



ROGUE VALLEY
CHORALE

The mission of Rogue Valley Chorale is to inspire and enrich all members of our community through great choral music performed by choruses of all ages.

Rogue Valley Chorale Association Newsletter

ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE ASSOCIATION 2019-2020 CONCERT SEASON



MOZART'S REQUIEM IN D MINOR

Saturday, March 7, 2020, 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 8, 2020, 3:00 pm

Orchestra Sponsored by Chris Cauble and Barbara Johnson

The Rogue Valley Chorale, Rogue Valley Youth Ensemble, and South Medford

High School Chamber Choir present the hauntingly beautiful Requiem in D minor by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Schubert's Mass in G, accompanied by the RVC Chamber Ensemble with featured soloists. We dedicate this concert to the memory of Kathleen Thorsen, beloved Chorale singer.



ALL THAT JAZZ

Saturday, May 30, 2020, 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 31, 2020, 3:00 pm

Sponsored by Southern Oregon Subaru

The Rogue Valley Chorale is proud to join vocal forces with Kirby Shaw and the Jefferson State Choral Coalition,

featuring Kirby's musical arrangements and compositions and accompanied by a jazz combo.



Rogue Valley Youth Choruses present

GIVE THE WORLD A SONG

Saturday, May 16, 2020, 3:00 pm

Come hear these exceptional young singers as they celebrate the joy of singing together. Witnessing the outstanding Rogue Valley Youth Choruses singers is an experience no one should miss.

COMING IN SEASON 2020-2021



HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Saturday, December 5, 7:30 pm
Sunday, December 6, 3:00 pm

Sponsored by James Morrison Collier

The Chorale features Handel's *Messiah* with contemporary dance to present the holiday story as seen through the lens of cultures world-wide. The concert features the Jefferson Baroque Orchestra playing period instruments, and professional soloists.



CARMINA BURANA

Saturday, March 6, 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 7, 3:00 pm

Carmina Burana is based on 24 poems from the medieval satirical collection of poems. From the cries of a roast swan and the cruel turns of fate, to the joyful shouts of lovers, Carl

Orff's masterpiece is meant to be...fun.



WE ARE THE WORLD

Saturday, May 22, 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 23, 3:00 pm

The Chorale presents a celebration of the diverse cultural choral music from around the world... much of which will be shared by

RVC on its Summer 2021 tour to Eastern Canada.

Interested in joining the Chorale or Youth Choruses?

Contact us about auditioning at 541-414-8309 or email info@roguevalleychorale.org

CONCERT TICKET SALES

Rogue Valley Chorale concerts take place at the Collier Center's Craterian Theater. For tickets call **541-779-3000** or visit **craterian.org**

- Adults \$23 (\$5 off for early purchase) and \$16
- Students and children \$5
- Group sales and season passes, call the box office

Rogue Valley Youth Choruses concerts take place at North Medford High School in the Sjolund Auditorium. Tickets are available at the door.

- Adults \$10,
- Children \$5
- Family rate \$25 (immediate family only please)

Planning for Choral Excellence

By Michael Morris, Artistic Director



The Rogue Valley Chorale was founded in 1973 by Director Emeritus Lynn Sjolund. The goal from those early beginnings was to present excellent choral music to the general public in the Rogue Valley. RVC has contributed to the cultural atmosphere of Southern Oregon by providing audiences with exceptional classical

choral works, including Bach's St. Matthew Passion and Mass in B Minor, Mendelssohn's Elijah, the Requiems of Brahms, Mozart, and Faure, and many other major works.. In addition to major choral works, RVC has performed Broadway classics and the works of contemporary composers." Additionally, the Chorale is committed to showcasing the works of local and emerging artists and is proud to add to its repertoire by commissioning original compositions, such as the recent Aztec language *Origin of the Songs (Cucapuehcayotl)* by movie and concert composer Joseph Julian Gonzalez.

In addition to presenting a wide variety of programming, the Rogue Valley Chorale seeks and develops a collaborative spirit that engages other performing arts organizations in order to broaden the depth of artistic concept, experiential growth, and patron engagement. The 2019-20 season has been nicknamed the "season of collaboration" for this very reason. The Rogue Valley Chorale Association Youth Choruses' Cantare Chorus (grades 6-8) performed with RVC in the recent December concert, "Home for the Holidays". The RVCA Youth Ensemble (grades 9-12) and South Medford High School Chamber Choir will join RVC in the presentation of the iconic Mozart Requiem in D minor on March 7 & 8, 2020. And the May 30 & 31 concert, "All That Jazz," is a collaboration with the Jefferson State Choral Coalition and features the choral jazz arrangements and compositions of renowned arranger/composer Kirby Shaw.

The Rogue Valley Chorale's founding mandate to present a wide variety of musical styles is alive and well. We look forward to seeing you at the coming concerts and be on the lookout! Exciting plans are underway for the 2020-21 season that continues the Rogue Valley Chorale's remarkable heritage.

Spring Sing

Each Spring the Rogue Valley Chorale Association's Youth Choruses offers three concerts to schools in Southern Oregon. We provide buses so that schools need not incur travel expenses, making the concerts accessible to as many children as we can accommodate, which is roughly 3,000 students.

Spring Sing is unique in that it is a concert performed by children for their peers, and presents choral participation as an accessible activity requiring nothing more than a voice and a desire to sing.

We are immensely grateful to Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission and Jackson County Cultural Coalition for funding Spring Sing through generous grants. Funds make it possible for us to produce these wonderful concerts and hire busses to transport the students from their schools to the concert venue.

Rogue Valley Youth Choruses Enrich and Inspire

By Donna Barrett, President



Rogue Valley Chorale Association's Youth Choruses are committed to introducing young people to the joy of singing together, to exposing them to a rich and diverse repertoire of choral literature, to develop musicality, and to encourage the development of discipline necessary to

produce outstanding performances. We hope to instill a passion for singing that will last a lifetime.

The Youth Choruses was formed 37 years ago by Emerita Doris Sjolund with one chorus, and has since grown to include three choruses and well over 150 singers. The three Youth Choruses include Youth Ensemble, a mixed chorus made up of musically experienced young men and women of high school age, Cantare Chorus, which is made up of middle school aged singers, and Children's Chorus comprised of singers in grades three through five.

We are proud to have three exceptional directors as conductors and mentors for our young singers.



Pam Nordquist founded the Rogue Valley Youth Ensemble in 2002.

She received a master's degree in choral conducting at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Pam has taught elementary, middle and high school music and chorus and currently co-directs the choirs at South Medford High School. She is an active guest clinician/conductor

for middle school and high school choirs. She served as President of the American Choral Director's Association of Oregon.



The Cantare Chorus is directed by Shayne Flock. Shayne Flock grew up right here in the Rogue Valley. Starting in the Discovery Chorus, he sang in every Rogue Valley Youth Choir through high school. He earned his degree from Oregon State University and has been teaching music for the past 8 years, currently as choir director for Crater High School and Scenic Middle School.



Gerry Flock is an experienced Rogue Valley educator. After teaching music in local schools for 21 years, he began serving as an elementary school principal, currently at Lone Pine Elementary School. Mr. Flock has served as the Director of the Rogue Valley Children's Chorus since 2005. Additionally, Gerry sings with the Rogue Valley Chorale, and serves as an elder in his church. His wife, September, is a teacher and Past

President of the Rogue Valley Children's Chorus, as well as Past President of the Rogue Valley Youth Choruses Steering Committee. Gerry and September Flock have three sons, all of whom are involved with music.

We love to witness the progress of our young singers as they advance through the choruses. We are inspired every time we see them perform and are proud to have had a hand in inspiring the next generation of choral artists.

The Power of Collaboration

By Laura Rich, Executive Director



The power of collaboration lies in the ability of an organization to reach a profound level of achievement by working with others. When we collaborate, we attain radically better outcomes than if we play tug-of-war by trying to convince others that "my way is the only way." Rather, effective collaborators quickly discover a new energy that is bigger than the individual. Collaborations find power

in a communal brain, which enables a team of thinkers to form a collective intelligence.

My arts management experience was founded in music and dance companies that relied on collaborative practices. I have witnessed the power of a collaborative process and put my faith in the effectiveness of the communal brain. I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have landed in an organization that embraces collaborations. Artistic Director Michael Morris has used the collaborative process throughout his career in the arts and continues to do so with the Rogue Valley Chorale Association. Since he began as the Chorale's artistic leader, he has reached into our community for ideas, inspiration and talent, and the resulting art has been marvelous and exciting.

Looking ahead to next season's 2020 December concert we are once again embarking upon a collaborative project. We are engaging with Jefferson Baroque Orchestra and Polaris Dance Theater to create a collaborative project anchored in Handel's *Messiah*. Handel's iconic composition is the foundation upon which classic and contemporary will meet. Jefferson Baroque Orchestra will pay homage to Handel by presenting his music using period instrumentation that honors tradition. Polaris Dance Theater will interpret the Christmas Story using contemporary dance portrayed through the lens of cultures world-wide. Exceptional soloists will interact with the dancers in a dramatic presentation of this extraordinary work. And the 100 plus Chorale singers will provide the vocal power that will connect the performance elements to create a poignant holiday extravaganza.



The *Messiah* project embraces new art, and new and visionary ideas. The Rogue Valley is an artistically rich community that welcomes innovation, and the *Messiah* project aligns with the definition of innovative.

Collaboration is not a new concept, but it is one that can feel threatening to our Western notions of individuality and competition. But

putting our trust in others and becoming a member of a team is both exciting and rewarding. I leave you with a few of my favorite quotes about the power of collaboration:

Many ideas grow better when transplanted into another mind than the one where they sprang up. - Oliver Wendell Holmes

It takes two flints to make a fire. - Louisa May Alcott

Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work. - Vince Lombardi

No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it. - H.E. Luccock

If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants. - Isaac Newton

Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean. - Ryunosuke Satoro

The Very Musical Leggett Family

Over the decades the Rogue Valley Chorale Association has enjoyed welcoming families into the organization that share a passion for singing. Rebecca and Jeff Leggett, along with their children Jacob (age 17), Jillian (age 15), and Jayla (age 13), are a singing family. All five family members have been a part of RVCA. Jacob and Jillian sing in Youth Ensemble, Jayla is a Cantare singer (taking a break to play volleyball this season), Jeff and Rebecca sing with the Chorale and serve on the Youth



Choruses Steering Committee. Rebecca is also the soprano section manager for the Chorale and assists with Youth Choruses rehearsals. She is thrilled to sing with Jacob and Jillian during the Chorale's *Requiem* concert.

Jacob enjoys his new found Bass 2 range and revels in his ability to hit the 'really low notes.' He enjoys challenging Jeff on who can sing lower. Jacob says that choir allows him to feel free. It provides a sense of belonging and helps him realize that his voice matters.

Jillian loves music and wants to become a music teacher. In addition to singing, she plays flute in concert and pep band and marches trumpet for North Medford High School.

Jayla plays saxophone at Hedrick Middle School and sings alto.

Jeff and Rebecca both grew up singing. Jeff played coronet and baritone/sousaphone in school. Rebecca was born into a home surrounded by music. Her introduction to choral music began in elementary school with a teacher who gave her a solid foundation in music. She began taking voice lessons at the age of 12 and credits her voice teacher for giving her a passion for singing.

Jeff and Rebecca also sing in church. Their children have been exposed to a capella music since birth. Their home also offers music as a daily engagement. As parents, their children's love of music has been a blessing.

The Leggets believe that music is an essential part of a child's life that nurtures a sense of well-being. Membership in a choir provides a space that is safe and engaging, a place of belonging, an outlet for letting go of frustrations, especially for teens. 'When feeling in doubt, sing it out!'

Rebecca says that the Youth Choruses experience has been exceptional. "The staff have all been so encouraging and uplifting to us and our children. Jeff and I are so thankful to be able to share experiences with our children that have positive impact on their lives."



Rogue Valley Chorale Association

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Valerie Darby, Secretary
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To contact Rogue Valley Chorale Assoc.
Call us at 541-414-8309,
email info@roguevalleychorale.org
or visit www.roguevalleychorale.org

ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE ASSOCIATION STAFF

Michael Morris, Artistic Director
Laura Rich, Executive Director

*Rogue Valley Chorale Association is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization.
Donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. For information on making a
donation please contact us.*

CHORUS DIRECTORS

Michael Morris, Rogue Valley Chorale
Gerry Flock, Children's Chorus
Shayne Flock, Cantare Chorus
Pam Nordquist, Youth Ensemble
Pete Nordquist, Youth Ensemble Assistant Conductor

ACCOMPANISTS

Mikiko S. Petrucelli, Rogue Valley Chorale
Danika Locey, Children's Chorus, Youth Ensemble
Ian McCarty, Cantare Chorus

REHEARSAL ASSISTANTS

Sharon Dady, Children's Chorus
Ben Franklin, Children's Chorus
Marissa Carson, Children's Chorus
Eric Smith, Cantare Chorus
Cate Adams, Cantare Chorus
Marissa Gann, Youth Ensemble
Ralph Dady, Youth Ensemble

CHORUS MANAGERS

September Flock, Children's Chorus
Cate Adams, Cantare Chorus
Shawna Gann, Youth Ensemble



Rogue Valley Chorale Association
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