

THE SAN DIEGO CHORUS & SAN DIEGO WOMEN'S CHORUS

LEGACY

LIFTING AS WE CLIMB

UNDER THE ARTISTIC DIRECTION OF KATHLEEN HANSEN

*Celebrating Those Who Came Before Us.
Paving the Way to the Future.*



MAY 7, 2023
LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL



San Diego Chorus

Award-Winning 4-Part A Cappella Harmony

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San Diego Chorus and San Diego Women's Chorus
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LEGACY

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Production

Script

Tracy Popenhagen

Technical Director/Stage Manager

Rip Rippetoe

Audio Engineer

Royce Ferguson

ASL Interpreters

Carla Warnock and Ana Diaz



Instrumentalists

Keyboard

Angelica Eclar

Percussion

Laurel Grinnell

Bass

Tim Glaude

Production Team

Laurie Bokuniewicz

Ellen Brown

Iztla Castano

Andrea Chertkow

Laurel Fisher

Mary Sue Garcia

Megan Jones

Karen Kaufman

Nicole Knox

Cindy McAdams

Shelly McMorrow

Pamela Murray

Lisa Ordonez

Leah Rippetoe

Emily Strong

Diane Thornewell

The San Diego Chorus and The San Diego Women's Chorus Thank Our Valued Sponsors and Community Partners



Letter from the Artistic and Musical Director, Kathleen Hansen

May 2023

Dear Friends,

Welcome to *Legacy*, a combined concert by The *San Diego Chorus* and The *San Diego Women's Chorus*! I am so excited to bring these fine ensembles together for this unique and powerful event. We had originally planned for this show to take place in May of 2020, and I've personally been looking forward to this collaboration for about five years! We have put together a great musical line up for you, and I'm thrilled with how it has all come together to reflect our original intent of bringing communities together in song as we reflect on the past and look toward a bright future.



The San Diego Chorus and the San Diego Women's Chorus have each participated in collaborations with a variety of groups not only locally, but from across the country, and around the world! Now, for the first time, we have the extreme pleasure of working together as we present this show for you. Please take a moment to look through the program to learn a bit more about each group and the music you will hear tonight.

If one or both choruses are new to you, I hope you'll take a moment to follow us on social media and join our email lists. These two different choruses with very similar names and the same director are both brimming with heart and talent. We hope you have a wonderful time this evening and that we can stay connected in the future.

Kathleen

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Hannah French
Melissa Galanty
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Veda Palmer*
Lisa Payne
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Carleen Thompson
Karin Tuner
Kim Vaughn
Sue Woo

*Queen of Hearts small ensemble member

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Assistant to the Artistic Director

Calieanne Grossheim

Interim Assistant to the Artistic Director

Angelica Eclar

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Your support is music to our ears!

Now is the time to say YES! to harmony, hope and community. Your gift supports music education, leadership development and regional and international competitive presence, scholarships, and youth outreach. The San Diego Chorus is a 501(c)(3) organization and gifts may be tax-deductible.



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LEGACY

LIFTING AS WE CLIMB

PART ONE

Combined Choruses

Sing

Words and Music by Mitchell Grassi, Scott Hoying,
Kevin Olusola, Martin Johnson, and Sam Hollander

Arranged by Wayne M. Grimmer

Soloist: Alyssa Black

San Diego Chorus

Fun in Just One Lifetime

Words and Music by Frank Marzocco and Joe Liles

Arranged by Joe Liles

Rock It to (for) Me

Words and Music by Kay Werner and Sue Werner

Arranged by Aaron Dale

Teach Your Children

Words and Music by Graham Nash

Arranged by Deke Sharon

Better When I'm Dancin'

Words and Music by Meghan Trainor

and Thaddeus Dixon

Arranged by Elaine Gain

Children Will Listen (from *Into the Woods*)

Words and Music by Stephen Sondheim

Arranged by Melody Hine

Quartet: Nick of Time

Lori Shelley, Nicole Knox, Nicole Clement,

Denise Brinkerhoff

A Wink and a Smile

Words and Music by Marc Shaiman

and Ramsey McLean

Arranged by Kim Brittain

Dream a Little Dream of Me

Words by Gus Kahn

Music by Wilbur Schwandt and Fabian Andre

Arranged by Norma Anderson

Queen of Hearts

Words and Music by Hank DeVito

Arranged by Deke Sharon

They Can't Take That Away from Me

Words by Ira Gershwin

Music by George Gershwin

Intro by Aaron Dale

Arranged by Aaron Dale and Mark Hale

Rainbow

Words and Music by Kacey Musgraves,

Natalie Hemby, and Shane McNally

Arranged by Elaine Gain

The Greatest Show (from *The Greatest Showman*)

Words and Music by Benj Pasek,

Justin Paul, and Ryan Lewis

Arranged by Jeremy Johnson

Soloists: Denise Brinkerhoff and Leah Rippetoe

Trio Lisa Bolender,

Jennifer French, Cindy McAdams

Smilin' Through

Words and Music by Arthur A. Penn

Adapted and Arranged by Joey Minshall

A Wonderful Day Like Today (from *The Roar of the Greasepaint, The Smell of the Crowd*)

Words and Music by Leslie Bricusse

and Anthony Newley

Arranged by Joey Minshall

*** **INTERMISSION** ***

LEGACY

LIFTING AS WE CLIMB

PART TWO

San Diego Women's Chorus

Unwritten

Words and Music by Natasha Bedingfield,
Danielle Brisebois, and Wayne Rodrigues
Arranged by Roger Emerson

Soloists: Kara Kuvakas, Justine Sullivan

Where The Light Begins

Text by Jan Richardson
Music by Susan LaBarr

Right Now

Words and Music by Sammy Hagar, Alex Van Halen,
Michael Anthony, and Edward Van Halen
Arranged by Kirby Shaw

Say Her Name

Words and Music by Alysia Lee

Soloist: Megan Jones

Speakers: Megan Jones, Jenn Palmer

We Shake We Shine

Movement 3 from *Lifting As We Climb*
Words and Music by Joan Szymko
Adaptation of quotes from Coretta Scott King,
Ida B. Wells, Alice Paul, and Mary Church Terrell

Made You Look

Words and Music by Meghan Trainor,
Sean Douglas, and Federico Vindver
Arranged by BK Riha

Everyone Sang

Text by Siegfried Sassoon
Music by Richard Burchard

They May Tell You

Text by Isabella Cook
Music by Andrea Ramsey

Firework

Words and Music by Mikken Eriksen,
Tor Erik Hermansen, Ester Dean,
Katy Perry and Sandy Wilhelm
Original *GLEE* arrangement by
Adam Anders and Tim Davis

Adapted for publication by Mark Brymer

Your One and Only Life

Words and Music by Susan Crowe
Arranged by Stephen Smith

Joy

Words and Music by Michael Pollack
and Andy Grammer
Arranged by Anita Cracauer

Soloists: Shelly McMorro, Marianne Hughes

Combined Choruses

Sing With Me

Words by Scott Johnson and Nicoli Kwan
Traditional Round
Arranged by Nicoli Kwan

We Rise Again

Words and Music by Leon Dubinsky
Arranged by Stephen Smith
Accompaniment by Scott Macmillan

Soloists: Courtney Ocheltree, Debbie Prenatt

*Featuring youth singers from San Diego Children's Choir,
Helix High School, San Diego Queer Youth Chorus, and
family and friends of the San Diego Chorus
and San Diego Women's Chorus*

Thank You

PROGRAM NOTES

Sing

Pentatonix offers one solution to deal with life's problems: Sing! This catchy piece debuted at #1 on the US Billboard 200 chart when it was released in 2015. Pentatonix became a household name after winning the third season of *The Sing-Off* (2011) and has amassed a huge social media following.

Fun in Just One Lifetime

Joe Liles composed and arranged hundreds of original songs featuring the ringing a cappella harmonies that are the hallmark of the barbershop art form. Giving was something that Joe did generously, particularly when it came to his time and talent. He composed, arranged and wrote the lyrics for "Fun in Just One Lifetime," in 1981 in partnership with Frank Marzocco. The San Diego Chorus was one of many musical organizations he gifted this delightful arrangement to.

Rock It to (for) Me

The first recording of "Rock It for Me" was released in 1937 by Chick Webb and His Orchestra, with vocal chorus by Ella Fitzgerald. The lyrics to this piece make an early, specific reference to the term "rock and roll."

Better When I'm Dancin'

Featured in the soundtrack of *The Peanuts Movie*, "Better When I'm Dancin'" has a catchy tropical beat and was inspired by Trainor's fans, who "make [her] feel like a star on that stage." Its optimistic message encourages confidence and releasing our insecurities.

Children Will Listen

This song embodies the conflict of watching what we say around children: they will hear, even if they don't understand, and their memory of it will affect them in their life. Beyond that, it is also a call to watch what we permit or promote in society, whether explicit or implicit, because we are using our privilege and power to shape the future for all of our children. Sondheim had originally written *Children Will Listen* as a section of the song called "Second Midnight" – a long, involved song toward the end of the first act. Shortly after the San Diego production of *Into the Woods*, "Second Midnight" was cut. The "Children Will Listen" section was reworked into the now famous show finale.

A Wink and A Smile

You can't always have your dreams turn out the way you want them to, but sometimes the unexpected outcome is event better. "A Wink and A Smile" was originally written for the movie *Sleepless in Seattle*, starring Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks as two characters who have met their perfect match.

Dream a Little Dream of Me

Lyricists have long used dreams and dream references when writing about love. "Dream a Little Dream of Me" is one of the most memorable, evoking the feeling of being so utterly enamored with someone that you want to fill their dreams with thoughts of you, as you are dreaming of them.

PROGRAM NOTES

Queen of Hearts

Hank DeVito, the steel guitarist for the Emmy Lou Harris band, wrote this catchy country-pop melody. Welsh singer Dave Edmunds arranged the tune for a more pop sound, and his recording saw limited success in the UK. When Juice Newton included the song on her 1981 album, it became a huge international success. At first Edmunds was upset as Newton recorded his arrangement note for note, but that faded as he realized it ended up becoming his legacy.

They Can't Take That Away from Me

Picture it: a lonely, foggy deck of the New Jersey/Manhattan ferry, 1937. Fred Astaire sings "They Can't Take That Away from Me" to Ginger Rogers – and what made the scene most memorable is that they don't dance. It is one of the most recorded Gershwin classics, with versions by Billie Holliday, Ella Fitzgerald, Mel Torme, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, and Rod Stewart, among others.

Rainbow

Kacey Musgrave wrote "Rainbow" right around the time she released her first album, but it languished as a demo for years before she finally recorded it in 2018. It wound up as an album favorite. "Rainbow" became an anthem for the LGBTQ community and others facing adversity. It evolved into a song of comfort and encouragement during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Greatest Show

This song opened *The Greatest Showman*, the 2017 film inspired by the life and imagination of P.T. Barnum. It was later reimaged as a single by the rock band, Panic! At The Disco.

Smilin' Through

First published in 1919, "Smilin' Through" is a popular ballad that first appeared in the Broadway play by the same name. The melody was used to accompany the 1922 silent film, and the 1932 and 1941 film versions also feature the song. It has been recorded by a variety of artists, and is most well known from the BBC TV variety program, *The Good Old Days*.

A Wonderful Day Like Today

Sometimes the music from a stage production is more enduring than the show itself. *A Wonderful Day Like Today* is one of those songs. From its Broadway debut nearly 60 years ago until today, it has been recorded by a wide variety of artists, including Sammy Davis, Jr., Lena Horne, Shirley Bassey, Gerry and The Pacemakers, and Marvin Gaye.

Unwritten

Natasha Bedingfield was told "Unwritten" was all wrong for US audiences. Despite her team's concerns, it skyrocketed to the top of the US charts in the early 2000s. In the following years it appeared on the soundtracks of multiple movies and TV shows. It reemerged during the COVID-19 pandemic when TikTokers created a viral dance challenge using the song.

(Continued on Next Page)

PROGRAM NOTES

Where the Light Begins

The text for “Where the Light Begins” was originally written as a Christmas blessing. Composer Susan LaBarr selected the poem when she was asked to compose a song for a middle school choir that fit their “peace” concert theme. LaBarr notes, “...within each of us is the ability to work toward peace. It doesn’t take a monumental action, just many little kindnesses that we can show to others every day which radiates to bring light to the whole of humanity. When we love, accept and care for all of our neighbors – despite our differences – we find that the light that the dark world so desperately needs begins in us.”

Right Now

Van Halen’s 1992 rock classic, “Right Now”, reflects on living in the moment and taking a chance to make a change. Its message of personal empowerment still resonates with audiences today.

Say Her Name

Alysia Lee’s song “Say Her Name” was written as a call to action. The #SayHerName movement resists police brutality against Black women. The calling of the names in “Say Her Name” is rooted in the ancient tradition of pouring out liquids in memory of deceased loved ones who have gone before. Say her name. Learn her story. Know more deeply all the ways Black bodies are made vulnerable to police violence. Sandra Bland, Rina Milton, Breonna Taylor, Michelle Cusseaux, Rekia Boyd, Latasha Walton... they cannot be forgotten.

We Shake, We Shine

The words of African American suffragists Coretta Scott King, Ida B. Wells, Alice Paul, and Mary Church Terrell are woven into *We Shake, We Shine*, the third movement of *Lifting As We Climb*, a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution. It celebrates the history of the women’s suffrage movement while exploring the present-day assault on voting rights, and calling for equality, democracy, and universal voting rights.

Made You Look

Meghan Trainor gave birth to her first child via C-section in 2021. “Made You Look” was inspired by an assignment given to her by her therapist as Trainor struggled with her post-pregnancy body: to look at herself completely naked in the mirror for five minutes every day. Trainor admits she was shaking the first time she did it, but as time went on, she felt more confident in herself. She channeled that confidence into the lyrics of “Made You Look,” encouraging listeners to embrace their natural beauty and confidence. Her hit also launched a TikTok dance craze that remains popular more than a year after the song’s release.

Everyone Sang

Commissioned for the 2019 American Choral Directors Association National Conference, “Everyone Sang” features text by an English poet and soldier in 1920, set to joyful music. Sassoon was the son of a wealthy businessman and enjoyed a life of leisure until serving in World War. Toward the end of his service, he wrote

PROGRAM NOTES

an open letter of protest to the war department, refusing to fight any more, which led to a lengthy hospitalization for what today would be called PTSD. During that time, he wrote a series of graphic, realistic, violent poems about the war. The text of *Everyone Sang* is a stark contrast to much of his other work and is often interpreted as a reference to the Armistice.

They May Tell You

High school student Isabella Cook wrote the words to “They May Tell You,” inspired by the students in her treble choir who provided a safe and supportive environment for her to explore her talent. The rich descriptions of mountain woman, river woman, and meadow woman are all based on specific friends in the choir, while ocean woman is a reminder that it is okay to make mistakes.

Firework

SDWC first performed Katy Perry’s hit, “Firework,” in 2011, with about 45 singers performing on the altar steps of a church. Today’s performance features almost double that number of chorus members. While *Firework* was a hit on its own for Perry, it gained popularity when it was featured in an episode of *GLEE*. It was also the first song played after Hillary Clinton accepted the Democratic presidential nomination at the 2016 Democratic National Convention.

Your One and Only Life

Susan Crowe is a singer-songwriter from Nova Scotia who began performing in the 1950s. *Your One and Only Life* was written later in her career, and it looks back on a life, wondering if missed opportunities

could have been, instead, moments in which to live life to the fullest.

Joy

Artist Andy Grammer explains the origin of his song, “I have always loved the word Joy. I feel like it has a depth, a grounded spiritual center, something deeper and more substantial than happiness. It’s somehow light and weighty at the same time. I wanted to capture all that while still having a party.” The result was this toe-tapping tune that celebrates joy’s triumph over negative emotions.

Sing With Me

This song was featured in the San Diego festivities for World Singing Day in 2022, as the world emerged from the cocoon of a global pandemic. Its cheerful melody and lyrics celebrate the joy of singing together.

We Rise Again

The song “We Rise Again” was originally written for a 1984 stage musical, *The Rise and Follies of Cape Breton*, as an anthem of resilience and hope at a time when Cape Breton Island was going through an economic crisis. According to composer Leon Dubinsky, the song is about the cycles of immigration, the economic insecurity of living in Cape Breton, the power of the ocean, the meaning of children, and the strength of home given to us by our families, our friends, and our music. The song was later recorded by The Rankin Family and went on to become a hit. This choral anthem soars with the message that the children of today are our hope for the future.



San Diego Chorus

Award-Winning 4-Part A Cappella Harmony



For more than 70 years, the **San Diego Chorus** has distinguished itself as a passionate advocate of music, education and community. The San Diego Chorus furthers the American artform of a cappella and barbershop music through dynamic performances, high-quality music education and regional / international competition.

Chartered in March of 1952, the San Diego Chorus is an award-winning chapter of Sweet Adelines International and a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization within Region 21 Golden West. Our chorus is a two-time International Chorus Champion of Women's Barbershop Harmony. We are composed of members from across Southern California as well as out of town members who travel from central California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii to sing with the chorus.

LET'S CONNECT



SanDiegoChorus.org



The San Diego Chorus is a 501c3 organization and gifts may be tax-deductible.



"Come for the Music, Stay for the Heart."



Each year **SDWC** produces three major concerts - in fall, spring, and summer - and two smaller cabaret nights, as well as performing at multiple community events throughout San Diego County. We sing music from a wide variety of musical styles, including contemporary choral, pop, Broadway, and standard choral repertoire. We focus on singing music from the women's, feminist, and LGBTQ+ choral movements, seeking out high quality and meaningful music from queer composers, showcasing music by and for women, and highlighting music that represents our mission to encourage creativity, celebrate diversity, and inspire social action. To buy tickets to any of our concerts or cabaret nights, visit www.sdwc.org.

Volunteer With Us - We encourage anyone to join our diverse, social justice-minded community as non-singing volunteers and board members.

Connect With Us - If you are interested in singing or serving as a volunteer, please contact membership@sdwc.org. If you are interested in having us sing at your event, please contact community@sdwc.org.

Sing With Us - While our lesbian roots are fundamental to the identity and legacy of SDWC, we welcome women, gender non-conforming, non-binary, and transgender individuals who sing in the Soprano/Alto (treble) range. We provide a safe, welcoming space for singers of all ages to come together where their voices will be honored and heard. The only requirements are the ability to match pitch to piano, hold one's part in a group, and dedication to our mission.

CONTACT US

San Diego Women's Chorus
PO Box 632794, San Diego, CA 92163
(619) 291-FEMM
info@sdwc.org



www.sdwc.org

Through musical expression, the San Diego Women's Chorus encourages women's creativity, celebrates diversity, and inspires social action.

If you are interested in singing or serving as a volunteer, please contact membership@sdwc.org.



Lifting As We Climb

by Joan Szymko

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San Diego Chorus

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A membership of more than 80 local choirs

CCSD PROVIDES

- Singing opportunities such as *Beer Choir San Diego*, *World Singing Day San Diego*, and *CCSD Summer Chorus*.
- Community-wide performances like the *Annual San Diego Sings! Festival*.
- Professional education and networking opportunities including *Conductor Conversations*.
- Publicity for member choir events
- Bilingual website with comprehensive choral event calendar

For choral events near you visit www.sdsings.org

CHORAL CONSORTIUM OF SAN DIEGO

