



# A CAPPELLA

Newsletter of CAPPELLA CANTORUM

P. O. Box 714  
ESSEX, CT. 06426

Since 1970

November 2014

## From the Director

**Cappella Cantorum's 45th anniversary season** continues Sunday, Dec. 7, 3 pm. with a performance of Bach's *Magnificat* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* at St. Mark the Evangelist R.C. Church, 222 McVeagh Road, Westbrook. Composer Richard Wagner called the *Magnificat* "the most stupendous miracle in all music." The *Gloria* is Vivaldi's best known sacred work and is a joyful hymn of praise and worship. Soloists will be **Patricia Schuman, Heather Petrie, Fredrick Goff** and **Thomas Mullaney**. In the spirit of the season, the audience will be invited to sing Christmas carols with the chorus. Advance tickets are \$25 on-line at CappellaCantorum.org or may be purchased by calling 860-577-2950. Tickets the day of the concert will be \$28 at the door. Reception will follow.

The annual *Messiah* Sing or Listen sponsored by Cappella is set for Sunday, Dec. 21, 4 p.m. at The Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, 300 Main St., Old Saybrook. All singers are welcome and will rehearse at 3:30 p.m. Professional soloists will highlight the performance. Barry Asch will conduct with Deborah Lyon accompanying. Fee is \$10 for both singers and audience members. Purchase tickets at TheKate.org or at 877-503-1286.

**Registration/rehearsal for the Faure Requiem** and Schubert's *Mass in G* will be Monday, Jan. 5 and 12, 7 p.m. at John Winthrop Middle School, Deep River. Performance will be March 22. No auditions are required. See p. 3.

## CAPPELLA CANTORUM

Barry B. Asch, Conductor  
Deborah Lyon, Assistant Music Director

### Bach's 'Magnificat' Vivaldi's 'Gloria'

*with professional chamber orchestra*

Patricia Schuman, soprano  
Heather Petrie, contralto  
Fredrick Goff, tenor  
Thomas Mullaney, baritone

*St. Mark the Evangelist R.C. Church  
222 McVeagh Road, Westbrook*

**Sunday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m.**

--Tickets: \$25 in advance,  
\$28 at the door--

Visit [CappellaCantorum.org](http://CappellaCantorum.org),  
call 860-577-2950, or purchase at the door  
(Students 12 and under free)

**Save Sunday, Nov. 23**, for James Kuslan's lecture on Bach's *Magnificat* and Vivaldi's *Gloria*. It will begin at 3 p.m. at Hamilton Hall, Essex Meadows, and will be an entertaining take on the Dec. 7 concert. Admission is a non-perishable food item. See p. 2 for more information.

## Free lecture on 'Magnificat' and 'Gloria' Nov. 23



One of the shoreline's favorite speakers on all things musical, James Kuslan of New York City, will give a free lecture Sunday, Nov. 23, 3 p.m. at Hamilton Hall, Essex Meadows, 30 Bokum Road, Essex. Kuslan has been described as a brilliant, engaging speaker with a wonderful sense of humor. He will focus on Bach's *Magnificat* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* to be performed by Cappella Cantorum Masterworks Chorus Sunday, Dec. 7.

Kuslan has given talks along the shoreline on several musical subjects. He gave lectures on opera works at the Essex Library in 2010, on Verdi female characters and *Don Pasquale* at the Old Lyme Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library in 2012 and 2013, and on "Operatic Disasters" at Essex Meadows in 2013. He is also known internationally for his essays that accompany the DVDs of the Metropolitan Opera's recent productions of *Lucia di Lammermoor* and *Don Pasquale* and as a writer of notes for London's 20 CD collection, *Opera Made Easy*. He is now co-writing the memoirs to Tito Capobianco, the legendary stage director who contributed immeasurably to the great days of the New York City Opera.

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantry. A reception will follow the lecture.

## Cappella receives grant from Community Foundation

Cappella Cantorum is pleased to announce and gratefully acknowledges receipt of a generous \$5,000 unrestricted grant award from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. This grant is made possible through the **Kitchings Family Fund**.



Philanthropy • Leadership • Legacy

Cappella Cantorum will use these funds in direct support its mission. Cappella Cantorum is the lower Connecticut River Valley and Shoreline's premiere non-auditioned community choral organization whose primary purpose is to learn, perform and enjoy great choral music while striving for excellence and the enrichment of its singers and audience.

Community Foundation of Middlesex County represents local people, giving locally to make an impact on the lives of others – not just for today, but forever. The Community Foundation works with charitably-minded individuals and organizations to build permanent endowments and other charitable funds. These funds support local non-profit organizations through effective grant making to address community needs.

Since its founding in 1997, the Community Foundation of Middlesex County has provided 1,100 grants totaling more than \$3.3 million to organizations for the arts, cultural and heritage programs, educational activities, environmental improvements, and for health and human services. For more information, contact the Community Foundation at 860-347-0025 or [Info@MiddlesexCountyCF.org](mailto:Info@MiddlesexCountyCF.org).

# Register and reserve scores for spring concert on-line

The Cappella Cantorum website offers registration on-line for the March 22 performance of the Faure *Requiem*, the Faure *Cantique de Jean Racine* and Schubert's *Mass in G*. Scores may also be reserved on-line.

Your early reservation guarantees the score(s) will be held in your name and ready for the first rehearsal, Monday, Jan. 5, or the second rehearsal, Jan 12, 7 p.m. at John Winthrop Middle School, Deep River. Registering in advance and reserving scores streamlines the process.

- Registration for spring MasterWorks Chorus concert is \$40.
- Faure *Requiem*, Kalmus edition, \$11.
- Faure *Cantique de Jean Racine*, \$2.
- Schubert, *Mass in G*, Schirmer edition, \$8.

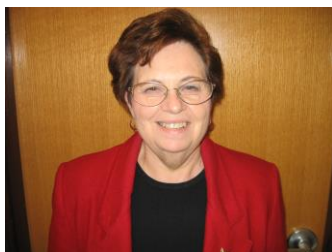
On-line registrations and score reservations may be made with VISA, MasterCard, or Discover credit or debit card or with your PayPal account. No on-line fees are charged.

Visit CappellaCantorum.org and click on the "Sing With Us," tab "Upcoming Productions" or scan this QR Code right now with your tablet or smartphone. It really is just that easy.

Registrations will also be taken in person at the first and second rehearsals.



## Notes from the president



We continue to celebrate the 45 years that Cappella Cantorum has been bringing great choral masterworks to lower Middlesex County. With every concert, I am amazed at what a difference there is between our first rehearsal and our concert performance. It is certainly an inspiring journey from September to December in the fall and from January to March or April in the spring. It has also been a privilege to watch Barry Asch, our conductor, coach, cajole, and teach us to bring this beautiful music to life in 12 short weeks.

Again this fall, we enjoyed four group voice lessons with our soprano soloist, Patricia Schuman. It was amazing to watch and hear how this incredible professional could so dramatically change each student's vocal production in only 4 lessons. The entire chorus experienced Ms. Schuman's vocal coaching for a one-hour session early in our schedule as well. Surely these opportunities are one reason why being a part of Cappella Cantorum is so rewarding to all of our members. It will be a treat to hear Ms. Schuman's rich soprano voice as well as Heather Petrie's glorious and powerful contralto voice at our Dec. 7 concert. We certainly hope that this concert will be an extraordinary experience for all of our audience as well as for every singer. The acoustics of St. Mark the Evangelist R. C. Church are perfect for the pieces we are performing.

After this concert and after the coming holiday season, we will assemble once again to begin preparation of another production, the Faure *Requiem* and Schubert's *Mass in G* on March 22, 2015. As time and circumstance would have it, our spring concert will be performed on the anniversary of the first concert Barry conducted 45 years ago. Quite a coincidence!

- Claudia Epright



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## **Join Cappella's new on-line mailing list**

Help us stay in contact so that you are the first to know what is happening with everything Cappella Cantorum by joining our new on-line mailing list.

Help us save paper and reduce printing and postage costs.

Our mailing list is never shared or sold. However, with your permission, we may occasionally pass along an offer from affiliated organizations that we think you may be interested in.

There are three convenient ways to sign up for our new on-line mailing list:

1. Visit [CappellaCantorum.org](http://CappellaCantorum.org) and enter your e-mail address in the upper left box
2. Visit our Facebook page and click on "Join our Mailing List"
3. Scan this QR code right now with your tablet or smartphone:



*- David Nelson*