



Center for Fine  
and Performing Arts  
UNIVERSITY of WEST FLORIDA



Dr. Grier Williams  
School of Music  
UNIVERSITY of WEST FLORIDA

The **UWF Summer Festival Chorus** is the reemergence of a tradition begun at the University of West Florida in the early 1970s. While under the direction of Dr. G. Robert Chancellor, and, later, Dr. Joseph T. Rawlins, the university choirs collaborated with the New Orleans Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra in an effort to bring choral and symphonic masterworks to the Pensacola area. Works such as *King David*, *Carmina Burana*, *Hora Novissima*, *Elijah*, and the *Symphony of Psalms* were performed as part of this summer series. The chorus today differs in that it is now a multi-generational, community effort, bringing together singers of all levels and backgrounds. The quality of the music-making, however, remains the same. Summer Festival 2.0 claims the following accomplishments:

**2017** a new wind band transcription of the Fauré *Requiem*, and involved over 90 performers

**2018** a performance of Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*, with soloists from the community

**2019** shorter works like John Rutter's *Gloria* and selections from *Carmina Burana* and *Elijah*

**2021** modified format, 2-day event with video release performances

**2022** a performance of Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and a June Christmas concert

We invite you to be a part of this group in future seasons. More info available at [www.uwfsingers.com](http://www.uwfsingers.com)

presents

## Stories We Tell

featuring the

### UWF Summer Festival Chorus Hannah Mills, Chorus Manager

#### **SOPRANO**

Evelyn Aguirre  
Tatiana Becker  
Katy Beers  
Tina Beshers  
Gabrielle Carley  
Gwynedd Chadwick  
Juliana Joy Child  
Ann Dixon  
Kaylee Haslam  
Laura Hernandez  
Mary Holway  
Kyndall Jefferson  
Deborah Kuhr  
Michelle Millet  
Hannah Mills  
Kayla Neely  
Carla Quinn  
Anne Royappa  
Erica Scharrón  
Tatyana Vlasova  
Veronica Zaldana

#### **TENOR**

Co-Co Cormartie  
Joshua Fortune  
Jade Perry  
Andrei Tyler Reynoso  
Storm Robbins  
Zander Smith  
Ian Stephens  
Gregory Watson

#### **BASS**

Patrick Barber  
Tom Buck  
Bill DuBois  
Mark Gaddy  
Peter Gram  
John Harnish  
Sean House  
Phil Igney  
Mike Nichols  
Michael Richardson

#### **ALTO**

Courtney Benaquis  
Ashley Bohannon  
Bonnie B. Brandon  
Nyasha Brice  
Jade Christian  
Florence B. De Bardeleben  
Brooke Haytack  
Lisa Hilliard  
Margaret Johnson  
Hyunjoo Kim  
Barbara Lewis  
Erin Nolan  
Leigh Proctor  
Honya Richbourg  
Elizabeth Royappa  
Natalie Scharrón  
Audrey Stemen  
LaJuna K. Washington

## UWF Summer Festival Chorus

**Dr. Peter Steenblik, Director**  
**Meredith Stemen, Piano**

June 24, 2023  
Rofls Music Hall  
7:30 pm

# Summer Festival Chorus: Stories We Tell

June 24, 2023, 7:30 pm  
Rolfs Music Hall

The Word Was God (1996) ..... Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)

My God is a Rock (1958) ..... Traditional Spiritual  
Corey McKern, baritone                      arr. Alice Parker & Robert Shaw

STORY INTERLUDE

Arirang (2009) ..... Korean Folksong  
Ramel Price, violin                              arr. Sonja Poorman

Fair Ines (2013) ..... Eric William Barnum (b. 1979)  
Nyasha Brice, djembe  
Gwynedd Chadwick, Laura Hernandez, Mary Holway, Kyndall  
Jefferson, Morgan Merrell, Carla Quinn, Anne Royappa, soloists

Fair Phyllis (1599) ..... John Dowland (c. 1570-c. 1601)

STORY INTERLUDE

*The Ballad of Sweeney Todd* (1979) ..... Stephen Sondheim (1930-2021)  
Juliana Child, Zander Smith, Laura Hernandez, Greg Watson,  
Mark Gaddy, Phil Igney, soloists

*Duerme Negrito* (1996) ..... Venezuelan Folksong  
Evelyn Aguirre, soloist      Archived by Atahualpa Yupanqui; Arr. Emile Solé

*Journey Home* (2009) ..... Abbie Betinis (b. 1980)  
Andrei Reynoso, narrator/soloist; Veronica Zaldana, soloist

STORY INTERLUDE

*Shenandoah* (1975) ..... American Folksong  
arr. James Erb

*Jabberwocky* (1972) ..... Sam Pottle (1934-1978)  
Us, percussionists

## UWF Summer Festival Chorus

Dr. Peter Steenblik, director  
Meredith Stemen, collaborative pianist  
Hannah Mills, chorus manager

No additional audio or video recordings permitted.

This performance will be available for limited-time viewing online at [www.uwfsingers.com](http://www.uwfsingers.com)

We appreciate your cooperation.

**Dr. Peter Steenblik** is Director of Choral Activities at the UWF and Artistic Director of the Choral Society of Pensacola. He is the recipient of the 2023 College Music Educator of the Year award from the Florida Music Educators Association, and the 2022 Service Award from the Florida Vocal Association; both honors speak to collective admiration of his work in the state and beyond. He is an active conductor, presenter, adjudicator, and clinician with international and national credits. He begins his term as President-Elect for the Florida chapter of the American Choral Directors Association later this month. The UWF Singers, under his direction, appeared at the Florida ACDA convention in Orlando, and have performed at the ACDA Southern Division Conference. The Choral Society of Pensacola has been realizing its mission by enriching the Pensacola community through “a variety of dynamic” performances. His choirs have appeared in concert with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Utah Symphony, Ballet West, Women’s Chorus of Dallas, Pensacola Opera, Mobile Symphony Orchestra, and Pensacola Symphony Orchestra. He has served as the head of choral activities for the Utah Music Educators Association, and on the Utah ACDA board. His degrees are from the University of Utah and the University of North Texas.

**Meredith Stemen** is a pianist and teacher from Pensacola, Florida who is consistently applauded for her powerful command of the keyboard, sensitive musicality, and vibrant collaborative spirit. She is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in collaborative piano under the direction of Ana María Otamendi at Louisiana State University, where she holds a graduate assistantship. Meredith recently served as music director for Pergolesi’s *La Serva Padrona* and was a rehearsal pianist and vocal coach for the world premiere of Hannah Rice’s opera *Seneca Falls* as part of the first Operability micro-opera festival. Her research on Liszt’s *William Tell Lieder* was selected for presentation at LSU’s inaugural graduate research conference in April 2023, and she also presented at the LSU College of Music and Dramatic Arts Research Expo. Meredith holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Florida and a bachelor’s degree in piano performance from the University of West Florida, where she received the Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award in music.

## Acknowledgements

Dr. Amy Mitchell Cook, Interim Dean of College of Arts, Social Sciences, & Humanities  
Corey McKern, Director of the Dr. Grier Williams School of Music  
Rachel Bettis, Office Administrator for Dr. Grier Williams School of Music  
Jerre Brisky, Director of Center for Fine & Performing Arts  
Deb Hawkins, Marketing & Community Engagements Coordinator for the CFPA  
Bizhou Chang, Instructor of Voice  
Dr. Sheila Dunn, Director of Voice  
Corey McKern, Instructor of Voice  
Laura Noah, Instructor of Percussion  
Blake Riley, Director of Collaborative Piano  
Dr. Jeff Osarczuk, Director of Bands & Music Education  
Dr. Hedi Salanki-Rubardt, Director of Chamber Music & Piano Program  
Dr. Allanda Small Campbell, Instructor of Voice  
Dr. Peter Steenblik, Director of Choral Activities  
Dr. Joseph Spaniola, Director of Jazz Studies & Music Theory  
Dr. Matthew Wood, Interim Instructor of Piano  
Dr. Leonid Yanovskiy, Director of Strings

### Shenandoah – traditional American

O Shenando', I long to see you,  
And hear your rolling river,  
O Shenando', I long to see you,  
'Way, we're bound away,  
Across the wide Missouri.

I long to see your smiling valley, ...  
'Tis sev'n long years since last I see you, ...

### Jabberwocky – text by Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)

'Twas brillig and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!  
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun  
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

He took his vorpal sword in hand:  
Long time the manxome foe he sought –  
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,  
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,  
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,  
Came whiffing through the tulgey wood,  
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through  
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!  
He left it dead, and with its head  
He went galumphing back.

"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?  
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!  
O frabjous day! Calloo! Callay!"  
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

## Audition Dates:

- **Choral Society of Pensacola:** July 24 [www.choralsocietyofpensacola.org](http://www.choralsocietyofpensacola.org)
- **Gulf Coast Chorale:** no audition required, Aug. 19 music pickup (facebook)
- **Pensacola Children's Chorus:** Aug. 12 & 16 [www.pensacolasings.org/join](http://www.pensacolasings.org/join)
- **Pensacola Opera:** early Sept. [www.pensacolaopera.com/opera-chorus](http://www.pensacolaopera.com/opera-chorus)
- **UWF Concert Choir:** no audition required, register MUN 3323
- **UWF Singers:** August 19-23 [www.uwfsingers.com/auditions](http://www.uwfsingers.com/auditions)

## Texts & Translations

### The Word Was God – John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word,  
And the Word was with God,  
And the Word was God.  
The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made that have been made.  
Nothing was made, He has not made.  
All things were made by Him.

### My God is a Rock – traditional Spiritual

My God is a rock in a weary land,  
Weary land, in a weary land,  
My God is a rock in a weary land,  
Shelter in a time of storm.  
Oh yes, I know He is a rock in a weary land,  
In a weary land, in a weary land,  
I know He is a rock in a weary land,  
Shelter in a time of storm.

Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter One,  
When de Lord God's work was jes' begun, [Hallelu]  
Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Two,  
When de Lord God's written His Bible through. [O de Bible]  
Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Three.  
When de Lord God died on Calvary!

An' my God is a rock in a weary land...

Stop an' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Four, [Lissen tuh Chapter Four]  
When de Lord God visit 'mong de po', [He knew de po']  
Stop an' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Five, [Stop 'n'n lissen to Chapter Five]  
When de Lord God brought de dead alive, [Hallelujah]  
Stop an' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Six, [Stop, look 'n' lissen tuh Chapter Six]  
He went in Jerusalem an' healed de sick.

O my God is a rock in a weary land...

Stop, let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Sev'n, [O my Jesus]  
Died and risn' an' went to Heav'n. [Wid de angels]  
Stop, let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Eight, [Hallelu]  
John seen Him standin' at de Golden Gate. [He was knockin' at de Golden Gate]  
Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Nine, [O my Jesus]  
Lord God turned de water to wine. [O my Jesus, hear me]  
Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout de Chapter Ten, [Hallelu]  
John says He's comin' in de world again. [O my Jesus. O my Lord.]  
Amen

### Arirang – traditional Korean; singable translation by Jonathan S. Lim

아리랑, 아리랑, 아라리요...

아리랑 고개로 넘어간다.

나를 버리고 가시는 님은

십리도 못가서 발병난다.

Arirang, Arirang, my love has gone.  
He has crossed o'er the hill named Arirang.  
If he leaves me and does not return to me,  
He will soon long for me, oh, Arirang.

### Fair Ines – Thomas Hood (1799-1845)

Farewell, Ines.

O saw ye not fair Ines? She's gone into the West,  
To dazzle when the sun is down, and rob the world of rest;  
She took our daylight with her, the smiles that we love best,  
With morning blushes on her cheek, and pearls upon her breast.

Alas, fair Ines, she went away with song.

O turn again, fair Ines, before the fall of night,  
For fear the moon should shine alone, and stars unrivall'd bright;  
And blessed will the lover be that walks beneath their light,  
And breathes the love against thy cheek, I dare not even write!

I saw thee, lovely Ines, descend along the shore,  
With bands of noble gentlemen, and banners waved before;  
And gentle youth and maidens gay, and snowy plumes they wore;  
It would have been a beauteous dream, if it had been no more!  
Alas, fair Ines, farewell.

### Fair Phyllis – John Farmer (c. 1570-c.1601)

Fair Phyllis, I saw sitting all alone  
Feeding her flock near to the mountain side.  
The shepherds knew not whither she was gone,  
But after her lover Amyntas hied.

Up and down he wandered,  
Whilst she was missing;  
When he found her,  
O, then they fell a kissing.

### The Ballad of Sweeney Todd – Stephen Sondheim (1930-2021)

Attend the tale of Sweeney Todd.  
His skin was pale and his eye was odd.  
He shaved the faces of gentlemen  
Who never thereafter were heard of again.  
He trod a path that few have trod, did Sweeney Todd,  
The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

He kept a shop in London Town  
Of fancy clients and good renown.  
And what if none of their souls were saved?  
They went to their Maker impeccably shaved  
By Sweeney, by Sweeney Todd,  
The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

Swing your razor wide, Sweeney,  
Hold it to the skies!  
Freely flows the blood of those who moralize.

His needs were few, his room was bare:  
A lavabo and a fancy chair,  
A mug of suds and a leather strop,  
An apron, a towel, a pail and a mop.  
For neatness he deserves a nod, does Sweeney Todd,  
The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

Inconspicuous Sweeney was,  
Quick and quiet and clean 'e was.  
Back of his smile, under his word,  
Sweeney heard music that nobody heard.  
Sweeney ponder'd and Sweeney planned,

Like a perfect machine 'e planned.  
Sweeney was smooth, Sweeney was subtle,  
Sweeney would blink and rats would scuttle.  
Sweeney!

Attend the tale of Sweeney Todd.  
He served a dark and a vengeful God.  
What happened then... Well, that's the play,  
And he wouldn't want us to give it away,  
Not Sweeney, not Sweeney Todd,  
The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

### Duerme Negrito – traditional Venezuelan/Colombian

*Duerme, duerme negrito,* Sleep, sleep little black one,  
*Que tu mama e'ta en el campo negrito.* Your mama's in the fields, little one.  
*Drume, drume mobile.* Sleep, sleep little one.

*Te va a traé codonise para tí,* She's going to bring quail for you,  
*Te va a traé fruta fre'ca para tí,* She's going to bring fresh fruit for you,  
*Te va a traé ca'ne de ce'do para tí,* She's going to bring pork for you,  
*Te va a traé mucha' cosa' para tí.* She's going to bring many things for you,

*Y si negro no se duerme,* And if the black one doesn't go to sleep,  
*Viene e'diablo blanco y zás* The white devil will come and zap!  
*Le come la patica chica bú,* He'll eat your little foot, *chica bú;*  
*Apura chica bú.* Hurry, *chica bú.*

*Duerme, duerme negrito,* Sleep, sleep little black one,  
*Que tu mama e'ta en el campo negrito.* Your mama's in the fields, little one.

*Trabajando duramente, trabajando si,* She's working hard, working, yes,  
*Trabajando y no le pagan, trabajando si,* Working and they don't pay her, working yes,  
*Trabajando y va tosiendo, trabajando si,* Working and she's coughing, working, yes,  
*P'al negrito chiquitito,* For her sweet little black one,  
*P'al negrito si.* For her little one, yes.

### Journey Home – Erik Halvorson

*"Un lugar... un hogar... nuestro hogar.*  
*Un lugar que podemos llamar el nuestro,* "A place... a home... our home.  
*hacer el nuestro. Un lugar para vivir,* A place we can call our own,  
*crecer, y ser. Un pedazo de lo nuestro* make our own. A place to live,  
*que compartimos con el mundo. Un* grow, and be. A piece of us  
*trozo de nuestros corazones que* we share with the world. A  
*traemos a la comunidad. Un mundo* piece of our hearts we bring  
*de consuelo... y un mundo de calma...* to the community. A world  
*Un mundo... de amor."* of comfort... and a world of calm...  
A world... of love."

A place, a place to live, to grow, and be.  
A place, a place to hope, to dream, and love...  
An end to a journey, but still we're just beginning:  
A place with you, a place to start anew.

A home [*un hogar*], a home is our own [*nuestro propia hogar*],  
Yet so much more [*y mucho más*], a world... [*un mundo*]  
A world [*un mundo*], a world we'll learn [*aprenderemos*],  
A world we'll bring [*lo traeremos*], and share... [*para compartir*]  
A world of comfort, of calm, the hope of our family,  
A place of love, of wonder from above...  
A place, a place we'll grow, we'll learn, and share.  
A place... to call our own, to make our own...  
Our home.