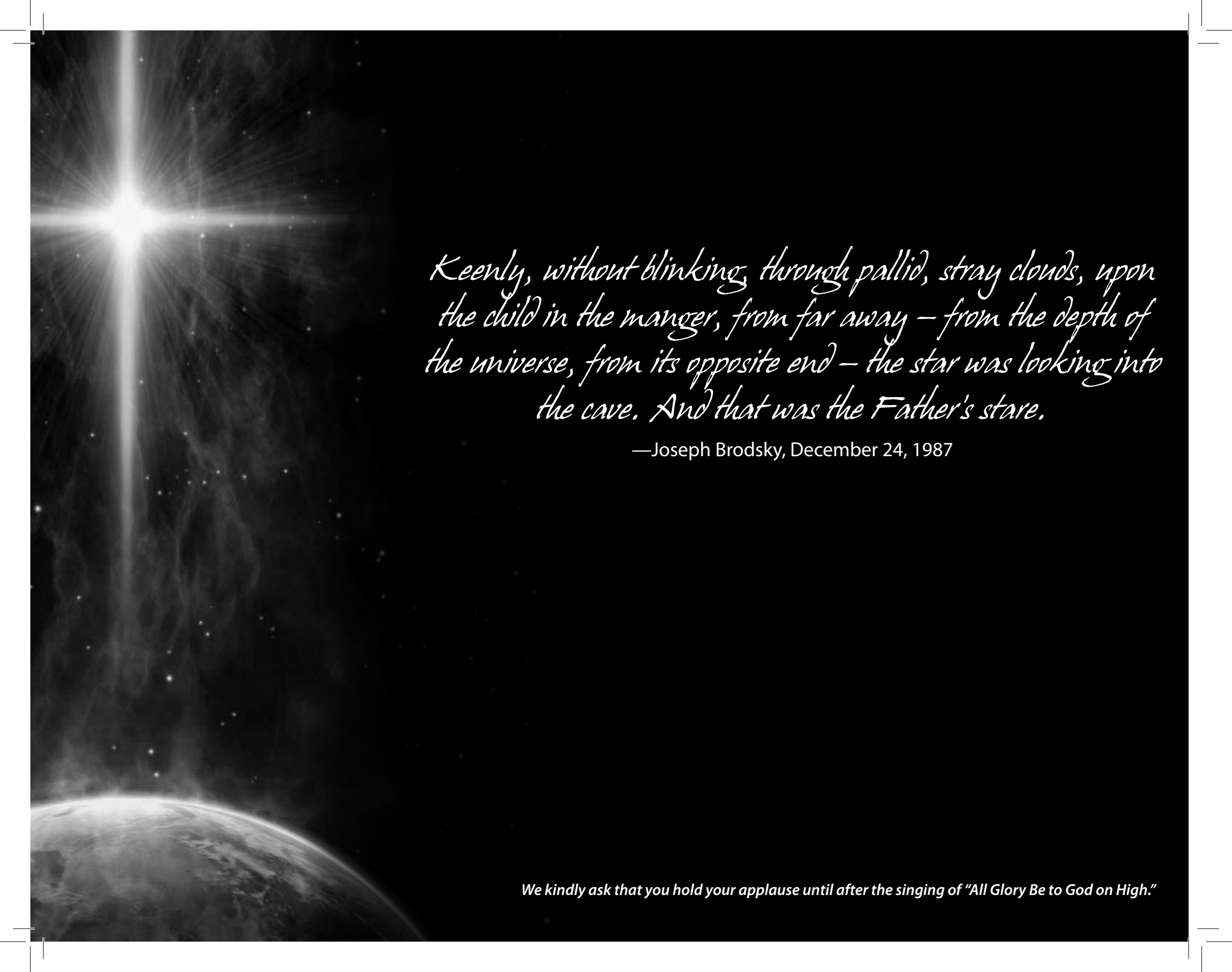




Celestial Child

University of Mount Union Christmas Festival | Myers Sanctuary, Dewald Chapel

Thursday, December 8, 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. | Friday, December 9, 7:30 p.m. | Saturday, December 10, 7:30 p.m.



*Keenly, without blinking, through pallid, stray clouds, upon
the child in the manger, from far away – from the depth of
the universe, from its opposite end – the star was looking into
the cave. And that was the Father's stare.*

—Joseph Brodsky, December 24, 1987

We kindly ask that you hold your applause until after the singing of "All Glory Be to God on High."

Organ Prelude *Creator of the Stars of Night*Richard Warner

O Come, O Come Emmanuel15th century French processional, arr. John Ferguson

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!

Prayer of Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Candle

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

O, Come All Ye Faithful

(the audience is invited to stand)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Angelus ad Virginem13th Century Carol, arr. Philip Lawson

When the angel came secretly to the Virgin in her room,
soothing the maiden's fear, he said: "Hail! Hail! Queen of virgins!
While yet untouched by man you shall conceive and bear
the Lord of heaven and earth, salvation for mankind.
You have become the gate of heaven, a remedy for sins."

"How can I conceive, since I have not known a man?
How can I break the vow I made with firm intent?"
"The grace of the Holy Spirit shall bring all this to pass.
Fear not, but rejoice, secure in the knowledge that pure chastity
shall remain yours through God's mighty power."

To this the noble Virgin replied, saying:
"I am the lowly handmaiden of Almighty God.
I bend my will to you, O celestial messenger, who share so great a mystery,
and I long to see performed what I now hear.
I am ready to yield myself to God's design."

Ah, mother of the Lord, who gave back peace to angels and mankind
when you bore Christ, pray your son to be gracious to us, and wipe away our sins,
granting us aid to enjoy a blessed life after this exile.

Dixit Maria ad AngelumHans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612

Mary said to the Angel: "Behold the handmaiden of the Lord;
be it unto me according to thy word."

No la debemos dormirChristina Whitten Thomas

No, we must not sleep on this holy night, we must not sleep.
The Virgin is alone, she is wondering what she will do when the King of great light is born,
If before his divine essence she will tremble, oh what will she say to him?
No, we must not sleep on this holy night, we must not sleep.

Reading "Mary at the Nativity"Tanya Runyan

The angel said there would be no end
to his kingdom. So for three hundred days
I carried rivers and cedars and mountains.
Stars spilled in my belly when he turned.

Now I can't stop touching his hands,
the pink pebbles of his knuckles,
the soft wrinkle of flesh
between his forefinger and thumb.
I rub his fingernails as we drift
in and out of sleep. They are small
and smooth, like almond petals.
Forever, I will need nothing but these.

But all night, the visitors crowd
around us. I press his palms to my lips
in silence. They look down in anticipation,
as if they expect him
to spill coins from his hands
or raise a gold scepter
and turn swine into angels.

Isn't this wonder enough
that yesterday he was inside me,
and now he nuzzles next to my heart?
That he wraps his hand around
my finger and holds on?

Ave MariaMichael John Trotta

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Hail Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

What Child Is This?

(The audience is invited to stand)

What Child is this who, laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Reading "So Loved" John Blase

The grafting of humanity into
divinity, this compatibility not
a sure thing as nothing like this
had ever been risked before.
The goal was union, taking every
last bit of the universe and
saying it out loud with kindness.
In this new beginning grew the
wild ceaseless beauty known as
the Word whose claws were sunk
deep into the world, not letting go,
not a chance. For God so loved.

See Amid the Winter's Snow John Goss, HUMILITY (1871), arr. Dan Forrest

See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on Earth below,
see, the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn,
hail redemption's happy dawn,
sing through all Jerusalem:
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the lofty skies;
He who, throned in light sublime,
sits amid the cherubim.

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was Thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this.

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(The audience is invited to stand)

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th' incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"

Personent hodie from *Pie Cantiones* (1562), arr. Phillip Lawson

Let children's voices resound today,
merrily praising him who has been born,
sent by almighty God and brought forth from a virgin's womb.

He was born into the world, wrapped in swaddling cloths,
and placed in the manger in a cattle shed, the Lord of the heavens,
the Prince who destroyed the spoils of hell.

Three wise men appeared; they offered gifts and
asked for a boy-child, following a star; they worshipped him,
offering gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Let all the clerics, and likewise the boys, sing like angels:
"You have come to the world; therefore, I pour out praises to you:
Glory be to God in the highest!"

Quem pastores laudavere.....14th Century Latin Carol, arr. Philip Lawson

The angels spoke to the praiseworthy shepherds, saying,
"Be not afraid, born is the King of Glory." The shepherds hastened to find Him.

Wise men came and humbly made their offerings of
gold, frankincense and myrrh to the prince of Glory.

Mary, with the Heavenly Host, joyously proclaims the
Word Incarnate with sweet and pleasant voice.

Through Mary, was given to us, worthily, Christ the King,
God Incarnate; loudly sing praise, honor and glory.

La Bonne Nouvelle Traditional French Carol, arr. Robert Sieving

O sing glad tidings, for unto us a Child is born, in a lowly manger on Christmas morn.
With love tonight He comes to us, Himself a child He dwells in us.
Come, shepherds give with loving hearts, all praise to the Child so holy.

Reading from "Christmas Landscape" Laurie Lee

Tonight has no moon,
No food for the pilgrim;
The fruit tree is bare,
The rose bush a thorn
And the ground is bitter with stones.

Tonight there is no moon,
But a new star opens
Like a silver trumpet over the dead.
Tonight in a nest of ruins
The blessed babe is laid.

Lunar Lullaby Jacob Narverud

The moon settles in the dusky sky.
The gentle eyes of the north star
rest upon your sleeping face
and the heavens gaze upon you.

In this moment, I know;
You are not from the ground on which you tread,
but of the stars.
You are my radiant, my celestial child.

As night is drown'd by morning
you remain at my side,
accompanying the sunrise
until night swells again across the sky.

Then, dreaming, you return to the stars.

Before the Paling of the Stars Tom Shelton

Before the paling of the stars,
Before the winter morn,
Before the earliest cockcrow,
Jesus Christ was born:
Born in a stable,
Cradled in a manger;
In the world his hands had made
Born a stranger.

Priest and king lay fast asleep
In Jerusalem;
Young and old lay fast asleep
In crowded Bethlehem;
Saint and angel, ox and ass,
Kept a watch together,
Before the Christmas daybreak,
In the winter weather.

Jesus on his mother's breast,
In the stable cold,
Spotless Lamb of God was He,
Shepherd of the fold:
Let us kneel with Mary maid,
With Joseph bent and hoary,
With saint and angel, ox and ass,
To hail the King of Glory.

The First Noel William Sandys, *Christmas Carols* (1833), arr. Dan Forrest

The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought

Benediction "The Love that lives"W.D. Dorrity

Every child on earth is holy,
Every crib is a manger lowly,
Every home is a stable dim,
Every kind word is a hymn,
Every star is God's own gem,
And every town is Bethlehem,
For Christ is born again and again,
When His love lives in the hearts of men.

All Glory Be to God on Highmelody attr. Nikolaus Decius (1539),
setting by Johannes Crüger (1649)

All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth from heaven,
and God's good will unfailingly be to all people given.
We bless, we worship you, we raise for your great glory thanks and praise,
O God, Almighty Father.

O Lamb of God, Lord Jesus Christ, whom God the Father gave us,
who for the world was sacrificed upon the cross to save us;
and, as you sit at God's right hand and we for judgement there must stand,
have mercy, Lord, upon us.

You only are the Holy One, who came for our salvation,
and only you are God's true son, who was before creation.
You only, Christ, as Lord we own, and, with the spirit, you alone
share in the Father's glory.

Organ Postlude

Finale from Suite on "Wachet Auf" (*Now let all the heav'ns adore You*)Wayne Wold

Officiants

Dr. Grant William Cook III, Artistic Director, Professor of Music
Rev. Mary CashBurless, University Chaplain
Debbie and Collin ('17) Edwards
Brad and Sue Goris
Brittany Wilk-Adams ('15) and Tim Anderson ('17)
Epller Family: Craig ('83), Laurie ('84), Sean ('14), Caelyn ('17), Mary Anne Snyder ('17)

Collaborative Artists

*Nancy Howenstine, organ
*Jennifer Linville, piano
Taylor Basnett, violin
Leandra Reed, violin
*Dr. Jerry Miskell, viola
Kate Gonczy, cello
Lena Shelton, flute
Rachel Ferraiuolo, flute
Ben Pickard, trumpet

Kristina Hass, trumpet
Chris Tucker, trombone
*Dr. Otis French, euphonium
Connor Funk, timpani and percussion
Rachel Powley, percussion
Sarah Yannie, reader
David Lenahan, reader
Rachel Irwin, reader
***UMU Faculty**



Concert Choir**Soprano**

Sarai Bodine	English	Freshman
Ali Caldwell	Nursing	Junior
Taylor Castle	Nursing	Junior
Reilly Davidson	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Freshman
Elizabeth Domer	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Freshman
Sarah Donkin	English: Writing	Sophomore
Caelyn Eppler Davis	Music Education (vocal)	Senior
Alaina Fuller	Psychology	Sophomore
Elizabeth Galloway-Purcell	Music Education (vocal)	Junior
Marissa Gatsios	Biochemistry	Senior
Jennifer Gotschall	Biochemistry (Pre-Med)	Sophomore
Rebecca Haley	Education (Intervention Specialist)	Freshman
Jacqueline Jepsen	Biochemistry	Senior
Sarah Slagle	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Junior
Mary Anne Snyder	Education (Early Childhood)	Senior
Nichole Will	Nursing	Freshman
Megan Zwart	Biology (Pre-Med) and Spanish	Sophomore

Alto

Angelica Bartholomew	Nursing	Junior
Rebecca Cooper	Math and Accounting	Junior
Abbie Fox	Biology	Senior
Victoria Ginty	Japanese and Music (vocal)	Junior
Rachel Irwin	Theatre and Public Relations	Senior
Abigail Lantz	Music Performance (vocal)	Sophomore
Kayla Lehman	Theatre and Public Relations	Junior
Katie Letts	Music (vocal)	Junior
Rebecca Passer	International Studies	Senior
Abigail Robertson	Education (Early Childhood)	Sophomore
Marissa Saley	Sport Business	Senior
Kaitlyn Slezak	Music Education (vocal)	Freshman
Abigail Van Auken	Psychology	Sophomore
Madison Wolfe	Education (Early Childhood)	Freshman
Sarah Yannie	Theatre	Senior

Tenor

Tim Anderson	Marketing	Senior
Anthony Bucci	Psychology	Junior
George Carr	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Sophomore
Ben Hayes	Music Performance (vocal)	Junior
Kyle Herman	Mechanical Engineering	Sophomore
Christopher Jones	Music Performance (instrumental)	Senior
David Lenahan	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Senior
Patrick McKittrick	Music Performance (piano)	Sophomore
David Passer	Mechanical Engineering	Freshman
Jesse Reed	Music Education (vocal)	Senior
Chris Tucker	Theatre	Sophomore

Bass/Baritone

Jeff Centrello	Theatre	Freshman
Ian Donaldson	Accounting and Finance	Sophomore
Collin Edwards	Biology	Senior
Max Feller	Marketing and Finance	Freshman
Connor Funk	Mathematics	Junior
Bradley Geist	Criminal Justice	Senior

Zach Henkels	Interactive Media	Junior
Marcus Morrison	Biology and Music (vocal)	Sophomore
Hunter Munroe	History	Senior
Robert Suffron	Marketing	Sophomore
Tommy Wines	Biology	Sophomore
Martin Zapata	Psychology and Management	Junior

Cantus Femina**Soprano**

Sarai Bodine	English	Freshman
Danielle Bradfield	Education (Early Childhood)	Freshman
Brooke Bullen	Biology	Freshman
Taylor Castle	Nursing	Junior
Reilly Davidson	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Freshman
Elizabeth Domer	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Freshman
Caelyn Eppler Davis	Music Education (vocal)	Senior
Rachel Ferraiuolo	French and Music (instrumental)	Sophomore
Eri Fujioka	Business	Junior
Elizabeth Galloway-Purcell	Music Education (vocal)	Junior
Alexa Goffos	Education (Early Childhood)	Junior
Rebecca Haley	Education (Intervention Specialist)	Freshman
Abigail Lantz	Music Performance (vocal)	Freshman
Kayla Lehman	Theatre and Public Relations	Junior
Katie Letts	Music (vocal)	Junior
Libby Medvin	Athletic Training	Junior
Amanda Panfil	Communication	Freshman
Gabrielle Patterson	Biology	Sophomore
Olivia Ricciutti	Political Science	Freshman
Lena Shelton	French and Psychology	Sophomore
Madison Sikyta	Athletic Training	Senior
Sarah Slagle	Theatre and Music (vocal)	Junior
Mary Anne Snyder	Education (Early Childhood)	Senior
Xiao Xue Wang	Marketing	Senior

Alto

Samantha Caldwell	Undeclared	Freshman
Lexi Marie Chisholm	Marketing	Junior
Kelsey Coleman	Sport Business	Senior
Bethany Cox	Neuroscience	Sophomore
Olivia DeMartino	International Affairs and Music (piano)	Junior
Kathryn Dhayer	Education (Intervention Specialist)	Freshman
Hannah Edwards	Biology	Junior
Jenna Hoffman	Music Performance (piano)	Sophomore
Joy Hoile	Music (instrumental)	Junior
Starr Klenotic	Public Relations	Sophomore
Micahla Livesay	Music Education (instrumental)	Sophomore
Abbey Molnar	Marketing	Junior
Alex Murdoch	Theatre and Writing	Freshman
Rebecca Palmer	Music Education (instrumental)	Senior
Rebecca Passer	International Studies	Senior
Rachel Powley	Spanish and Marketing	Junior
Abigail Robertson	Education (Early Childhood)	Sophomore
Kaitlyn Slezak	Music Education (vocal)	Freshman
Abbey Van Auken	Psychology	Sophomore
Lilly Williams	Theatre	Freshman
Madison Wolfe	Education (Early Childhood)	Freshman
Sarah Yannie	Theatre	Senior



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