kinsey \*  
Andie Bernhardt  
Andrea Pickard \*  
Cathy Bryan  
Deborah Haynes \*  
Edie Fletcher  
Jessica Dobbs  
Lauren Daniel \*  
Maria Acon

Nancy Sanchez  
Nikita Sarin  
Penny Adams  
Sarah Martin  
Sarah Plaxco  
Sherrie Grunfeld  
Taylor Schumacher  
Victoria Dadebo

## ALTO II

Avery Hendrickson \*  
Carsen Walker \*  
Chancey Kendall  
Erin Roberts \*  
Evelyn Ontiveros  
Karen Swenson  
Kathryn North  
Kendall Neeley  
Kim Clarke  
Lynn Hollinger \*  
Norma Stroman  
Shannon Hall  
Tara Wyatt  
Theresa Rincker  
Vanessa Vazquez

\*MEMBERS OF SOMETHING EXTRA

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY  
CONCERT CHOIR  
**SINGERS**

**SOPRANO I**

Gregory, Charlotte  
Mayfield, Erin  
Ngeny, Ruth  
Ramirez, Abril  
Reed, Anastasia  
Rhodes, Hannah  
Richardson, Ava  
Scroggins, Kelsier

**SOPRANO II**

Cianciulli, Annabella  
Estrada, Stephanie  
Lucas, Jessie  
Makayabo, Stephanie-  
Grace  
Monge, Maya  
Parkhill, Clare  
Ramirez, Sofia  
Roycroft, Annabelle  
Wood, Andra  
Zapata, Kelicia

**ALTO I**

Belt, Presley  
Brittingham, Ava  
Dean, Taja  
Gurnsey, Paige  
Harris, Ellison  
Jones, Abigail  
Morales, Jasmin  
Peterson, Annika  
Smith, Layla  
Smith, Three  
Wade, Hailey  
Wiggins, Hayley  
Williams, Zoe

**ALTO II**

Braunschweig, Rachel  
Fristoe, Mabry  
Hostettler, Lucas  
Latham-Watson, Verity  
Mareth, Rachel  
Rivera, Belen  
White, Casey

DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATER:  
ENCORE!

# DANCERS & STAFF

## DANCERS

Akeia Fuqua

Baili Goer

Sydney Guine

Natalia Meza

Azya Warrick

Choreography: Christen Reyes

DALLAS COLLEGE EASTFIELD CAMPUS

# SINGERS & STAFF

## SINGERS

Arturo Amaya  
Mireyli Castillo  
Aaralyn Garcia  
Keila Hernandez  
Anna Schnacke  
Kalea Scott  
Xenia Villatoro

## SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND DESIGN

*Ahava Silkey-Jones, Vice Provost*

*Dr. Mitch McKay, Music Department Chair*

*Melinda Imthurn, Professor of Music*

DAVID W. CARTER HIGH SCHOOL

# SINGERS & STAFF

## SINGERS

Aziriah Jones

Maria Salgado

Maya Cross

Natalie Morales

## STAFF

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Stonie Arbuckle, *Fine Arts Administrator*

Yolanda Burton, *Fine Arts Department Chair*

Demetrius D. Ethley, *Teacher*

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CENTER HIGH SCHOOL  
**SINGERS & STAFF**

**SINGERS**

Abigail Gudino  
Ashley Alvarado  
Azaiah Nolan  
Emma Danz  
Essence Manue  
Karla Molina  
Lily Watson  
Reena Josela Suasin  
Victoria Johnson  
Zeniya Cullins

**STAFF**

Arnoldo Zuniga, *Principal*  
Angela West, *Principal*  
Devin DeCutler, *Director of Choir, Modern Band, Music Theory*

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Samantha LeBeau  
Sandra Greenman  
Shelly Sheridan  
Sue Sherrod & Jude  
Hammett  
Suzy Watson  
Taylor Schumacher  
Teresa Rodriguez  
Traci Stonum-Parker

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Membership: Tabitha Adams

Social: Chelsea Tomek

S1 Section Rep: Kim Foster Fore

S2 Section Rep: Esiri "Ace" Tasker-Armstrong

A1 Section Rep: Andie Bernhardt

A2 Section Rep: Lynn Hollinger

## SPECIAL THANK YOU!

### **Musicians**

Bree Hill, Percussion

Hyunjung Kim, Cello

### **Visuals**

Amy Polk

Erin Roberts

Mary Diamond

### **Production**

Avery Hendrickson

Rain Phillips

Dr. Joni Jensen and Texas Woman's  
University Concert Choir

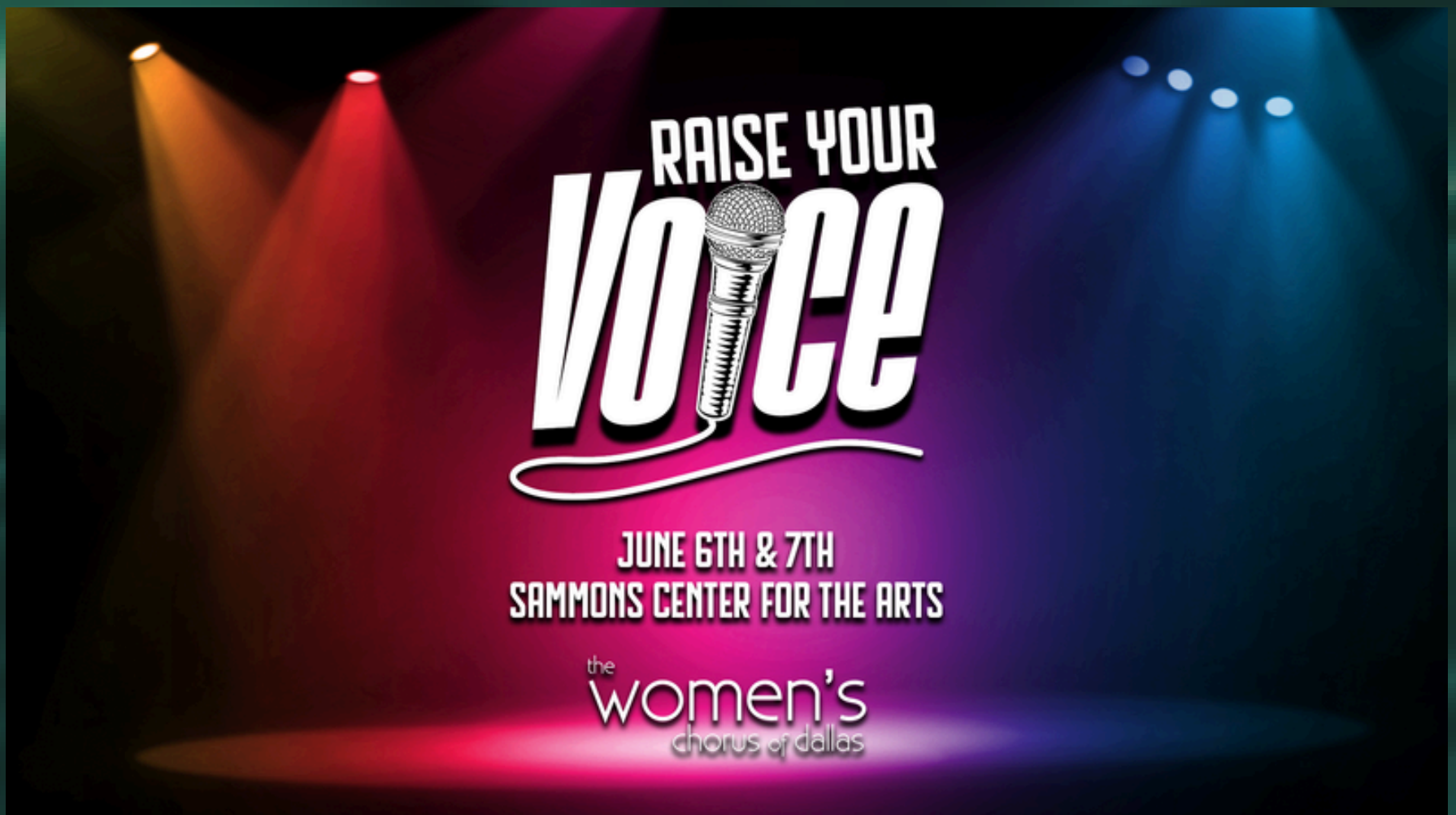
Christen Reyes and Dallas Black  
Dance Theatre: Encore!

Demetrius D. Ethley and David W.  
Carter High School singers

Devin DeCutler and Yvonne A. Ewell  
Townview Center High School singers

Students from Dallas College  
Eastfield Campus choral program

# SAVE THE DATE



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Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates, behind the scenes fun, audition opportunities, and information regarding our upcoming performances.

