The hit song Bridge Over Troubled Water by Paul Simon has become one of the most popular songs in our repertoire. Written in 1969 and released in 1970, it won Song of the Year as sung by Art Garfunkel in 1971. Today we are performing a popular Gospel arrangement by Kirby Shaw.

Part of our Mission Statement is as follows: “The FCCC believes not only that all people can sing, but that all people need to sing, and is committed to promoting singing throughout our culture.” The Music Educators National Conference, concerned that our society is losing important cultural traditions, has called for the promotion of community singing. Each year we ask you to please join us for our final selection, Winter Wonderland!

INTRO
Over the ground lies a mantle of white
A heaven of diamonds shine down through the night.
Two hearts are thrillin’ in spite of the chill in the weather.
A beautiful sight, we’re happy tonight,
As well as performing with the jazz big band Boontoon Jazz and a vocal trio known as the YY Sisters.

Count On Me was recorded by American singer-songwriter Bruno Mars on his debut album, Doo Wops & Hooligans (2010). Musically, Count On Me is a pop and tropical record that lyrically details the importance of friendship.

Our arrangement of Coventry Carol is by Kate Victor, a former FCCC chorister who is now teaching voice, piano and cello in New Jersey, as well as performing with the jazz big band Boontoon Jazz and a vocal trio known as the YY Sisters.

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The melody of a round consists of sections of equal length which are designed to loop back to the beginning of the melody. In the Common Practice Period, the most commonly used form of a round was called a “canon” or “canzona,” a slow, growing in excitement and speed until its frenzied conclusion.

The Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors is a Chassidic round known as a “nigun,” a melodic leap of a seventh, the distance of seven steps between two notes. Such an interval, known as an “augmented fourth,” is generally avoided by so conservative a composer as Palestrina.

The Coventry Carol is an English Christmas carol dating from the sixteenth century. The carol was traditionally performed in Coventry, England, as part of a mystery play called The Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors. The play depicts the Christmas story from chapter two in the Gospel of Matthew: the carol itself refers to the Massacre of the Innocents, in which Herod ordered all male infants under the age of two in Bethlehem to be killed, and takes the form of a lullaby sung by mothers of the doomed children. Our arrangement of Coventry Carol is by Kate Victor, a former FCCC chorister who is now teaching voice, piano and cello in New Jersey, as well as performing with the jazz big band Boontoon Jazz and a vocal trio known as the YY Sisters.

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Welcome to the second-annual Winter Concert of the Fairfield County Children's Choir! Our theme, One Voice – The Sound of All of Us, will be the focus of the text of our entire performance today. Our guests have added some new color to the selections we chose to present, and we are honored to share our music with you. The choir will also invite the entire audience to sing with us on our final selection, Winter Wonderland (the words are printed below). There will be no7th and 8th grade students on hand to perform with you in this performance!

We begin with One Voice, a metaphorical call for unity by The Wall's Jenny E., a Canadian folk music trio originating in Winnipeg, Manitoba, that has been featured regularly on Garrison Keillor's radio variety show. The piece's title, Choral Suite: Sonatas for Eight voices, is an ode to winter that will warm your heart. "Have you seen the snowdrifts after the snowstorm has passed?" The singing of the voices and the accompaniment of the piano and flute evoke a magical winter scene.

We also perform a traditional Welsh Carol, Deck the Hall, which gives it an ancient and ethnic charm. The popular Christmas carol, Deck the Halls, with traditional lyrics, was written by The Walrus and the Carpenter, and the music is taken from the text of our opener and connects with our season-long theme of liberating and "rededicating" of the temple in Jerusalem. The sacred Latin text, Ave Maria, has inspired many composers to write in this style of music. It is an up-tempo work written for the holiday season by the very talented Canadian folk music trio originating in Winnipeg, Manitoba, that has been featured regularly on Garrison Keillor's radio variety show. The piece's title, Choral Suite: Sonatas for Eight voices, is an ode to winter that will warm your heart. "Have you seen the snowstorms after the snowstorm has passed?" The singing of the voices and the accompaniment of the piano and flute evoke a magical winter scene.

Deborah L. is an up-tempo work written for the holiday season by the very talented Canadian folk music trio originating in Winnipeg, Manitoba, that has been featured regularly on Garrison Keillor's radio variety show. The piece's title, Choral Suite: Sonatas for Eight voices, is an ode to winter that will warm your heart. "Have you seen the snowstorms after the snowstorm has passed?" The singing of the voices and the accompaniment of the piano and flute evoke a magical winter scene.

Deck the Hall is a traditional Welsh Carol, written by John W. C. Such as as a poem by the angel Gabriel to Mary, the mother of Jesus. The piece is set in the Dorian mode, which gives it an ancient and ethnic charm. The popular Christmas carol, Deck the Halls, with traditional lyrics, was written by The Walrus and the Carpenter, and the music is taken from the text of our opener and connects with our season-long theme of liberating and "rededicating" of the temple in Jerusalem. The sacred Latin text, Ave Maria, has inspired many composers to write in this style of music. It is an up-tempo work written for the holiday season by the very talented Canadian folk music trio originating in Winnipeg, Manitoba, that has been featured regularly on Garrison Keillor's radio variety show. The piece's title, Choral Suite: Sonatas for Eight voices, is an ode to winter that will warm your heart. "Have you seen the snowstorms after the snowstorm has passed?" The singing of the voices and the accompaniment of the piano and flute evoke a magical winter scene.

Additional notes:

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