

NEC Preparatory School
Children's Chorus

Laura Nevitt, director

and

Youth Chorale

Erica J. Washburn, director

with

Calvin Wamser '24 MM, assistant conductor

Da-Yu Liu and Chris Lockman, piano

Sarah Tindall, cello

Doyeon Kim, percussion

Thursday, December 21, 2023

7:30 p.m.

NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

NEC Children's Chorus
Laura Nevitt, conductor

George Frideric Handel
(1685–1759)
arr. Henry Kihlken
(b. 1963)

Give Thanks and Praise

Sarah Tindall, cello
Chris Lockman, piano

Daniel Kantor
(b. 1960)

Night of Silence

Sarah Tindall, cello
Chris Lockman, piano

Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

The Singers from *Three Children's Songs*

Chris Lockman, piano

Angolan Folk Song
arr. Elliot Z. Levine

O, Desayo

Doyeon Kim, percussion

NEC Youth Chorale
Erica J. Washburn, conductor

Mike Neumeyer

Freezing Snow (2021)

Doyeon Kim, marimba

Nicholas Myers
(b. 1987)

The Winter's Night

NEC Children's Chorus and Youth Chorale
Calvin Isaac Wamser '24 MM, assistant conductor

Charles V. Stanford
(1852–1924)

The Blue Bird, op. 119 no. 3

soloists: Clara Van de Velde,
Abigail Bilodeau, Ashley Chen

NEC Youth Chorale
Erica J. Washburn, conductor

Sarah Quartel
(b. 1987)

A Winter Day (2016)

Timid Star
A Winter Dawn
Into Morning
A Winter Day
Snow Toward Evening

Sarah Tindall, cello
Da-Yu Liu, piano

Handel *Give Thanks and Praise*

With heart and soul and voice,
give thanks and praise to God.
To God who made the heav'n and earth
be glory thanks and praise.

The heavens proclaim the wonder of God,
The oceans reply, the valleys shout for joy!

With heart and soul and voice,
give thanks and praise to God.
To God who made the heav'n and earth
be glory thanks and praise.

Kantor *Night of Silence*

Cold are the people, winter of life,
We tremble in shadows this cold endless night,
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping,
Flowers that will echo the sunrise,
Fire of hope is our only warmth,
Weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night,
On wind you enfold us You speak of the light,
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly,
Rumours of a dawn so embracing,
Breathless love awaits darkened souls,
Soon will we know of the morning.

Daniel Kantor

Vaughan Williams *The Singers*

Tom will be a carpenter,
Juan will go to sea.
Elizabeth will fly a plane,
But what shall we be?
*O, we will sing high and we will sing low,
And nothing on earth shall prevent us,
A fig for your industry, off you may go,
'Tis singing alone shall content us.*

Kate will be a scientist,
Trey will drive a 'bus,
Oliver will own a shop.

But what of all us?

O, we will sing high and we will sing low ...

Elizabeth, Tom, Oliver,

Juan and Kate and Trey,

Though you have a job in store

O won't you sing too?

O, we will sing high and we will sing low ...

Frances M. Farrer, edited by Laura Nevitt

Traditional Angolan *O, Desayo*

O, Desayo!

O, Desayo!

O, Desayo Menina,

O, Desayo!

Rains are over, it's fine and shiny weather, O Desayo!

Fine and shiny day for a get together, O, Desayo!

O, Desayo! ...

Sing a song and then dance along and then,

drink a cup and then stay for supper then.

O, Desayo! ...

Off we go again down the stream again, off we go again down the stream again

Off they go and goodbye, we've got to say goodbye!

O, Desayo! ...

Neumeyer *Freezing Snow*

Freezing snow falling on me,

Freezing snow falling on me and you.

All these years of walking through the snow...

Learning things I did not want to know...

That's life, living life...

That's life, you know?

All these days of chasing after flow...

Now I know there's only more to go...

That's life, living life...

That's life, you know?

(The text continues on the following page. Please turn the page quietly.)

Oh in my mind, these years have gone so slow...
Am I proud of what I have to show?
That's life, living life...
That's life, you know?

Living life? The purpose is to grow.
Once we realize that then we will glow!
That's life, living life...
That's life, you know?

Freezing snow falling on me,
Freezing snow falling on me and you.

Mike Neumeyer

Stanford *The Blue Bird*

The lake lay blue below the hill.
O'er it, as I looked, there flew
Across the waters, cold and still,
A bird whose wings were palest blue.

The sky above was blue at last,
The sky beneath me blue in blue,
A moment, ere the bird has passed,
It caught his image, as he flew.

Mary E. Coleridge

Quartel *A Winter Day*

Timid Star

Fields beneath a quilt of snow
from which the rocks and stubble peep,
And in the west a shy white star
that shivers as it wakes from sleep.

Sara Teasdale

A Winter Day

Above the marge* of night a star still shines,
And on the frosty hills the somber pines
harbour an eerie wind that crooneth low

* *edge*

over the glimmering wastes of virgin snow.

Through the pale arch of orient the moon
comes in a milk-white splendour newly born,
a sword of crimson cuts in twain
the gray banners of the shadow hosts,
and lo, the day!

Lucy Maud Montgomery

A Winter Day

Wide sparkling fields of snow vested lie
beneath a blue, unshadowed sky.
Life, hath a jollity and zest,
A poignancy made manifest;
Laughter and courage have their way
At noontide of a winter's day.

A glist'ning splendour crowns the woods
And bosky* whistling solitudes;
In hemlock glen and reedy mere+
the tang of frost is sharp and clear.

**bushy, wooded
+lake, pond*

Faint music in wold and dell*,
The tinkling of a distant bell,
Where homestead lights with friendly glow
Glimmer across the drifted snow.

**deep hole, pit*

Lucy Maud Montgomery

Snow Toward Evening

Suddenly the sky turned gray,
The day, which had been bitter and chill,
Grew soft and still.

Quietly from some invisible blossoming tree
Millions of petals cool and white
Drifted and blew, lifted and flew,
fell with the falling night

Melville Cane

NEC Preparatory School Children's Chorus

Laura Nevitt, director

Lena Wong '25 MM, student manager

Chris Lockman, rehearsal accompanist

Rosie Bateman	Olivia Lam	William Peng
Nina Dundas	Ivy Liao	Jai Sathiraju
Eliza Gastrock	Rachel Ma	Keira Shao
Virginia Goldenheim	Elyza Oglice	Judá Soto
Julian Hirshfield	Esthera Oglice	Jessica Tang
Savannah Kaminsky	Victoria Paramova	Adam Zhang
Johanna Lam	Emily Peng	Sam Zhou

Laura Nevitt is a conductor, composer, and educator based in Boston. She is Founder and Artistic Director of Lilith Vocal Ensemble, Children's Chorus Director at NEC Prep, Associate Conductor at Voices Boston Children's Choir, a Teaching Artist with Boston Lyric Opera and Handel & Haydn Society, and Music Director at First Parish UU in Needham, MA, where she is also Artistic Director of the newly formed "To The Fore" Concert Series, focused on bringing historically marginalized voices to the forefront.

As a composer, Laura is especially passionate about giving voice and space to gender marginalized musicians and poets through choral and vocal music. Their compositions have been performed by musicians across the country, including the Handel & Haydn Society Youth Choruses, Choral Arts Initiative, the Evelyn Duo, Voices Boston Children's Choir, Boston Conservatory Choir, Nightingale Vocal Ensemble, Lilith Vocal Ensemble, BRACE New Music Choir, the UofSC Concert Choir, and the Choir of Saint Peter's Episcopal Church in Cambridge.

NEC Preparatory School Youth Chorale

Erica J. Washburn, director

Calvin Isaac Wamser '24 MM, student manager and assistant conductor

Da-Yu Liu, rehearsal accompanist

Abigail Bilodeau	Claire Park	Mary Wang
Ashley Chen	Alla Petrosyan	Maximilian Wood
Hannah Goodwin	Adam Pinto	Nicholas Ying
Bailee Green	Mia Snorek-Yates	Christopher Yoo
Esther Jin	Elin Thomas	Henri Youmans
Maggie King	Natalie Tulipani	Eddie Zhou
Lindsay Kwon	Clara Van de Velde	Kevin Zhou
Darya Leschiner	Calvin Isaac Wamser	
Madeline Lytton	Ariel Wang	

Conductor and mezzo-soprano **Erica J. Washburn** has been Director of Choral Activities at New England Conservatory since 2009. Known for her student-centric approach to classroom and rehearsal instruction, and commitment to the performance of new music, she is the recipient of several outstanding alumni awards, including the distinguished honor of induction to the Westminster Choir College Music Education Hall of Fame.

As a conductor, Washburn has worked with Kansas City, MO based Cardinalis, the Yale Schola Cantorum, the East Carolina University Women's Chorale, and the Eastman Women's Chorus. She is a sought-after guest clinician who frequently leads state and regional festival choruses, and spent five summers as a conductor and voice faculty member for the New York State Summer School of the Arts School of Choral Studies.

Under her direction the NEC choirs have been featured on several live and pre-recorded broadcasts, including the North Carolina based station WCPE Great Sacred Music, WICN Public Radio, and WGBH Boston. The choirs can also be heard in collaboration with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project on the BMOP/Sound recording Paul Moravec: *The Blizzard Voices* and, most recently, with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the Boston Symphony Orchestra on their Deutsche Grammophon recording of Shostakovich Symphony No. 13 (released on October 20).

Washburn's stage credits include appearances as Madame Lidoine in Francis Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Rebecca Nurse in Robert Ward's *The Crucible*, Mother/Allison in the premiere of Lee Hoiby's *This is the Rill Speaking* and others. Her recital and orchestral solo credits are numerous, and her live premiere from Jordan Hall of the late Richard Toensing's *Night Songs* and *Evening Prayers* with the New England Conservatory Symphonic Winds can be heard on Albany Records.

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and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.
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