

# Fairfield County Children's Choir

## BROADWAY MELODIES

February 11, 2023 - 7:00 PM  
Klein Memorial Auditorium

### Medley from Encanto

- The Family Madrigal ..... Genevieve Horne, Alina Hsu, Bella Lombardi, Luke Nagy, Isabel Toma & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- Waiting on a Miracle ..... Victoria Beniston, Scarlett Robbins
- Surface Pressure ..... Maddy Revzon & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- What Else Can I Do? ..... Kennedy Boehme & Alyvia Tuason
- Dos Oruguitas ..... Demi Betfarhad & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- All of You ..... Eileen O'Connor, Alexandra Leite & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- We Don't Talk About Bruno ..... Colette Burke, Natalia Godo, Samara Negrin & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- Colombia, Mi Encanto ..... The Combined Choirs of the FCCC

### **All I Ask of You from Phantom of the Opera**

River Peterson & Samantha Hoffman  
& the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

### Intermission

### **Any Dream Will Do from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**

Nathan Horne  
& the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

### Medley from Matilda

- Naughty ..... Brooklyn Baker, Gracelynn Blumenfeld, Bridget Reddy & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- When I Grow Up ..... Danielle Curis, Sarah Eldemerdash, Zoe Eldredge & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- Quiet ..... Joelyne Domingue & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- Revoltin' Children ..... Melanie Dreizen & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC
- My House ..... Kady Mongirdas, Amanda Petri & Gracie Masters
- When I Grow Up/Naughty Reprise .. The Combined Choirs of the FCCC

## The Performers

The Choristers of the Fairfield County Children's Choir  
Jon Noyes - Music Director & Founder  
Lisa Bettke, Jacqueline Sugrue-Tait, Ashley Zadravec - Conductors  
Piano - Lisa Bettke  
Synthesizer - Yuan Wang  
Bass - Rodger Bryan  
Percussion - Michael Blancaflor  
Guitar - Morgan Morse

## Program Notes

Welcome to the Annual Broadway Concert and Auction of the Fairfield County Children's Choir. We are sure you will enjoy the music presented here tonight and we also hope you will find our auction items to be interesting and exciting. Thank you for attending the concert, bidding on the auction items and supporting the programs of the Fairfield County Children's Choir.

Musical theater, one of the most popular forms of entertainment on the stage or screen, evolved from a marriage of operetta and the British, European and American music hall acts of the early days of the 1900's. It came into its golden age on Broadway in the mid-20th century, with composers such as Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, Leonard Bernstein, Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe creating many memorable masterpieces. These productions are a treasure trove of irresistible songs loved and embraced by the public. In addition, Broadway show tunes are an important part of the cultural heritage of America and tonight we are thrilled to perform selections from *Encanto*, *Matilda*, *Phantom of the Opera* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreancoat*.

## Matilda the Musical

The Tony Award-winning **Matilda the Musical** is a stage musical based on the children's novel of the same name by Roald Dahl. It is the story of an extraordinary girl who dreams of a better life. Armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, Matilda dares to take a stand to change her own destiny by overcoming obstacles caused by her family and school, and by helping her teacher to reclaim her life. *Matilda* has won 47 international awards, and continues to thrill sold-out audiences of all ages on Broadway and in London's West End.

Matilda Wormwood lives unhappily with her parents and her brother. The Wormwoods frequently mock and verbally abuse her. Inspired by the stories in her books she decides to add some of her mother's hydrogen peroxide to her father's hair oil, leaving Mr. Wormwood with bright green hair (*Naughty*).

On Matilda's first day of school, her teacher, Miss Honey, is impressed by Matilda's ability and recommends that she be moved to the top of her class. However, the principal, Miss Trunchbull, dismisses Miss Honey's suggestion and tells her to adhere to the rules. Matilda soon learns of Miss Trunchbull's cruel punishments.

At school, Matilda befriends a fellow student named Lavender. Lavender proceeds to tell the audience of her plan to put a newt in Miss Trunchbull's jug of water later in the show. Meanwhile, at a playground, the children sing about what they hope life would be like when they grow up (*When I Grow Up*).

Miss Trunchbull then discovers the newt Lavender put in her jug; she accuses one of the boys, Eric, and begins to punish him. Matilda then scolds Miss Trunchbull. Outraged, Miss Trunchbull begins to yell at Matilda which makes her very angry, explaining to the audience what she has been feeling the entire time (*Quiet*). When Matilda discovers she can move objects with her mind, she successfully tips over the water jug causing the Newt to land on Miss Trunchbull. Terrified, Miss Trunchbull leaves.

Miss Honey tells Matilda of her cruel and abusive aunt, who looked after her as a child after her parents died. When Miss Honey first became a teacher, her aunt produced a bill detailing everything Miss Honey consumed as a child, along with other expenses, and forced her to sign a contract binding her to pay it all back. Desperate to escape, Miss Honey found refuge in an old farm shed which she moved into and lives in abject poverty. Despite this, Miss Honey finds beauty in her meager living conditions (*My House*). As Miss Honey tells her story, she produces a scarf which Matilda recognizes from her story of the acrobat and the escapologist—which she realizes is the true story of Miss Honey's childhood, and that her wicked aunt is Miss Trunchbull.

Back at school, Miss Trunchbull forces the children to take a spelling test, threatening that anyone who misspells a word will be sent to the closet. When the children begin to spell every word correct, Matilda uses her powers to write on the blackboard and convinces Miss Trunchbull a ghost wrote it. Miss Trunchbull runs from the school, never to return or be heard from again. The children celebrate their freedom (*Revolting Children*). Miss Honey becomes the new headmistress of the school, making it a better place for the children to learn.

The Wormwoods tell Matilda that they must move to Spain. Matilda does not want to leave and Miss Honey offers Matilda to stay with her. The musical ends with the cast on scooters as they continue to imagine what it will be like when they grow up (*When I Grow Up - Reprise*).

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We have programmed *All I Ask of You* from **Phantom of the Opera** to pay tribute to the longest running show in Broadway history. It had been scheduled to close this month, but was recently extended through April 16. The show opened in London in 1986 and in New York in 1988. It is one of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's most spectacular shows. Starring Michael Crawford and Sarah Brightman, it won the Tony Award for Best Musical on Broadway in 1988. The song is a dialogue between Christine and Raoul who sing of their abiding love and commitment.

Also composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber, with Time Rice, *Any Dream Will Do* is from the 1968 musical **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**. The song references Joseph's abilities as a dream interpreter and the loss of his coat of many colors, a gift his father bestowed upon him in Genesis 37:3 for being his favorite son. *Any Dream* was voted Broadway Song of the Year in 1981.

### Encanto

The Madrigals are an extraordinary family who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia in a charmed place called the Encanto. The magic of the Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift -- every child except Mirabel. However, she soon may be the Madrigals' last hope when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is now in danger.

While escaping her home from armed conflict, a young Alma Madrigal loses her husband Pedro but saves her triplet infant children Julieta, Pepa, and Bruno. The candle Alma carries with her becomes magical and creates a sentient house, the Casita, for the Madrigals to live in. Years later a village grows, protected by the Casita, and members of the Madrigal family are gifted superhuman abilities they use to help the villagers (The Family Madrigal). However, Bruno's gift of precognition causes multiple conflicts that lead to the family vilifying him, while Mirabel, Julieta's youngest daughter, is treated differently for having no gift at all.

During the evening of Pepa's youngest son Antonio being gifted with the ability to speak to animals, Mirabel suddenly sees the Casita cracking, but her warnings go unheeded when the Casita is found seemingly fine (Waiting on A Miracle). Mirabel, resolving to save the magic of the Casita, goes around to investigate and question her family members. Her older sister Luisa - who possesses superhuman strength - suggests that Bruno's room may hold some clues to the phenomenon (Surface Pressure). There, Mirabel sees a cave of sand and pieces of a slab of

opaque jade glass, which - when repaired - constitute an image supposedly showing her causing the Casita to fall apart. After Mirabel leaves, she discovers that her family members' gifts are starting to weaken (We Don't Talk About Bruno).

At a dinner where Mirabel's oldest sister Isabela -who can make flowers grow at will - is to become engaged to neighboring villager Mariano Guzman, Mirabel's oldest cousin Dolores - who possesses superhuman hearing - admits to overhearing Mirabel talking with her father about Bruno's vision. Mariano's proposal gets ruined when the Casita once again begins to crack, causing Pepa - whose emotions control the weather - to conjure up a thunderstorm much to everyone's shock. Isabela then blames Mirabel despite the latter denying her involvement in the cataclysm. Amidst the situation, Mirabel suddenly catches a glimpse of a man who she then chases through a hidden passage in the walls, discovering that he was none other than Bruno himself, who never really left their house because he still loves his family. Mirabel convinces him to make predictions again and gets Antonio's permission to use the latter's room. Bruno makes another vision, which shows the Casita collapsing and an image of Mirabel embracing Isabela.

Mirabel goes to apologize but instead learns of Isabela's burden of being perfect and her desire not to marry Mariano. Having poured out her feelings, Isabela's powers start to develop and both sisters reconcile (What Else Can I Do?). However, Alma discovers Mirabel's actions and thoughtlessly blames her for the family's misfortunes. Mirabel then finally snaps at her, saying how everything was truly all her fault for making everyone do things her way. Their argument suddenly creates a gigantic fissure that destroys the Casita while Alma's magical candle extinguishes in Mirabel's hands in her futile effort to save it, effectively stripping the Madrigals of their powers.

Alma later finds a tearful Mirabel at the river where Pedro died and finally admits her fault of pressuring the family, forgetting that the real gift given was not the powers but the family itself (Dos Oruguitas). Both reconcile and, with Bruno in tow, reunite the Madrigals to rebuild the Casita, assisted by the villagers. When Mirabel places the last doorknob, the Casita springs back to life and the magic returns (All Of You). The movie ends with the Madrigals taking their first family picture with Mirabel and Bruno now included in it (Colombia, Mi Encanto).

### Concert Etiquette for Our Audience

- **Refrain from talking.** This is the first and greatest rule. This rule includes whispering during the music.
- **For this concert, we understand the use of cell phones during the concert will be for accessing the online program and bidding on auction items.** Please use your phones discreetly, keeping them low. We are aware that many in our audience have developed great skill in this area. 😊
- **Do not enter or leave the auditorium during the music.** Wait for a break in the music.
- **Control coughing.** Muffle coughs and sneezes with a handkerchief. Cough drops and mints may be helpful, but leave if you can't stop the attack.
- **Avoid other sounds that can disturb the people around you and the performers.** Munching noisily, smacking or cracking gum, rattling the pages of programs, tapping feet or drumming fingers, humming or singing along, rummaging in purses—these are just a few of the things that can annoy those around you.
- **Don't take flash photos or shoot video during live performances.**
- **Do not wave to your parent/child at any point during the performance.** Performers on stage should not wave to audience members. Members of the audience should not wave to performers on stage. After all, they do know who you are already and they know you are there.
- **The point is to do nothing that will distract the performers or disturb others in the audience.**
- **Enjoy the show!!!**

## **FCCC Chamber Singers**

Anika Amann  
Rhiya Anand  
Brooklyn Baker  
Victoria Beniston  
Demeil Betfarhad  
Kennedy Boehme  
Dylan Bruno  
Colette Burke  
Lindsay Carozza  
Margaret Carroll  
Malia Catanesi  
Kayla Christie  
Aidan Coppola  
Anna Coulter  
Danielle Curis  
Joelyne Domingue  
Melanie Dreizen  
Anaya D'Souza

Zoe Eldredge  
Sanam Ghavami  
Natalia Godo  
Ella Giudice  
Louisa Hain  
Samantha Hoffman  
Genevieve Horne  
Grace Kistner  
Maddie Lawler  
Alexandra Leite  
Bella Lombardi  
Grace Maldonado  
Alanna Marchant  
Gracie Masters  
Eileen O'Connor  
Shamus O'Grady  
Luke Nagy  
River Peterson

Amanda Petri  
Bridget Reddy  
Saanvi Reddy  
Maddy Revzon  
Scarlett Robbins  
Sofia Schouten  
Faizan Seyal  
Vicky Sgaglione  
Lilliana Strazza  
Isabel Toma  
Alyvia Tuason  
Phoebe Tunnell  
Sophia Velasco  
Deilyn Wilson  
Dienna Wilson  
Caitlyn Yang

## **FCCC Concert Choir**

Annika Acuff  
Jaina Adebayo  
Scarlett Aguele  
Cara Arnold  
Alyssa Aube  
Aman Bakshi  
Julia Bates  
Clare Biggins  
Sara Borges  
Kate Bowen  
Emily Bruce  
Isabella Catalano  
Edward Chiaramonte  
Natalie Compare  
Audrey Compare  
Thomas Coppola  
Aven Craddock  
Natalie Cunningham  
Mars Czarnecki  
Catalina DePardieu  
Tanaya Dixit  
Brooke Dougherty  
Samantha Dreizen  
Sadie Edwar  
Sarah Eldemerdash  
Anthony Evans

Allison Fernandes  
Grace Flowers  
Ella Flowers  
Abigail Frankel  
Adam Fuller  
Oluwaseyi Garritano  
Anne Gombos  
Jenna Guzman  
Caiden Hamilton  
Rosalie Hathaway  
Amelia Hood  
Nathan Horne  
Alina Hsu  
Cecilia Illuzzi  
Aditi Jabitapuram  
Angelee Jackson  
Ryan Jenest  
Zachary Johnston  
Nathan Johnston  
Keira Kehoe Warren  
Cossette Kehoe Warren  
Mia Kinney  
Samhitha Kunichetty  
Sophia Levieff  
Claire Liao  
Caroline Louie

Emanuella Louis  
Alice Lutkins  
Celia Maddaloni  
Jaden Matteson  
Alicia Merturi  
Emily Miskowiak  
Katelynn Mitchell  
Kady Mongirdas  
Joshua Morgan  
Jeein Na  
Samara Negrin  
Alisa Nesterenko  
Kaira Oraedu  
Ellen Ou  
Molly Passeck  
Josie Pines  
Henry Quinn  
Christopher Rice  
Emma Rivel  
Amelia Rooney  
Manuella Rozo Batista  
Mary Sather  
Maritza Serrano  
Aanya Sharma  
Mihaela Siretanu  
Julia Speretta

Emmeline Swenson  
Alexis Tavella  
Anne Taylor

Alessandra Tuccillo  
Alice Valente  
Madeline Venech

Abigail Venech  
Ivy Yan  
Avery Young

### **FCCC Chorale**

Jesse Adebayo  
Scarlett Aguirre  
Eleanora Altieri  
Kaiden Amendola  
Eva Appels  
Ava Bailey  
Talia Baker  
Elizabeth Bauer  
Elizabeth Biondo  
Gracelynn Blumenfeld  
Adeline Campbell  
Maisie Campbell  
Sophia Camus  
Luna Cassone  
Rebecca Castro  
Sofia Ciminiello  
Annika Civitello  
Finley Clyne  
Arianna Contreras De Leon  
Lohanna Costa  
Janelis Dash  
Valeria Davis  
Paige Dierkes  
Frank Domiziano  
Josie Dommu  
Nathan Driscoll

Harlow Ellwood  
Ana Luisa Forest  
Zoe Giammanco  
Destiny Gomes  
Rosalie Gonzalez  
Greeshmika Gopinath  
Maevae Greely  
Naomi Gutierrez  
Morana Gutowski  
Zoe Hasiotis  
Lilah Heneghan  
Christopher Hughen  
Emmanuela Idowu  
Sharika Jayapathy  
Lucia Jayaseelan  
Noelle Jenkins  
Grace Katz  
Anshika Kumar  
Talia Lyles  
Ira Malhotra  
Fiona Meany  
Saira Menon  
Andrew Mettelus  
Maxim Michniewicz  
Zoe Miller  
Tenley Millien

Owen Nichols  
Ella Papini  
Viviana Peto  
Ivy Pettway  
Elie Quansah  
Kiran Rajan  
Mira Rajan  
Ryan Romeo  
Tess SanAngelo  
Siya Saravanan  
Bruce Sato  
Zander Serrano  
Casey Smith  
Hudson Sprague  
Sofie Taglieri  
Emily Tang  
Lucy Thomas  
Claire Totino  
Violet Tresca  
Tiffany Turcios  
Archana Unni  
Elizabeth Venech  
Helen Wallace  
Julia Wise  
Cierra Wolfson

### **FCCC Chorus**

Daphne Altin-Fahey  
Ethan Adhya  
Isabella Aquino  
Lauren Barral  
Oliver Bennett  
Charlotte Boehme  
Mateo Buitrago  
Presley Burns  
Penny Bush  
Madison Calabrese  
Skylar Castro  
Chano Chakravartty  
Briella Clary  
Sareen Citron-Hirschman

Dylan Clyne  
Dylan Cohen-Citron  
Giuliah Costa  
Christopher Cruz  
Enzo Da Costa  
Sahar D'costa  
Maya Desai  
Vyan Dixit  
Sofia Domiziano  
Lucy Flowers  
Allison Gdovin  
Aidan Gonzales-Kempsey  
Kailey Hernandez  
Brian Hychko

Elijah (Eli) Johnston  
Abigail Kasov  
Julia LaRicca  
Lily Larsen  
Logan Leite  
Archer List  
Rayna Madhavaram  
Emma Mason  
Mia Mason  
Ian Meluzio  
Cecilia Morey  
Nora Muldowney  
Emma Murphy  
Sadia Murzayev

Vivienne Norman  
Pasqual Oromi-Widmer  
Max Pajares  
Lily Perez  
Riley Power  
Alejandra Remigio  
Charlotte Sanders

Jenna Sayyah  
Elliott Sedgwick  
Kayli Serrano  
Mila Seyal  
Sibah Sheikh  
Olivine Simon  
Skylar Stern

Willa Valente  
James Walker  
Nyla Willis  
Sora Wilson  
Crystal Yan  
Charlotte Yannieh  
Allison Zhao

### **The Fairfield County Children's Choir**

The Fairfield County Children's Choir (FCCC) is a community-based choral program made up of over three hundred children in grades four through twelve from communities in Connecticut's Fairfield County and beyond. The FCCC was founded in 1995 to provide children the opportunity to participate in a musical experience which is challenging, rewarding and enjoyable. The FCCC program provides instruction in vocal technique, choral technique, music literacy and the appreciation of music through the practice and performance of great choral repertoire.

The FCCC has performed throughout New England (Boston, Tanglewood, Burlington, Hartford) as well as in New York (Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Madison Square Garden & West Point), Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Maryland, New Orleans, San Francisco, Oakland, Hawaii, Colorado, Arizona, Canada, England, Ireland, Austria and the Czech Republic. The group has shared the stage with such artists as Renee Fleming, Christopher Plummer, Charles Strouse, Stephen Schwartz, Augusta Read Thomas, Sam Waterston, Tom Chapin, Nick Page, Ivan Rutherford, William Boughton, Henry Leck, Bob Chilcott, Maria Guinand, Jean Ashworth Bartle and Rob Hugh. The FCCC has performed with many groups, including the Fairfield County Chorale, the Connecticut Chamber Choir, the Fairfield University Glee Club, the Mendelssohn Choir of CT, the Greater Bridgeport Symphony, the American Classical Orchestra, the CT Grand Opera, the US Military Academy Band / West Point, the Greater Connecticut Youth Orchestras and over one hundred children's choirs at various concerts and festivals.

Community service events have included performances for the March of Dimes, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Fairfield & JCCS Holocaust Commemoration Ceremonies, Red Cross, Americares, Save The Children, Operation Hope, Catholic Charities, Malta House, St. Vincent's Hospital, the Junior Women's Club, The Pilot House, the Visiting Nurses Association, the Milford LINKS, the Bridgeport Women's Shelter and the Bridgeport Rescue Mission.

The choir made a television commercial in the form of a 'flash mob' for Smilow Cancer Hospital in New Haven; performed the National Anthem at a New York Knicks basketball game and performed on America's Got Talent, both taking place at Madison Square Garden. In 2018 the choir received two first place awards at the Golden Gate International Choral Festival in California.

### **FCCC Mission Statement**

The mission of the FCCC is to provide children the opportunity to participate in a musical experience which is challenging, rewarding and enjoyable. Through the process of practicing and performing choral music with excellence and artistry, the FCCC helps to foster the personal, musical and social growth of each child, promoting self-esteem and self-discipline. The FCCC also contributes to the quality of the cultural life of its members and the community as a whole. Ultimately, in the words of John Ruskin, "The highest reward for a man's toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it."

The FCCC performs the standard children's choir repertoire, masterpieces from throughout music history, new works and lesser known "little gems." A unique aspect of the FCCC is its performance of authentic vocal jazz improvisation.

- The FCCC is committed to a high level of artistry, musical understanding and self-expression in all our activities.
- 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 FCCC brings together children with treble voices in Grades 4-12.
- The FCCC is open to children of all religious, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds in Fairfield County and beyond (No geographical limits to membership).

### **FCCC Rationale**

The rationale expands upon the mission statement of the FCCC. It is a statement of “why we do what we do.”

1. **MUSIC** - The act of making music has intrinsic value in and of itself. Music is an art form which has existed as an integral part of every culture throughout history. When we sing we experience forms of beauty and joy which words cannot express. Music making can be a powerful source of meaning in our lives, a door to “the inward places of the soul.” Children’s choirs practice and perform great repertoire.

2. **SINGING** - Singing is a basic means of human expression. The voice is the most personal of musical instruments, an important and deep connection to who we are. Children’s choirs train individual singers and promote singing throughout our culture.

3. **QUALITY OF LIFE** - The arts enrich and nourish our lives in an unending multitude of ways. Higher degrees of knowledge, understanding and appreciation of music contribute to an enriched quality of life from before birth to the very end of life. The arts contribute to the cultural life of individuals and the community as a whole. An excellent children’s choir is a valuable asset to any community.

4. **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT** - Because of the unique manner in which the brain processes music, the act of music making has an invaluable impact on major aspects of growth and development. From a parent’s lullaby to a newborn baby to the most exalted masterpieces of the ages, music effects our cognitive, motor and affective development in myriad ways. For an infant, early musical experiences can establish and reinforce many important neuronal connections in the brain. Later, as children listen, describe, analyze, evaluate, sing, move, create and utilize a sophisticated symbol system, they are developing powerful thinking skills and problem solving abilities. Participation in a children’s choir positively affects human development, and builds attributes such as self-esteem, self-discipline, cooperation and self-motivation which are necessary for success in life.

5. **CULTURAL HERITAGE AND LIFE LONG LEARNING** - A child who sings learns about life. To participate fully in a diverse global society, we must understand our own historical and cultural heritage, and that of others within our community, our nation and the world. The skills, knowledge and experiences involved in making great music are nearly infinite in their depth and breadth. The children’s choir is an important chapter in a child’s life long musical journey.

6. **FUN** - In the words of the great musician Bobby McFerrin, “Music is serious fun!”

### **The Music Staff**

**Jon Noyes**

**Music Director & Founder and Chamber Singers Conductor**

Jon Noyes served as a public school music educator for forty years, retiring in June 2021. He served as an Adjunct Professor of Music at Fairfield University from 2002 - 2012. Mr. Noyes received degrees from the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford. He holds a fourth-year certificate from the Kodaly Musical Training Institute and is a Past President of the Southern New England Kodaly Educators. The Connecticut Chapter of the American

Choral Directors Association named Mr. Noyes Choral Director of the Year for 1998. He has conducted all-state, regional, and national festival choirs, including the 2011 National Children's Choir for the Organization of American Kodaly Educators. He has presented in-service workshops throughout the United States and has published articles in local, state, and regional journals.

**Jacqueline Sugrue-Tait**  
**Concert Choir Conductor**

Jacqueline Sugrue-Tait is an elementary music teacher in the Fairfield Public Schools. Mrs. Sugrue-Tait received her Master of Music Education degree from Columbia University's Teachers College, and holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education, with an emphasis in piano and voice, from The Hartt School. Mrs. Sugrue-Tait is fully certified in the Feierabend Approach through The Hartt School, and has completed all three levels of The Kodály Certification. She holds the Smithsonian Folkways Certification in World Music Pedagogy and Culturally Responsive Teaching through The University of Washington, and has presented various sessions at music conferences at the state, regional, and national levels. Her love for choral singing began when she first became a member of FCCC in fourth grade, and she now performs as a soprano with Concora, the Connecticut Choral Artists! She is grateful to be conducting the wonderful young singers of the FCCC for her sixth season!

**Lisa Bettke**  
**Chorale Conductor and FCCC Accompanist**

Lisa Bettke is an elementary music specialist at McKinley School in Fairfield. She received a B.A. in Piano Performance and French from Gettysburg College and an M.S. in Music Education from the University of Bridgeport. Ms. Bettke completed her Orff Teacher Training levels I/II at Central CT State and Level III/Master Class at the University of Memphis. She has served as President of the CT Chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association and on the National Board of Trustees as a Regional Representative. Ms. Bettke has studied conducting with Doreen Rao (Levels I-III) and Henry Leck (Levels I-II). She also conducted the first-ever CT Children's Honors Choir for the CT Music Educators Association. As an accompanist, she has worked with Doreen Rao, Henry Leck, Mary Goetze, Joan Gregoryk, Jean Ashworth Bartle, and Rollo Dilworth.

**Ashley Zadravec**  
**Chorus Conductor**

Ashley Zadravec is a music educator at North Stratfield Elementary School in the Fairfield Public Schools. She holds a Master of Music Education from The University of Hartford's The Hartt School of Music with a concentration in Choral Conducting. Additionally, she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Western Connecticut State University concentrating in voice and is certified in the Kodály Method of Music Education from the University of Hartford. Having started choral singing at a very early age, including five years as a chorister with the FCCC, Ms. Zadravec continues her love of singing at St. Peter's church in Danbury, CT, where she is Soprano Section Leader and Cantor, and also as a soprano in the professional Hartford-based chamber choir, *Voce*. She has performed with choirs all around the world, including England, Ireland, Italy, New Orleans, Pennsylvania, and Canada and she has performed at various celebrated venues, including Carnegie Hall.

**Yuan Wang**  
**FCCC Accompanist**

Yuan Wang is a sought-after collaborative pianist. She started learning piano at the age of six and received her undergraduate training at the Wuhan Conservatory of Music. She received her Master of Music degree in piano performance on scholarship at the Longy School of Music of Bard College, in the studio of New York-based concert pianist, Rieko Aizawai. Yuan graduated with a Collaborative Piano Performance Diploma, under the tutelage of Esther Ning Yau, with whom she also studied Piano Pedagogy. Yuan has taught piano extensively in China, Boston and Connecticut, teaching students of all ages and levels. Her performing experience includes concerts with faculty and students in the Longy School of Music, Boston Conservatory, Boston University, Harvard University, New England Conservatory and International Music Academy Cremona at Italy. Recently, she

performs with the Darien piano duo and is active throughout Connecticut. Yuan's studio had a successful student concert last year at the Silvermine Music School in Norwalk.

### **FCCC Administrative Staff**

Jon Noyes - Music Director & Founder  
Sarah Duff - Executive Director  
Barbara Peck - General Manager  
Alicen Gachi - Assistant Choir Manager

### **FCCC Board of Directors**

Marina Philips - President  
John Ellis - Vice President

Marie Sacco - Secretary  
Rodney Jenks - Treasurer

Kiandra Dixon  
Gene Hoffman  
Judith Hart Lavin  
Jon Noyes  
Jane Rice

Muhoza Rwabukamba  
Charles Saber  
Bernadette Thottam  
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Francine Wilder

### **Support Provided By**



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### **Special Thanks**

The FCCC is grateful to FCCC Auction Co-Chairs, Katie Kearney and Megan Reddy, the FCCC Auction Committee, and the parents and friends, who contributed time, donations and their creativity to help make our biggest fund-raising event of the year a success.  
Many thanks to everyone who generously placed bids on our auction items.

Your support and dedication will keep FCCC's voices in perfect harmony!

&

Kristie Kistner Photography  
kristiekistnerphotography.com

**The FCCC Spring Concert**

The FCCC Spring Concert will take place at The Klein Memorial Auditorium on Saturday, May 13, 2023!

**For Information**

SingFCCC.org  
manager@SingFCCC.org

