

Make Them Hear You



The Cumberland Singers

Friday, April 21, 2017

8:00 PM

Enola Emmanuel United Methodist Church
22 Salt Road, Enola, PA

Saturday, April 22, 2017

7:00 PM

Community United Methodist Church
16th and Bridge Streets, New Cumberland, PA

Sunday, April 23, 2017

3:00 PM

Christ Lutheran Church, Filey's
15 South Fileys Road, Dillsburg, PA

Directed by
Alissa Plant



Accompanied by
Harold Plant

About the Cumberland Singers

The Cumberland Singers are a non-auditioned community choir, performing each December and spring in various musical styles, including classical, popular, Broadway, jazz, folk, multi-cultural, and holiday. We have been enjoying and celebrating music for over thirty years - our original 25 singers first performed on June 19, 1976.

We welcome all singers of any range and ability. The only requirements for joining us are a love of singing, ability to match pitch or carry a tune, willingness to practice and learn parts, and a time commitment to weekly rehearsals and seasonal concerts. The ability to read music is desirable, but not required.

The choir rehearses for the holiday concerts from September to December and for the spring concerts from January to April. Rehearsals are on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:15 PM at the Mechanicsburg Middle School.

To help cover our music, staffing, and other expenses, singers pay dues at the beginning of each season and are also asked to participate in fundraising activities throughout the season.

We welcome your participation in the Cumberland Singers as a singer or volunteer. Speak with one of us today for more information, or contact us at any time at cumberlandsingers@gmail.com.

Board of Directors

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The Cumberland Singers

Sopranos

Amy Braun
Emily Brent
Kim Hollich
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Andrea Marchetti
Miriam McMechen
Beth Misakonis
Emily Reed
Susan Rhone
Janée Robinson
Amber Shearer
LaDonna Tarpley
Roxann Todt
Kate Vanier
Karen Vittone

Altos

Jen Buczynski
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Kim Hanford
Sharon Heiner
Margaret Hope
Anmarie Jezorski
Lori Anne McBride
Andrea McKenna
Sue Mendelson
Tina Moyer
Becky Noll
Nina Sadler
Shannon Stalker
Tina Stauffer
Patrice Thompson
Chris Wallace

Tenors

Neil Brown
Jonathan Evans
Bob Fake
Frank Fisher
Ron Flory
Josh Lebo
Tom Longenecker
Russ Matthews

Basses

Don Coldren
Dave Feath
Dan Fisher
Steve Keefer
John Succa
James Thompson



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Director

Alissa Plant has been performing and teaching music in the Central PA area for twenty years. She has her degree in elementary education from Messiah College, and she teaches private voice and piano lessons at her home studio in Elizabethtown. She has taught and directed singers of all ages, from young children to senior citizens.

Accompanist

Harold (Skip) Plant has played piano, pipe organ, and electronic keyboards professionally for more than forty years. He studied choral and vocal music at Utah State University, then pursued a career as a television producer/director with many nationally-distributed performance specials, documentaries, and series on PBS. He is a composer, arranger, and performer, and his work experience includes many years as a recording studio chief engineer.



Come Join The Cumberland Singers!

Do you love to sing? Do you have good pitch and a good attitude? Can you commit to weekly rehearsals and seasonal performances? If so, we're looking for you! Come to a rehearsal and sing along!

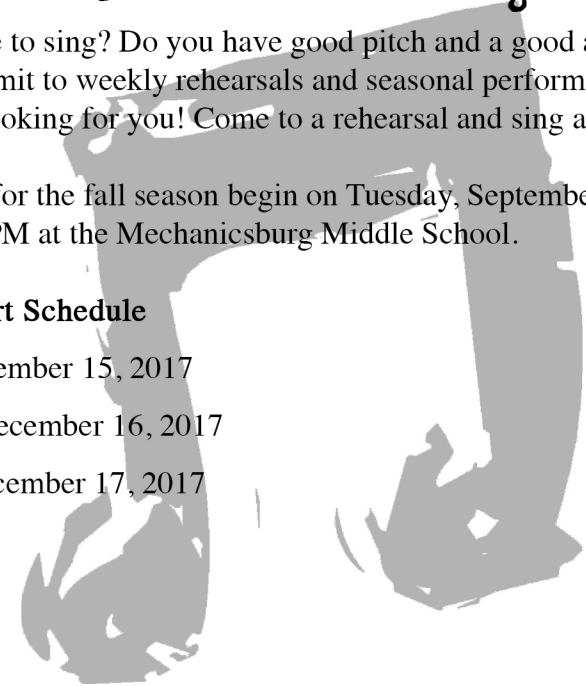
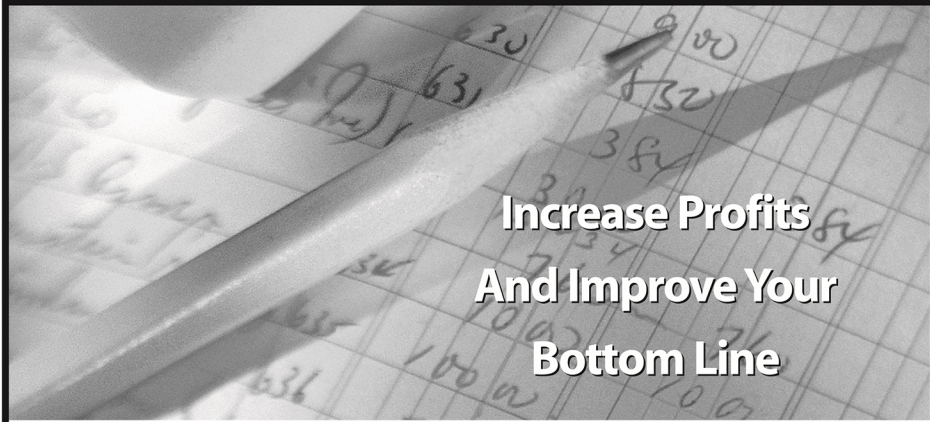
Rehearsals for the fall season begin on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 7:00 to 9:15 PM at the Mechanicsburg Middle School.

Fall Concert Schedule

Friday, December 15, 2017

Saturday, December 16, 2017

Sunday, December 17, 2017

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PHOTOGRAPHY
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Program

***Winter's on the Wing* Lucy Simon**

Words by Marsha Norman

Arr. John Leavitt

Like most of our concert, these lyrics and music were written by women. Surprisingly few women are represented in the fields of Broadway, classical, and choral composition. This song, from the musical *Secret Garden*, is about the idea that there is hope even when times seem darkest.

"The sun spells the doom of the winter's reign."

***Brave* Sara Bareilles and Jack Antonoff**

Arr. Audrey Snyder

This catchy pop tune is about confronting fears, speaking out, and being brave enough to live as who you are.

Soloist: Patrice Thompson

"Maybe one of these days you can let the light in and show me how big your brave is!"

***Big Yellow Taxi* Joni Mitchell**

Arr. Greg Gilpin

Joni Mitchell wrote this song, which has since become a pop cultural touchstone, while looking out of a hotel room window at beautiful Hawaiian island vistas spoiled by acres of parking lots. Her lyrics voice environmental concerns, and warn us not to take the world for granted.

"Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone?"



*Thank you for attending our concert.
Please join us after the program for a reception.*

Program

***Come in From the Firefly Darkness* Amy F. Bernon**

Our opening song is about enjoying the company of good friends after time spent apart and reflects how the Cumberland Singers feel coming to rehearsal at the start of each new season.

"And in the sweetness of the night, I will sing."

***There Will Come Soft Rains* Ruth Morris Gray**

Words by Sara Teasdale

This piece is a choral adaptation of a poem by Sara Teasdale (1884-1933), who wrote the work to express her disillusionment over World War I. Teasdale's poem asserts that, despite human acts of foolishness, the earth will heal itself and go on.

"And spring herself, when she awoke at dawn, would scarcely know that we were gone."

***Four Lyrics of Sara Teasdale* Phyllis E. Zimmerman**

This piece sets another four of Teasdale's poems to music, using compositional techniques like text painting, rhythmic variations, and lush chords to bring the words to life. The first poem, *Life has loveliness to sell*, encourages us to appreciate beauty in the everyday objects and experiences around us. The second, *To-night*, compares the eternal nature of the moon and sky to the fleeting moment of a love affair. The third poem, *Dusk in June*, ensconces the listener amidst a flock of singing birds. Finishing out the piece is *I would live in your love*, which paints a picture of ocean waves and heartbeats.

Soloists: Bethany Malykh, Amber Shearer

"Oh, let me, like the birds, sing before night."

***When I Am Silent* Joan C. Varner**

In explaining this song, Joan Varner describes a visit to the Nazi concentration camp in Auschwitz, Poland. She was struck by the loss of so many young lives and haunted particularly by the photo of one teenaged girl. She dedicates this song to that girl and to all young people whose lives are taken unjustly.

"Who will sing for me?"

Program

***We Are the Ones We Been Waiting For* Bernice Johnson Reagon**

As sung by Sweet Honey in the Rock, *We Are the Ones We Been Waiting For* is the end of a poem by June Jordan, entitled *Poem for South African Women*. The poem was written as a tribute to successful protests against a proposed pass law for African women in 1955. The composer intended specifically for all seven parts to be balanced, cooperative and supportive – different, but complementary. The message is that we cannot wait for someone else to step up and take the action we should take ourselves.

“We are the ones we have been waiting for.”

***Angel Breathing Out* Alisa Bair**

Evoking feelings about nature and human nature, the natural world and the supernatural world, *Angel Breathing Out* is a song of exhilaration and hope.

“What wind is it that blows here? What change is come about?”

***Fame is a Fickle Food* Ruth Morris Gray**

Words by Emily Dickinson

Adapted from Dickinson’s famous poem, this piece explores a simple but powerful idea: that perhaps there are nobler pursuits than fame for its own sake.

“Men eat of it and die.”

Intermission



Program

***Five Haiku* Joan Whitemore**

Poetry by Basho

- “Lady Butterfly”
- “Iris”
- “I Have Known Lovers”
- “Peony”
- “Two White Butterflies”

Haiku is a mode of traditional Japanese poetry, characterized by short form and a painterly, minimalist approach. This selection draws together five powerful haikus, united by imagery of butterflies and themes of hope.

“Still, iris, blue each spring.”

***No Chicken Today* Pamela Brandt**

As sung by The Deadly Nightshade

This piece conveys a lighthearted but stern warning about the importance of treating one another with respect.

“Some people say that all things change, but our menus never do.”

***Bridge Over Troubled Water* Paul Simon**

Arr. Kirby Shaw

Originally composed by Paul Simon, this five-time Grammy Award-winning song speaks in simple but powerful lyrics about comforting a friend in need.

Soloist: James Thompson

“If you ever need a friend, look around, I’m sailin’ right behind.”

***Make Them Hear You* Stephen Flaherty**

Words by Lynn Ahrens

Arr. Jeff Funk

The musical *Ragtime* tells the sweeping tale of the American experience at the turn of the 20th century, exploring themes of racial justice and equality. This piece emphasizes the importance of stories revolving around that struggle and why we have an obligation to share them — especially with our children.

Soloist: Steve Keefer

“Your sword can be a sermon or the power of the pen.”