

The *Amabile* Choirs of London, Canada  
*present*

*An*  
*Amabile*  
*Family*  
*Christmas*

*An Amabile Choirs Christmas Gift to  
London and the Surrounding Communities.*



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October 15, 2020



**Amabile Choirs of London, Canada**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of City Council, let me welcome you to this exciting artistic season as we celebrate the 36th Anniversary of Amabile Choirs of London, Canada. Today is a celebration of their hard work and commitment to create a wonderful experience for audiences and the communities in which they perform.

Arts and culture are the foundation of liveable communities, and they play a dynamic role in the quality of life we enjoy in our neighbourhoods. I commend you for providing an enriched and diverse musical experience, especially in the face of challenging circumstances imposed on us by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Let me express my gratitude to Amabile Choirs of London for offering children, youth and adults an opportunity to develop their musical talents. It provides these talented singers a chance to pursue the choral arts as singers, conductors, accompanists, composers, and educators -- nationally and internationally.

To the staff and Board of Directors -- you are positive and inspiring role models for young people wanting to share their talents and their passion for music. Thank you for your dedication in promoting a friendly and harmonious environment. It makes a significant contribution to the wellbeing of our city.

Best wishes for a memorable and successful show.

Kind regards,

Ed Holder  
Mayor, City of London

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300 Dufferin Avenue  
P.O. Box 5053  
London, ON Canada  
N6A 4L9

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Mary Margaret Farrow \* Lynn Davis

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Dear Friends of Amabile

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to another season. In our 35+ year history, we have faced many challenges which have helped to define the strength, resilience, and passion of all of us. This season has presented a unique challenge, one which we are ready and prepared to overcome. We enter into 2021 stronger and with a greater understanding and appreciation for each other and those who have supported Amabile Choirs throughout our history.

We are pushing forward with virtual rehearsals, and our choral directors and volunteers continue to put in a tremendous amount of effort in order to bring you excellent virtual performances.

These performances replace our opportunities to connect in person through our regular concerts and fundraising events. With the performances released so far this year, we have seen how the Arts can bring happiness in even the darkest of times, and how we can reach out across the globe with viewers from all over the world.

As this season progresses, please consider supporting us by gifting our performances to family, friends, or someone who may be isolated. Our virtual performances are an opportunity to connect over an appreciation of the Arts. Connect as a family to watch. Connect. If there is one message we all take from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is the importance of connection.

Thank you to our amazing, dedicated, and inspiring choral directors and conductors; thank you to our wonderful volunteers; and thank you to all of you who have supported Amabile this year, the years past, and the years to come.

Donna Kotsopoulos & Matthew China, Co-Chairs  
Amabile Board of Directors

**This presentation has been produced on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak, and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1976 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. We respectfully acknowledge the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g. First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities.**





## PROGRAMME

*You are welcome to singalong with us.  
For access to the lyrics, please go to the end of this program.*

*Amabile Da Capo Choir & Junior Amabile Singers*

### **The Little Drummer Boy**

Katherine E. Davis

*Amabile Treble Training Choir & Amabile Treble Concert Choir*

### **On the Roof**

Jay Althouse

*Amabile Da Capo Choir & Junior Amabile Singers*

### **Holiday Dreamin'**

arr. Roger Emerson

*I'll Be Home for Christmas; Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree; Silver Bells*

*Amabile Youth Singers*

### **Veni, Veni, Emmanuel**

James W. Knox

*O Come, O Come, Immanuel*

*Amabile Youth Singers & Amabile Young Men's Ensemble*

### **Shepherd's Pipe Carol**

John Rutter

*Prima: Amabile Women's Choir*

### **The Legend of the Christmas Rose**

Douglas E. Wagner

*Primus: Amabile Men's Choir*

### **Mary, Did You Know?**

arr. Jack Schrader

*Amabile Youth Singers & Prima: Amabile Women's Choir*

### **Prayer for the Future**

*World Premiere*

Lyrics: Connie Christmas

Music: Jeff Christmas

*With sincere appreciation for this commission to Board Member & Friend of Amabile: Peter Clements  
and dedicated to Laura Clements Pin, Amabile's 1<sup>st</sup> accompanist.*

*Massed Amabile Choirs*

### **We Wish You the Merriest**

Les Brown/arr. Mac Huff





*Amabile Choirs of London, Canada*  
*present*

*Music for the Spirit*  
*Food for the Soul*

Featuring a virtual concert performance presented by the Amabile Choirs of London, Canada and a mouthwatering three-course meal created by Growing Chefs! Ontario.

Details and ticket information will be available in the  
New Year. Stay tuned!







Founded in 1985, the Amabile organization grew from one choir to eight, and includes four choirs for girls and women and four choirs for boys and men. The youth and adult men and women regularly combine to form SATB choirs. Our choirs have achieved acclaim on national and international stages for their artistic excellence and, locally, have been frequent recipients of the Jack Richardson's Best Classical Ensemble. In 2010, the Amabile Choirs and artistic staff (John Barron, Carol Beynon, Ken Fleet, Wendy Landon, Jacquelyn Norman, and Brenda Zadorsky) were inducted into the London Music Hall of Fame.

## **Our Mission**

*Enriching our community, one voice at a time*

## **Vision**

- To foster health and well-being through choral music education and training, and the development of commitment, discipline and pride individual and group achievement for children, youth, adults, and seniors.
- To strive for excellence and present performances at the highest artistic level of artistic.
- To embrace and celebrate our diverse cultural heritage through song of Canada's many people, including our Indigenous, Francophone, persons with disabilities, new Canadians, and our LGBTQ2+ communities.



### About the *Amabile* Boys & Men's Choirs

The Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs, founded in 1990, draw singers from across southwestern Ontario and provide musical experiences of the highest level for male singers in the region. The focus is on character development and mentorship through singing and artistic excellence. There are four choirs in the Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs, ranging from the Training Choir through to the adult men's choir. Trebles whose voices change have immediate access to the tenor-bass youth choir and opportunities to continue their vocal and musical education. The choirs are champions of music by Canadian composers and commission new pieces annually.

The focus of the *Amabile* Treble Training Choir (TTC) under the direction of **John Vermue and Lydia Kendell** is on learning to sing and play together as an ensemble as the boys gain experience singing and performing, while learning proper vocal technique, posture, breathing, tone production, how to read music, and basic music theory. They also study recorders with **Rosemary Bannerman** to support music literacy development. The TTC performs as part of our regular concert series and is often invited to perform for benefit concerts in the area.



JOHN VERMUE

John is a graduate of Western's Don Wright Faculty of Music, and Griffith University's (Australia) Education program. He has taught music in multiple secondary schools and has a private voice studio. He currently teaches vocal and instrumental music at Saint André Bessette Secondary School. John is a proud founding member of Amabile.



LYDIA KENDALL

Born in Newfoundland, Lydia moved to Western University to study music and holds a BMus and BEd in Music Education. She began her teaching career at Laurier Secondary School and now serves as department head of Music at Medway High School. She is co-conductor of the Amabile Treble Training Choir and a vibrant member of London's choral community.

### Treble Training Choir

Odie Bartlett  
David Matusa

Stefan Cojocar  
Max Mahabir

Devin Ebert

Lachlan Howard





The *Amabile* **Treble Concert Choir (TCC)** welcomes experienced singers with unchanged voices, ranging from 10 to 15 years old. Mentored by the Amabile Young Men's Ensemble, and conducted by Amabile alumni, **Jeff Beynon and Don Sills**, the program consists of rehearsals and performances of the traditional boychoir repertoire and Grade 1 Theory & Rudiments. As well as singing on world stages, the TCC has been guest performers with the Toronto International Film Festival, Orchestra London, the Windsor Symphony, and the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. The choir has performed for such notable persons as Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Prime Minister of Canada, and has toured extensively over the years to Europe, Caribbean, and across Canada and the United States.



**DON SILLS**

Don holds music education degrees from Western University and currently is the teacher and conductor of the award-winning vocal and choral music program at Catholic Central High School in London, Ontario. Don has been a proud member of the Amabile family for 24 years.



**JEFF BEYNON**

Jeff is a founding member of Amabile and holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Western. Jeff is Principal of AB Lucas Secondary School and previously taught at Medway High School where he continued the traditions of choral excellence established by notable musicians, Alex Clark and Ken Fleet.

### **Treble Concert Choir**

Hayden Beynon	Daniel Butler	Evan Conn	Sam Cronin
Evan Englert	Pierce Howard	Ian Kwon	Nolan McKee
Ewan McNaught	Adam Lynch-Woolgar	Kashi Nair	Paxton Nair
Andrew Richardson	Jacob Sills	Matteo Sills	Maximilian Pollanen
Rufaro Taruvinga	Benjamin Vanderveen	Javier Yáñez	Yifei Zhang



The *Amabile Young Men's Ensemble* (AYME) is made up of young men with changing voices up to the age of 19 under the direction of **Jeff Beynon, Don Sills, Carol Beynon, and Mark Payne**. The Ayme focuses on healthy vocal development during the changing voice period, and the young men are given an introduction to challenging male voice repertoire. The choir performs with, and is mentored by, Primus on a regular basis. The members also provide leadership development workshops on a regular basis for music educators, university music education classes, and students in schools, promoting the healthy benefits of being a male singer. Performing locally, nationally and internationally, they have been featured several times on CBC, Radio L'espace, French public television, and Czech Public Radio and were winners of the National Choral Canada Competition for Youth Choirs – Equal Voice Male in 2004, 2008, 2015 and 2017. Members of the Ayme also sing with the Amabile Youth Singers in the Amabile Chamber Choir.



### *Amabile Young Men's Ensemble*

Sebastian Altamirano	Shaw Atherton	Cristian Bayona	Matthew Bermudez
Aslan Caron Horvath	Xavier Corneil	Liam Cronin	Olivier Hewitt
Ryan Krause	Matthew Landis	Ben Langille	Luke Lee Young
Laohnorian Madani	William Massey	Andrei Matusa	Erik Moeller
Matthew Pironaggi	James Quigley	Isaiah Sills	Thomas Smithson
Jacob Sullivan	Quinn Tufts	Christopher Vandenberg	
Max Webb Comor	Benjamin Yáñez	Nicholas Yáñez	Thomas Zadorsky

**Primus: *Amabile Men's Choir* (Primus)**, conducted by **Carol Beynon** and **Mark Payne**, is known for its deeply sonorous and rich sound that rewards listeners with a strong identity without sacrificing the sound of one uniform voice. Formed in the fall of 2000, Primus involves students and professionals in all walks of life who enjoy the pursuit of the choral art and the camaraderie that develops so naturally in male ensembles. The members act as active mentors to the high school choristers and boys in the treble choirs of the Amabile organization. Primus has achieved an international reputation that places it in a leading position in the world of male choral singing. Primus was thrilled to be invited to perform for choral conductors at two of the world's largest conferences, the Sixth World Choral Symposium in Minneapolis (2002) and the national convention of the American Choral Directors Association in Los Angeles (2005). The men have also been honoured to act as choir-in-residence for the 1<sup>st</sup> World Festival of Singing for Men and Boys in Prague during 2004 and were again invited to co-host the event in the 2008





season. This role provided Primus with the opportunity to showcase a strong Canadian presence on the world stage. The choir has frequently won the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs, Equal Voice Male Category. Locally, Primus has performed with the renowned Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, Autorickshaw, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and London Symphonia, and has been invited to perform at national meetings of Choral Canada in Victoria, St. John's, and Toronto. The choir was featured in the CBC Radio 1 documentary *Where Have All the Tenors Gone?* and most recently released a virtual recording of *Grateful Heart* by Hussein Janmohamed for Eid and premiered on CBC's *Choral Concert*.



**CAROL BEYNON**  
Artistic Director, Amabile Male Choirs

Carol is the founding co-artistic director of the Amabile male choirs and professor emerita at Western University where she served as Associate Vice Provost of Graduate Studies, Dean of the Faculty of Education (Acting), and professor in music education. She was named the Woman of Excellence in Arts, Culture and Heritage in London (2007) and is an inductee on the Wall of Fame at the Don Wright Faculty of Music at Western.



**MARK PAYNE**

Mark is the Music Director, the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia; director/keyboards, True North Music; and CEO, HOP Studios. The depth of his abilities as a tenor soloist, pianist, accordion, harmonica, guitar, and trumpet enhance his abilities as a music director, arranger, opera vocal coach, and adjudicator. His critically acclaimed one-man shows play consistently to sold out audiences. He has recorded multiple CDs, including "Simply Grand" and his most recent, "Reflections."

### **Primus**

Eaton Asher	Wade Baillie	Matthew Bermudez	Mark Bernat
Sheldon Bumstead	John Cookson	Christian D'Andrea	Blair Fantillo
Larry Farquharson	Adam Forristal	Kyle Graham	Adam Guthrie
Mike Hammond	Colin Hiemstra	Rob Hiemstra	Bruce Hewitt
Jeff Holbrough	Andrew House	Aaron Humphrey	Michael Inman
Robert Inman	George Jolink	Ryan Krause	Aaron Lee
Luke Lee Young	Patrick Martin	Daniel Newton	Cameron Patterson
Owen Poel	S David Rosner	David Spence	Jack Spence
Jacob Sullivan	Gabe Traczuk	John Vermue	Andrew Wojcik



## Our Collaborative Pianists



TRISTIN HILL

Tristin holds a degree in business from Western University and is a Chartered Professional Accountant. As a member of the Amabile Choirs for 14 years and accompanist of the training choir for the past 9, Tristin recognizes the importance of a chorister's first few years within the organization and is grateful for the opportunity to work with Amabile's youngest and most energetic musicians.



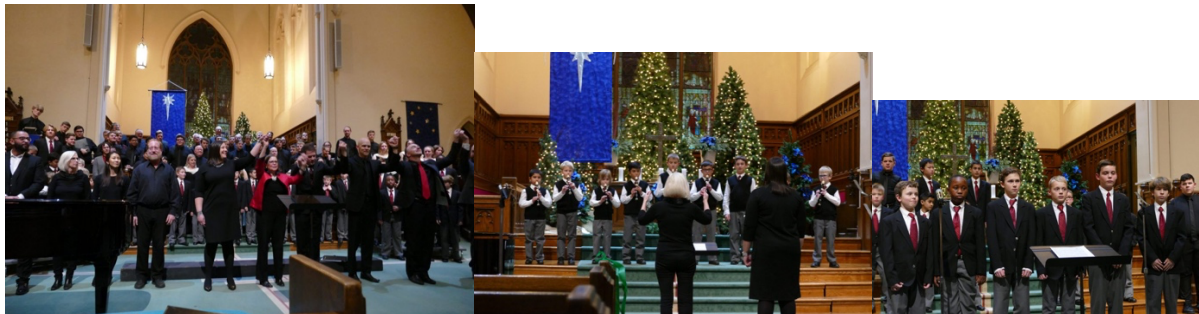
ROSEMARY BANNERMAN

Rosemary holds a Music Performance degree in pipe organ from Western and recently retired from teaching music with the TVDSB. Rosemary teaches recorders to the Training Choir and serves as collaborative pianist with the TCCs. She received the Thames Valley Award of Distinction in recognition of her work as an outstanding teacher.



DENISE JUNG

Denise holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in music from Western University and collaborates with the AYME and Primus. She has a diploma in Chamber Performance from Wilfrid Laurier University and a BEd from the University of Toronto. She is currently the music director at Calvary United Church and an occasional teacher with the Thames Valley District School Board.







# VOICE PROGRAM

AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY



Alumni **Adrianne Pieczonka**, **Michael Schade**, and **John Tessier** are examples of the success of our program which offers:

- Three staged opera productions
- Weekly 1.5 hour lessons for performance students
- Many performance opportunities including Baroque and contemporary ensembles
- Masterclasses with international artists such as **Martin Katz**, **Wendy Nielsen**, **Edith Wiens**, **Johannes Debus**, **Richard Margison**, **Jane Archibald**, **Brett Polegato** and **Russell Braun**

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### About the *Amabile* Girls' & Women's Choirs

Founded in 1985, there are four choirs of auditioned female singers, this year singing with us from as far away as Toronto due to the miracles of technology. Artistic excellence, mentorship and development of confident, independent leaders of tomorrow, one voice at a time, are Amabile's primary goals.



Conducted by Jackie Norman and Wendy Landon, the *Amabile Da Capo Choir* welcomes girls ages 8 to 11, with a focus on providing a choral venue for young choristers, and to serve as a training choir for the Junior Amabile Singers. The Da Capo Choir holds weekly meetings for instructions in vocal production, sight singing, ear training, basic rudiments, and choral performance discipline.

Founded in 1989, the **Junior Amabile Singers (JAS)** gives girls ages 9 to 14 an opportunity to develop an understanding of choral music, self-discipline and artistic expression. Directed by Jacquelyn Norman and Wendy Landon, JAS perform regularly in the London area and Southwestern Ontario, in addition to seeking national and international performance opportunities. The most recent tour took the JAS to England where they performed massed choir concerts in Canterbury Cathedral and Southwark Cathedral, London under the direction of David Flood and Henry Leck.



Jackie (BMus, BEd, OCT) is in her 29th year as an artistic director with Amabile. She is a graduate of Western's Don Wright Faculty of Music and the Faculty of Education. Jackie currently teaches Intermediate science, math, and music for the Thames Valley District School Board at Northdale Central Public School in Dorchester.



Wendy (BMus, BEd, OCT) is in her 20<sup>th</sup> year as an artistic director with Amabile and is also a graduate of the Western's Don Wright Faculty of Music and Faculty of Education. Wendy currently teaches vocal and keyboard music at Lester B. Pearson School for the Arts in London where she is a junior music specialist.





RACHEL WOHLGEMUT

Rachel is the accompanist for Da Capo and JAS and sang with Amabile for 10 years before heading off to Western to pursue music education. She has an ARCT in piano performance and is currently studying piano under the direction of Dr. Stéphan Sylvestre. In the past, Rachel has pursued a variety of music leadership roles such as playing for her school choirs, musicals, and solo numbers; leading choir sectionals; and teaching theory and piano.

Jiya Agrawal  
Olivia Bello  
Isla Conn  
Hannah Gutierrez  
Keitlyn Kato  
Kirsi Marino  
Zoe Pasel  
Hannah Slaght  
Tina Vandenberg  
Helena Zhao

Miraya Agrawal  
Clementina Bello  
Brooke DeLellis  
Olivia Hurst  
Bella Kernahan  
Kate McHugh  
Maya Prakash  
Marley Slaght  
Kathleen Casey  
Angela Zhao

Claire Bayona  
Adeline Beynon  
Adrienne Eagles  
Yolanda Jiang  
Jessica Knight  
Arin Oh  
Shivani Rai  
Milla Tamas  
Kat Konecny

Chloe Bayona  
Alisa Chen  
Susanna Englert  
Kendra Garbrah-Donkor  
Jelissa Lacaria  
Emma Park  
Sofia Sepulveda  
Camilla Ruffo-Caracchini  
YangDi Xiao





The *Amabile Youth Singers (AYS)* was founded in 1985 by Brenda Zadorsky and John Barron. Under the continued direction of Brenda Zadorsky and new conductor Cathy Lourenco, the AYS are recognized world-wide for their artistry, angelic vibrant tone and exquisite blend. Singers range in age from 13 to 22. Many of the JAS continue their vocal music education by moving up to the AYS where they join their voices with numerous newly auditioned singers. An exciting blend of genres, as well as commissioned works by Canadian composers, and some Amabile alumna, are regularly featured guaranteeing an uplifting musical journey.



Brenda (BMus, BEd, AMus) is a sought-after voice teacher, clinician, adjudicator, and consultant. With the Amabile Choirs, she was inducted into the London Music Hall of Fame and the Western University's Don Wright Faculty of Music Wall of Fame. Brenda's career as music consultant/teacher with the TVDSB and the LDCSB spanned 35 years. While teaching at Western University Brenda received awards for outstanding teaching. Her passion for choral excellence and joyful mentoring has been integral to Amabile's growth.



Cathy holds an ARCT diploma in voice pedagogy from the Royal Conservatory of Music and a BMus and BEd from Western University. She has taught at St. Mary's Choir School and Catholic Central High School and presently teaches at Saint Thomas Aquinas Secondary School. Cathy also has a voice and piano studio, and is the soprano soloist and organist at St. Mary's Catholic Church. She has been a proud member of the Amabile family for over 20 years.



Hayoon holds a BMus, Artist Diploma in piano performance, and a BEd from Western University. She currently teaches at the elementary level for the Thames Valley District School Board. Hayoon shares her love of music by teaching private students, and accompanying at music festivals, examinations, and churches. She had the wonderful opportunity of touring Europe with Amabile Young Women's Ensemble in the summer of 2016.





### *Amabile* Youth Singers

Sarah Abado	Maggie Betker	Emma Butler	Kiersten Elliott
Abigail Fairweather	Kiara Harriman	Nora Hao	Bronwyn Heard
Kennedi Knoch	Olivia Lourenco	Emillia Matthews	Gillian Middleton
Kendal Morrison	Grace Ngenze	Shannon Palmer	Julia Payne
Anneke Romansky	Julianna Spence	Lela Tamas	Ariana Tsotras
Faith Vanderveen	Hope Wilson	Hannah Zadorsky	Abigail Zimmerman

**Prima:** *Amabile* Women's Choir conducted by Brenda Zadorsky provides a choral experience of the highest artistic level for women 19 years and older. Women from all walks of life join their hearts and voices in song. Many have either continued on from the AYS or returned to sing after completing higher education, having children, or exploring career paths. New, experienced and talented singers are drawn to audition for Prima. Eclectic and challenging repertoire enables Prima to artfully express relevant and salient lyrics to all who experience their ethereal tone, impeccable balance, blend and tuning.



### **Prima: Amabile Women's Choir**

Abbey Anthony	Cheri Anthony	Martha Bere	Jennifer Boag
Rain Casey	Wanping Chen	Maci Cragg	Dana Conn
Patty Dunn-Robinson	Miranda Denver	Leora Eades	Abigail Fairweather
Georgina Galba	Brittany Gordon	Julia Hryniewicz	Sarah Jevnikar
Hayoon Kim	Sarah Krause	Christine MacDonald	Nicole Peters
Bridget Plumb	Judith Setton	Lisa Snow	Nana Tirolese
Rhonda Walsh	Heather West	Carolyn Yip	



**The AYS and Prima** combine to form the *Amabile* Young Women's Ensemble (AYWE). This provides performance opportunities that combine the enthusiasm and confidence of youth with the maturity of tone and emotions of their big sister mentors – truly an award-winning combination. The Amabile Youth Singers and Prima have won 11 national competitions, 6 international competitions, several gold medals and awards for their CDs. They have toured extensively in Europe, Australia and New Zealand, Canada, and the United States.



One of the most memorable events for the choir was their involvement with the Ayme and Primus in the Panes of Glory documentary highlighting the history of the magnificent stain glass windows of St Thomas Aquinas Chapel at St. Peter's Seminary. As a result of their participation, they were later invited to be the featured choir for the televised 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Concert for Salt and Light TV in Toronto. Recent highlights include an invitation to sing for the Conference for Violence Against Women. Their most recent tour was to Italy where they performed in the beautiful cathedrals of Venice, Florence, Sienna, Lake Como and the Vatican in Rome, featuring many masters of liturgical music such as Mozart, Vivaldi, Haydn, Haydn, Hassler and Aishinger, and treasured Canadian composers Daley, Hatfield, Patriquin, Sirett and Telfer. Current projects include three new commissions by Canadian composers, including alumna, Erin Smythe; composer Jeff Smallman, and London's own, Jeff Christmas. Also delayed, but to be released next season, is a collaborative Christmas CD with the London Citadel Band of the Salvation Army featuring *Sir Christemas* by David L. Brunner.




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By improving the financial understanding of those who need it most, we give them a strong foundation to confidently achieve their dreams.

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David Kontzie CFP, RRC   
Division Director  
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.  
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Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!  
Wishing everyone a Happy, Healthy 2021!



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### **A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

**TAMARA REES** who developed the script for this program.

**WESTMOUNT MALL** for allowing us to record safely in their underground parking lot.

**PAT MORRISON MULTIMEDIA** who generously loaned us the use of much media equipment to record portions of this program.

**JEFF CHRISTMAS** - to read more about Jeff <https://www.jeffchristmas.com/full-biography>

#### **Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs Executive Committee**

George Jolink (Chair)	Dana Conn	Diane Canton	Ana Luisa Trejos
Erin Yáñez	Joanne Richardson	Claudia Bayona	Colin Hiemstra

#### **Amabile Young Women's Ensemble Executive Committee**

Amanda Palmer (Chair)	Cheri Anthony	Alice Tschen	Vincent Anthony
Cathy Lourenco	Tammy Rees	Amanda Palmer	Dana Conn
Bridget Plumb	Georgina Galba	Sharon Betker	Martha Bere
Leora Eades	Lindsay Matthews	Christine MacDonald	

#### **Amabile Board of Directors**

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Mary Margaret Farrow

Tristin Hill

Lynn Davis

Genevieve Samuels

Amanda Palmer

Administrative Staff:

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Katherine Sernikwa

George Jolink

Wade Baillie

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Samantha Long

Corrine Santa

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**Without our donor support, especially this season, we couldn't do what it is we do best.**

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Kelly Roberts  
Portfolio Manager

kelly.roberts@rbc.com  
519-675-2041  
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## *Amabile* HONORARY PATRONS

**Lowell Barron & John Barron (1939-2014)**

**Bob Chilcott**

**Howard Dyck**

**Stephen Hatfield**

**Don Wright (1908-2006)**

Our honorary patrons are individuals who have made significant contributions of service to Amabile and we proudly recognize the six individuals named above. In celebration of our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Amabile Choirs is pleased to announce the appointment of two new persons to our list of esteemed patrons:

### **Mary Margaret Farrow & Lynn Davis**

As a charter volunteer since 1985, Mary Margaret holds the history of the Amabile Choirs in her hands, heart, and mind. She was instrumental in organizing our first choir and then set up the Junior Amabile Singers when it became apparent that a second choir was needed four years later due to high demand from the community. Mary Margaret has been Secretary to the Board since 1985 and has served as long-time Manager and Registrar of the Junior Amabile Singers. Her other roles include grant writer, librarian, archivist, and recording engineer. Mary Margaret has also been recognized for her outstanding volunteerism in the community.



Lynn has been an enthusiastic and stalwart supporter of Amabile since her son and daughter joined the choirs 20 years ago. From the moment that her family joined our Amabile family, Lynn has graciously stepped in to serve wherever she was needed – whether as a parent chaperone for tours or providing dozens and dozens of her renowned chocolate chip cookies for various events. As a member of the boys' executive committee, Lynn served as treasurer, promotions manager, fund development chair, and special event coordinator. She then took on the role of chair of the Amabile Board of Directors, and now co-chairs the Amabile Board's Fund Development Committee. Lynn is an ardent

supporter of the arts in London and is recognized for her outstanding volunteerism in the community.

Volunteerism and philanthropy are core values of these two incredible women. Thank you, Mary Margaret and Lynn, for your generosity of spirit. Our Choirs remain as strong as they are because of our many wonderful and generous volunteers like you.





**We extend sincere appreciation to the following for their support of our organization. Another round of applause for:**

**Canada**



**ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL**  
**CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO**  
an Ontario government agency  
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**London Arts Council**



**WM WESTMOUNT MALL**



A promotional image for London Symphonia. It features five people (three men and two women) in a large, rustic hall with a high wooden ceiling and large windows. The text "London Symphonia" is in the top left, "FROST, FIRE & BRASS" is in large white letters across the bottom of the image, and event details are on the right.

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# A MESSAGE TO OUR THEATRE LOVERS



## From the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia

We want to reach out and let you know that you have been on our minds and in our hearts during this year of uncertainty.

With so many aspects of life on hold right now, many of us are looking forward to experiencing the thrill of live theatre together once again.

While our 2020 Season has been postponed until 2021, rest assured we have many surprises in store to stay connected with our beloved patrons.

Be sure to visit [thevpp.ca](http://thevpp.ca) and follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/VictoriaPlayhousePetrolia](https://facebook.com/VictoriaPlayhousePetrolia) to see our latest online content.

Stay well, healthy and inspired.

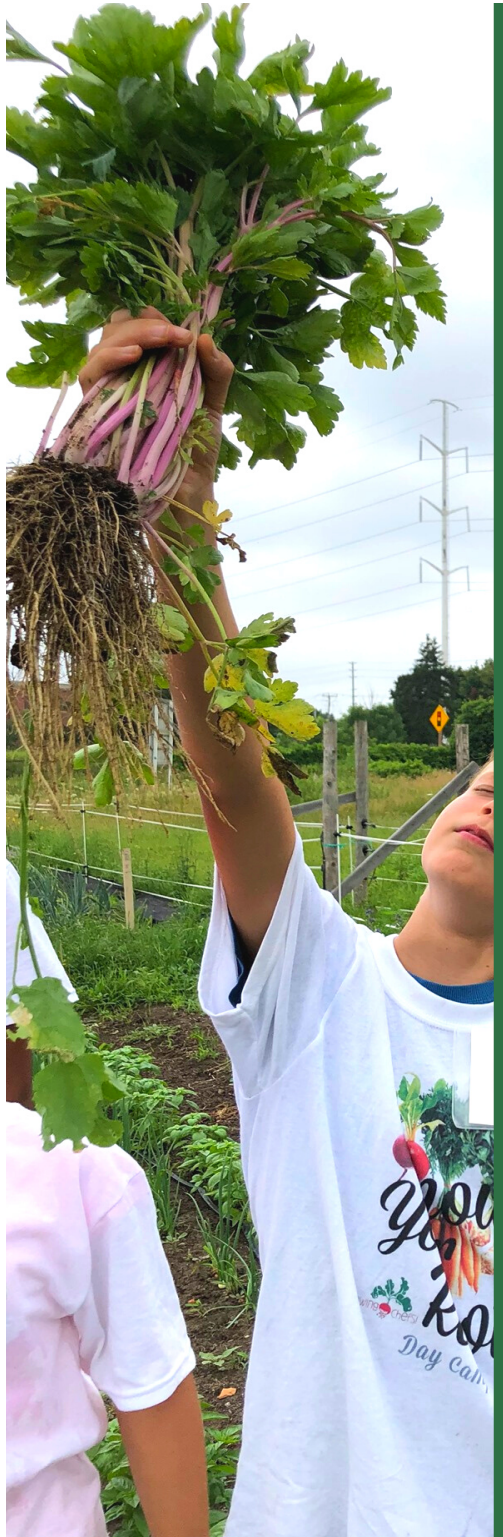
*-Co-Artistic Directors David Hogan, David Rogers and all the staff and artists at the VPP*



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## SING-ALONG LYRICS

### The Little Drummer Boy

Katherine E. Davis

Come they told me, a new born King to see.  
Our finest gifts we bring to lay before the King  
So to honor Him, pa rum pum pum pum, when we come.  
Baby Jesu, I am a poor boy too,  
I have no gift to bring that's fit to give the King  
Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum pum, on my drum?  
Mary nodded; the ox and lamb kept time  
I played my drum for Him; I played my best for Him  
Then He smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum, me and my drum.



### Holiday Dreamin' Medley:

arr. Roger Emerson

#### I'll Be Home for Christmas



I'll be home for Christmas, you can plan on me.  
Please have snow and mistletoe and presents on the tree.  
Christmas Eve will find me where the lovelight gleams.  
I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams.

#### Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

Rockin' around the Christmas tree at the Christmas party hop.  
Mistletoe hung where you can see, every couple tries to stop.  
Rockin' around the Christmas Tree, let the Christmas spirit ring.  
Later we'll have some pumpkin pie and we'll do some caroling.  
You will get a sentimental feeling when you hear voices singing,  
"Let's be jolly! Deck the hall with boughs of holly!"  
Rockin' around the Christmas tree, have a happy holiday.  
Everyone dancing merrily in the new old-fashioned way.



#### Let It Snow



Oh, the weather outside is frightful, but the fire is so delightful,  
And since we've no place to go: Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!  
It doesn't show signs of stopping and I brought some corn for popping.  
The lights are turned way down low: Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!  
When we finally kiss goodnight how I hate going out in the storm!  
But if you really hold me tight, all the way home I'll be warm!  
Oh, the fire is slowly dying and, my dear, we're still good-byeing;  
But as long as you love me so: Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!

#### Silver Bells

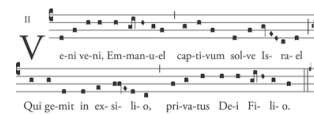
Silver bells, silver bells, it's Christmas time in the city.  
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring, soon it will be Christmas Day.  
City sidewalks, busy sidewalks, dressed in holiday style;  
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas.  
Children laughing, people passing, meeting smile after smile;  
And on every street corner you'll hear.  
Silver bells, silver bells, it's Christmas time in the city.  
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring, soon it will be Christmas Day.





**Veni, Veni, Emmanuel****arr. James W. Knox**

O come, O come, Immanuel; and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God  
appear. Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

**Shepherd's Pipe Carol****John Rutter**

Going through the hills on a night all starry, on the way to Bethlehem,  
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping, on the way to Bethlehem.  
Chorus: Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:  
Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us peace on earth  
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem.  
Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily, on the way to Bethlehem,  
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely, on the way to Bethlehem.  
None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely, on the way to Bethlehem;  
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies, when I get to Bethlehem.  
Angels in the sky came down from on high, hovered o'er the manger where the babe was  
lying cradled in the arms of His mother Mary, Sleeping now at Bethlehem.  
Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily, is He there at Bethlehem?  
I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly, in the sky o'er Bethlehem.  
May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, come with you to Bethlehem?  
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, is it far to Bethlehem?

**The Legend of the Christmas Rose****Douglas E. Wagner**

There on a barren hillside, in the bleak, dark winter night,  
Stood a single thornwood, its tendrils lost from sight.  
No bloom, nor bud, nor flower did this wood for ages see;  
But angels in the highest heavens did watch it constantly.  
And on the eve of Christmas, there came across the sky a star,  
So clear and perfect, a light through clouds on high;  
That touched with loving kindness, the leaves of this lone tree,  
And made by warm reflection, a sign for all to see. Ah! Alleluia!  
On this same cold and windswept night, when Christ our Lord was born,  
Fair roses bloomed from every branch and twined around each thorn;  
And blest this frail, forgotten tree, brought low in sullen awe,  
To heal with the balm of hopefulness, in the light it saw.  
Now every child that breathes on earth, mark well these words we sing:  
That from this barren thornwood, new hope Christ does now bring.  
Alleluia! New life! New Joy! New Hope!



### **Mary, Did You Know?**

**arr. Jack Schrader**

Mary, did you know that your baby boy:  
Would someday walk on water? Would save our sons and daughters?  
Has come to make you new?  
This child that you delivered will soon deliver you  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy:  
Will give sight to a blind man? Will calm a storm with his hand?  
Has walked where angels trod?  
When you kissed your little baby, then you kissed the face of God.  
The blind will see; the deaf will hear; the dead will live again;  
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy:  
Is Lord of all creation? Will one day rule the nation?  
Was heaven's perfect Lamb  
This sleeping child you're holding is the great "I am!"

### **Prayer for the Future**

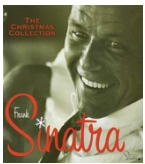
***World Premiere***

**Jeff Christmas**

Pray for peace. We pray for peace.  
Petals falling gently to the earth, all is silent, waiting for rebirth.  
Yield the night, looking to the light.  
Softly, slowly ripples disappear revealing beauty hidden by our fear.  
Forever spirits cry, forever shadows die.  
Hope is shining as we carry on. With hope carry on.  
Glowing light, embrace each day, daring hearts will find the way.  
Petals falling gently from above, peace will not prevail without love.  
Yield the fear, comfort is near.  
Healings hands of love reach out for peace.  
Pray for peace.

### **We Wish You the Merriest**

**Les Brown/arr. Mac Huff**



We wish you the merriest, the merriest, the merriest, the merriest, new year!  
We wish you the merriest yule cheer. We wish you the happiest new year.  
May your tree be filled with happiness, happiness and friendliness for all.  
May your heart be filled with cheerfulness, happiness and cheerfulness for all.  
We wish you the happiest, the merriest yule cheer and the happiest new year!  
Wish you the merriest, the merriest, the merriest yule cheer,  
May your tree be filled with happiness, happiness and friendliness for all.  
May your heart be filled with cheerfulness, happiness, friendliness, merriest,  
Deck the halls we're gonna' have a ball.  
We wish you the happiness and the merriest and the happiest new year!

