



Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025, 7 p.m.

Hendricks Chapel
Syracuse University

HORNS&HARMONIES

Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025, 7 p.m.
Hendricks Chapel, Syracuse University

Featuring

Syracuse University Brass Ensemble

Dr. James T. Spencer, *Artistic Director*

Craig Elwood, *Co-director*

Corey Riley, *Assistant Director*

with

Spirit of Syracuse Chorus

Alicia Caron, *Co-director*

Sky Harris, *Co-director*

and

Harmonic Collective

Sky Harris, *Director*

Keith Edwards, *President*

special guests

Bruce Paulsen, *Emcee*

Jon Bergman, *Piano and Organ*



Be sure to watch last year's Horns and Harmonies concert on WCNY-TV on **Sunday, Dec. 21, 7 p.m.** and again on **Sunday, Dec. 28, 4 p.m.**

For broadcast information, see wcny.org or www.wcny.org/television/where-to-watch.

PRE-CONCERT

Caroling by Harmonic Collective, and
Piano music by Jon Bergman

1. OPENING MUSIC

A Christmas FanfareDorothy Gates

Processional Entrance:
Spirit of Syracuse Chorus and Harmonic Collective

Joy to the World (Antioch).....George Frideric Handel
arr. James T. Spender

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make
His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found*

*He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders and wonders of His love*



Audience is invited to join
in singing but please
remain seated.

2. WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Brian E. Konkol, Ph.D.

Vice President and Dean of Hendricks Chapel

3. HOLIDAY READING

Snow Geese..... Mary Oliver
Read by Barbara Soper

4. SPIRIT OF SYRACUSE CHORUS

Walking in the Air Howard Blake
arr. Emily Moriarty

White Winter Hymnal..... Robin Pecknold
arr. Alan Billingsley

We Need a Little Christmas Jerry Herman
arr. Nancy Bergman

5. SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY BRASS ENSEMBLE

The Guiding Star Ricardo Molla

Northern Lights Ola Gjeilo
arr. Craig R. Elwood

Minor Alterations..... David Lovrien
arr. Craig R. Elwood

6. HARMONIC COLLECTIVE CHORUS

Peace On Earth/Little Drummer Boy.....Grossman & Davis
arr. Gil Dubray

I Wonder As I WanderJohn Jacob Niles
arr. Darin Drown

7. SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY BRASS ENSEMBLE

White Christmas (Sing-a-long)Irving Berlin
arr. Philip Sparke

*I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten
And children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow*

*I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white*

*I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten
And children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow*

*I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white*



*Audience is invited to sing.
Please stand as you are able
and join in the singing.*

8. HOLIDAY READING

The Carolers Ed Skoog
Read by Laura Hard af Segerstad

9. SPIRIT OF SYRACUSE CHORUS

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas	Martin & Blane arr. Avis Fellows
Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer	Randy Brooks arr. Larry Wright
Why We Sing	Greg Gilpin arr. David Wright

10. SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY BRASS ENSEMBLE

Fire in the Blood	Paul Lovatt-Cooper
Advent Hymn	Traditional arr. Philip Rayment
Let the Bells Ring!	Traditional arr. Robert Buckley trans. Christopher Bond

11. FINALE *Combined Ensembles*

Christmas Festival	Leroy Anderson arr. James Wood
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Lyrics to Silent Night

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <i>Silent night! Holy night!</i>
<i>All is calm all is bright</i>
<i>Round yon virgin mother and child</i>
<i>Holy infant so tender and mild</i>
<i>Sleep in heavenly peace!</i> | 3. <i>Silent night! Holy night!</i>
<i>Son of God love's pure light</i>
<i>Radiant beams from thy holy face</i>
<i>With the dawn of redeeming grace,</i>
<i>Jesus, Lord at thy birth.</i> |
| 2. <i>Silent night! Holy night!</i>
<i>Shepherds quake at the sight</i>
<i>Glories stream from heaven afar</i>
<i>Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia</i>
<i>Christ the Saviour is born!</i> | 4. <i>Hummed Verse</i> |



Please join in singing “Silent Night” when directed, but remain seated.
For your safety, please remember to only tip the unlit candles.
Always keep lit candles upright.

BRASS ENSEMBLE PROGRAM NOTES

A Christmas Fanfare Dorothy Gates

Dorothy Gates gives the brass band a chance to shine—quite literally—through fanfare writing that sparkles brighter than your neighbor’s enthusiastic LED light display. Bold, festive, and wonderfully energetic, A Christmas Fanfare captures the excitement that builds as the holidays approach. It’s the musical equivalent of that moment when someone plugs in the tree and everything lights up at once... only far more elegant and meaningful.

Processional: Joy to the World Traditional

Few carols ring in the season with as much jubilation as Joy to the World. Whether you learned it in school or church, this melody is a cherished musical sign that the holidays have officially arrived. In brass band form, it arrives with extra brilliance and a hint of winter cheer—like opening your front door to find fresh snow.

The Guiding Star Ricardo Mollá

Ricardo Mollá offers a sweeping, cinematic soundscape inspired by the Star of Bethlehem—a beacon of hope, wonder, and faith. Luminous harmonies and soaring lines evoke the journey toward something profound, making the work an ideal reflection on the meaning and mystery of Christmastime. It’s music that points upward and outward, encouraging listeners to follow their own guiding star.

Northern Lights Ola Gjeilo

Gjeilo’s Northern Lights shimmers like a winter sky streaked with aurora—beautiful, serene, and slightly unreal. Originally written for voices, the brass-band version retains its icy elegance, unfolding in radiant chords that hover and drift. This is winter’s quiet magic captured in sound: atmospheric, glowing, and gently awe-inspiring.

Minor Alterations David Lovrien

Subtitled “Christmas Through the Looking Glass,” this clever twist on well-known carols takes familiar melodies and flips them into minor keys—with results that are by turns mysterious, mischievous, and delightfully off-kilter. Think of it as holiday music after a long night of wrapping presents: everything is recognizable, but nothing is quite where you left it. Lovrien’s witty writing keeps listeners guessing while celebrating the playful creativity of the season.

Audience Sing-a-long: White Christmas Irving Berlin, arr. Philip Sparke

Few melodies capture the cozy glow of the holiday season quite like Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*, a song so iconic it allegedly caused record stores in the 1940s to look as if they'd been hit by a blizzard—of customers, not weather. Philip Sparke's brass band arrangement wraps the tune in a warm, golden sheen, spotlighting the lyrical lines and lush harmonies that make this classic feel like a musical mug of hot cocoa. As the band plays, you may find yourself picturing gently falling snow, peaceful winter streets, or perhaps a holiday gathering where everyone insists they're "not cold at all" despite wearing three sweaters. Whether or not your Christmas ends up white, Sparke's setting guarantees at least a few minutes of seasonal glow.

Fire in the Blood Paul Lovatt-Cooper

Lovatt-Cooper is a young composer, conductor, and percussionist, best-known for his work with the Black Dyke Band. Raised by parents who were Salvationist officers, he was recently commissioned to write music for the 120th anniversary of The Salvation Army's International Staff Band. The result was "Fire in the Blood," premiered in 2011 in London's Royal Albert Hall. "Fire in the Blood" draws on three Salvation Army songs: "Come Let Us Sing for Joy" (a.k.a. Richard Phillips' setting of Psalm 95); Howard Davies' "Lord, You Know That We Love You"; and Laurie Klein's "I Love You, Lord." The title is based on The Salvation Army motto, "Blood and Fire," which refers to the blood of Jesus Christ (hence, the red kettles at Christmastime) and the fire of the Holy Spirit. The piece is typical of Lovatt-Cooper's contemporary writing style and deep, layered orchestration.

Advent Hymn..... Traditional, arr. Philip Rayment

This warm and reverent setting of a traditional Advent melody opens a window into the quiet anticipation of the season—right before the hectic bustle takes over and we all realize we've forgotten at least one gift. Philip Rayment's arrangement preserves the hymn's reflective beauty while giving the brass band room to glow with soft radiance. It's a musical pause, a breath of crisp winter air, inviting listeners into the serene beginning of the holiday journey.

Let the Bells Ring..... Traditional, arr. Robert Buckley, trans. Christopher Bond

A festive whirlwind of chiming motifs and bright fanfares, *Let the Bells Ring!* captures the uncontainable excitement of holiday celebrations. If you’ve ever heard church bells, sleigh bells, doorbells, and smartphone notifications all going off at once in December—this might feel familiar. Buckley’s joyous arrangement, brought to brass-band life through Bond’s translation, sends a jubilant peal through the hall and reminds us that sometimes the season really does ring out.

Christmas Festival and Silent Nightarr. by Leroy Anderson

More than 40 years after his death, Leroy Anderson’s music retains a timeless quality. This is especially true of *A Christmas Festival*, which he composed in 1950 for Arthur Fielder and the Boston Pops. Inspired mostly by popular songs and carols, Anderson created a concert overture that captured the “gaiety and spirit” of the season. Tonight, we continue with our long-standing tradition where the audience will be invited towards the end of this piece to join the SUBE and SoS in our reflective candle-lighting service and singing of *Silent Night*. *Silent Night* was first heard more than 190 years ago in a small church in the Austrian village of Oberndorf. The piece was sung on Christmas Eve by Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber—the church’s assistant pastor and choir director, respectively—with accompaniment provided by Mohr’s guitar. Although accounts vary about *Silent Night*’s origins, recent findings indicate that Mohr wrote the words in 1816, a year before he joined the Oberndorf church. On Dec. 24, 1818, Mohr visited the home of Gruber, a musician-school teacher who lived in nearby Arnsdorf, and asked him to create a simple setting of *Silent Night* for that evening’s Midnight Mass. Why Mohr wanted a new carol—not to mention one backed by guitar, instead of organ—is unclear, but within 20 years, the piece swept through Europe.

SPRIT OF SYRACUSE CHORUS PROGRAM NOTES

Walking in the AirHoward Blake, arr. Emily Moriarty

Originally featured in the animated classic *The Snowman*, Howard Blake's *Walking in the Air* is a hauntingly beautiful winter ballad. Emily Moriarty's arrangement highlights the piece's ethereal melodies and floating harmonies, evoking the wonder of a snowy night sky.

White Winter Hymnal.....Robin Pecknold, arr. Alan Billingsley

Fleet Foxes' *White Winter Hymnal* finds new life in Alan Billingsley's ethereal arrangement. The cascading melodies and hypnotic rhythms evoke the quiet beauty of a snowy landscape, with rich vocal harmonies creating a mesmerizing and atmospheric experience.

We Need a Little ChristmasJerry Herman, arr. Nancy Bergman

Bursting with holiday spirit, Jerry Herman's *We Need a Little Christmas* from *Mame* is a cheerful call to festive celebration. Nancy Bergman's vibrant arrangement brings crisp rhythms and bright harmonies to this beloved seasonal showtune.

Have Yourself a Merry Little ChristmasHugh Martin & Ralph Blane,
arr. Avis Fellows

A cherished holiday standard, *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* offers a poignant blend of nostalgia and warmth. Avis Fellows' arrangement embraces the song's quiet intimacy, letting its heartfelt message shine through lush vocal textures.

Grandma Got Run Over by a ReindeerRandy Brooks, arr. Larry Wright

This holiday novelty hit brings a dose of mischievous humor to the program. Larry Wright's playful arrangement leans into the campy storytelling and toe-tapping rhythms, delivering laughs and a lighthearted break from tradition.

Why We SingGreg Gilpin, arr. David Wright

Greg Gilpin's *Why We Sing* is a stirring anthem that reflects on the power of music to inspire, connect, and uplift. David Wright's arrangement builds from gentle beginnings to a powerful finale, celebrating the joy and unity found in choral singing.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY BRASS ENSEMBLE

subrass.syr.edu

Dr. James T. Spencer, Co-director **F**

Craig Elwood G'89, Co-director

Corey Riley, Assistant Director



Trumpets

Bert Bookhout

Ryan Coburn

David Driesen **F**

Craig Elwood G'89

Joe Falciatano

David Fleming

Gary La Point '79,

G'87, G'17, G'24 **F**

Jennifer Linney '83

Maddie McDonald **U**

Herman Matlock

Jeff Passetti '04 **S G**

Cori Patterson

Louise Prince

Scott Shyne

Lee Turner

Peter Vanable **F**

French Horns

Parker Goodrum **U**

Ben Johns '10

Benjamin Levy

Audrey Turner

Michael Sponsler **F**

Karen Wickert

Pat Votra

Trombones

Clifford H. Crain, Jr.

Joe Columbo

Jim D'Addario '80

James Greenwald

Doug Reicher G'78

Jon Rossi '03, G'05

Euphonium/Baritones

Eileen Allen

Mark Anderson

Maria Hare

Warren Lucas

Corey Riley

Tubas

Jon Bergman

Matthew Patterson

Matthew Rossi '02, G'04

Ray Sturge '80, G'87

Percussion

Mary Kasprzyk '03 **S**

Seth Nicoletti

Dickson Rothwell

Michael Tyszko L'15

F Faculty

S Staff

G Graduate student

U Undergraduate student



The **Syracuse University Brass Ensemble** (SUBE) features approximately 40 accomplished brass and percussion musicians, including faculty and staff from Syracuse University and SUNY Upstate Medical University, as well as musicians from across Central New York. The ensemble performs year-round, presenting about 20 concerts annually at venues on campus and throughout the region.

Performance highlights include the Great American Brass Band Festival in Danville, Kentucky, the Gettysburg Brass Band Festival, and many years of hosting the televised holiday concerts at Hendricks Chapel. The ensemble regularly performs at Syracuse University convocations, including commencement ceremonies for the College of Arts and Sciences and the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, and has played at inaugurations for Syracuse University and Le Moyne College.

SUBE's repertoire spans all major musical periods, and the ensemble frequently features new compositions commissioned from nationally recognized composers. Founded in 1987 and based in Hendricks Chapel, the group serves as Ensemble-in-Residence under the sponsorship of the Syracuse University College of Arts and Sciences. SUBE has premiered dozens of new compositions and arrangements, released multiple recordings, and made numerous television and radio appearances across New York State.



Dr. James T. Spencer, *Co-director*

Dr. James T. Spencer, co-director of the Syracuse University Brass Ensemble, is the Laura J. and L. Douglas Meredith Professor at Syracuse University. He began his studies at the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam and earned a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Iowa State University. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Virginia, he joined the Syracuse University faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Spencer is the founding executive director of the University's Forensic and National Security Sciences Institute and has served as associate dean of the college. He has published more than 90 scientific papers and composed or arranged over 60 musical works. He also performs with ensembles such as the Excelsior Cornet Band—New York's only professional Civil War reenactment brass band—and has served continuously since 1976 as music director of the Bethlehem Summer Music Festival.



Craig Elwood, *Co-director*

Craig Elwood, co-director of the Syracuse University Brass Ensemble, earned his bachelor's degree in music education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam and a master's degree in trumpet performance from Syracuse University in 1990. He taught instrumental music at all levels in the Central Square School District until retiring in 2018.

Throughout his career, Elwood served in leadership roles including president of the Oswego County Music Educators Association, the Mid-York Color Guard Circuit, and the New York State Field Band Conference, where he also acted as championship show coordinator. He was the NYSSMA state chair for marching band and served on the board of directors for the Central Winds. As an educator, he arranged music for his chamber ensemble program at P.V. Moore High School and has remained an active performer in the Central New York area.

In retirement, Elwood continues to perform with local groups, arrange music, usher at the JMA Wireless Dome, play golf, pursue woodworking, and spend time with his wife, Jeanette.



Corey Riley, *Assistant Director*

Corey Riley, assistant director of the Syracuse University Brass Ensemble, is the associate director of bands at Westhill Central Schools. He conducts the Symphonic Band and Jazz Ensemble and teaches brass lessons for grades 6-12, as well as high school music theory and studio music.

Riley graduated from The Ohio State University in 2010 with dual bachelor's degrees in music education and euphonium performance. While at OSU, he marched with The Best Damn Band in the Land and performed with the Ohio State University Wind Symphony under the direction of Dr. Russel Mikkelson.

Riley joined the Syracuse University Brass Ensemble in 2015 and considers it his first musical home in Syracuse, New York.



SPIRIT OF SYRACUSE CHORUS

spiritofsyracuse.com

Alicia Caron, Co-director

Sky Harris, Co-director



Tenors

Macenzie Bigness

Helen Bravi

Ashley Coggen

Melanie Kiehl

Donna Komrowski

Julie Sul

Judi Thomas

Denise Weinberger

Leads

Kathy Argiro

Samantha Barley

Aklima Beekham-Maharaj

Alicia Caron

Karla Chun

Beth Clark

Mary Connelly

Natasha Eberst

Monica Hansen

Karen Hartz

Mia Humphrey

Cindy Johnson

Amy Kemp

Amy Manley

Emma Martin

Julie Martin

Patsy Nash Jones

Rachel Nave

Jennifer Parke-Marriner

Gabi Reynolds

Paula Smith

Yvonne Smith

Barbara Soper

Meridith Styer

Kristina Valentino

Monica Zallo

Baritones

Hilda Blevins

Christina Carroll

Cynthia Foster

Cheryl Given

Laura Hard af Segerstad

Sunaina Kuhn

Melissa LaFlamme

Deanna McCay

Pat McMonagle

Jessica Montena

Laurie Orlando

Julie Pellegrino

Amanda Reynolds

Deb Saucke

Molly Scuderi

Heather Sheridan

Allison Strang

Cassia Suslik

Catrina Tulowiecki

Kathy Valentino

Paulette Young

Kathryn Zupal-Storrings

Basses

Margaret Barnhart

Patricia Bigelow

Lexi Bruening

Danielle Carter

Meghan Chiumento

Kay Crawford

Eileen Culotti

Jill Doss

Briana Goodwin-Haines

Sky Harris

Janet Harrison

Madison Humphrey

Erin Musumeci

Mary Hutchins

Evelyn Langenstein

Lori Manton

Jill McAndrew

Holly Reid

Natalie Roane

Lee Romanyk

Katie Sheerin

Heidi Shelley

Pamela Tracy

Cindy Tzetzis

Barbara Wright



Founded in 1957, the award-winning **Spirit of Syracuse** has been elevating the uniquely American art form of Barbershop singing for over 65 years! The chorus brings together singers each week, from every corner of Central New York, who love creating the electric ringing chords of 4-part a cappella harmony.

The Spirit of Syracuse Chorus is committed to the music education of singers of all ages, creating musical excellence in a warm, caring and supportive environment which encourages the personal growth and development of each member.

The Spirit of Syracuse Chorus is a proud chapter of Sweet Adelines International, a worldwide organization of singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education and performances. This independent, nonprofit music education association is one of the world's largest singing organizations.

Having recently returned from the Sweet Adelines International Contest in Kansas City, the chorus is currently ranked the 18th best SAI chorus out of more than 600 choruses worldwide! We welcome singers to join us any Tuesday evening and discover the unique thrill of barbershop harmony. Through our educational program you too can be singing your way to an adventure while creating new friends, new experiences, and new opportunities to grow.

**HARMONIC
COLLECTIVE**

harmonic-collective.com

Sky Harris, *Director*
Keith Edwards, *President*



Tenors

Rob Billings
Aaron Casper

Bill Farewell

Richard Harris

Leads

Dan Austin
Ben Casper

Gene Evans
Sagan Harris

Marty Olschewski
Alan Weinberger

Baritones

Rick Collins
Ken Figliozzi

Will Ferguson
Jack Lombardi

Ben May
Al Weitz

Basses

James Barnett
Edward Deaver
Antonio Devereaux

Keith Edwards
Dan Ferguson
Kevin Hemstreet-Grimmer

Dan LaCombe
David Mallen
Logan Stevens



Founded in 2017, **Harmonic Collective** is an award-winning barbershop chorus based in Liverpool, NY. As a proud chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society—one of the world's largest singing organizations—Harmonic Collective provides a home for tenor and bass vocalists to sing, learn, and build community at the highest musical level.

Having recently returned from the Barbershop Harmony Society International Contest in Cleveland, OH, the chorus is currently ranked 32nd in the world, out of more than 1,000 choruses worldwide!

Whether you're a seasoned performer or a newcomer to choral singing, Harmonic Collective welcomes all voice types and musical backgrounds. Join us any Sunday evening in Liverpool and experience the unique thrill of barbershop harmony.



SPECIAL GUESTS



Bruce Paulsen hosts WCNY-FM's Classic Choices live, 6-10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. He also hosts Concert Hall at 8 p.m. on Saturdays. With degrees in music and theatre, Bruce has performed with many of the great musicians of our time, including Luciano Pavarotti and Placido Domingo, and he brings more than thirty years performance experience to the microphone. Bruce sings with a number of local musical groups and has performed with the Syracuse Opera. He is also the "Voice of the Syracuse University Brass Ensemble."



Jon Bergman is a musician and engineer in Central New York. A Horseheads native, he graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 2016 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Now living in Camillus, he works as a project manager at Carrier Corporation and serves as Director of Music Ministries at the United Church of Fayetteville. He enjoys hiking, cycling, and mountain biking year-round.



THANK YOU

The performers wish to sincerely thank **Syracuse University**, **Chancellor Kent Syverud**, the **College of Arts and Sciences** and **Hendricks Chapel** for their on-going support.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Concert Artistic Director

James T. Spencer

Vice President and Dean, Hendricks Chapel

Rev. Dr. Brian E. Konkol

Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Behzad Mortazavi

Concert Committee Chair

Gary La Point

Audio Engineering

Patrick MacDougall

Audio Production

Mary Kasprzyk

Graphic Design

Jeff Passetti

Publicity Team

Sky Harris

Mary Kasprzyk

Jeff Passetti

Hendricks Chapel

Dara Harper

Alex Snow

