

Celebrate:

WALTER GRAHAM Artistic Director

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 7:00PM

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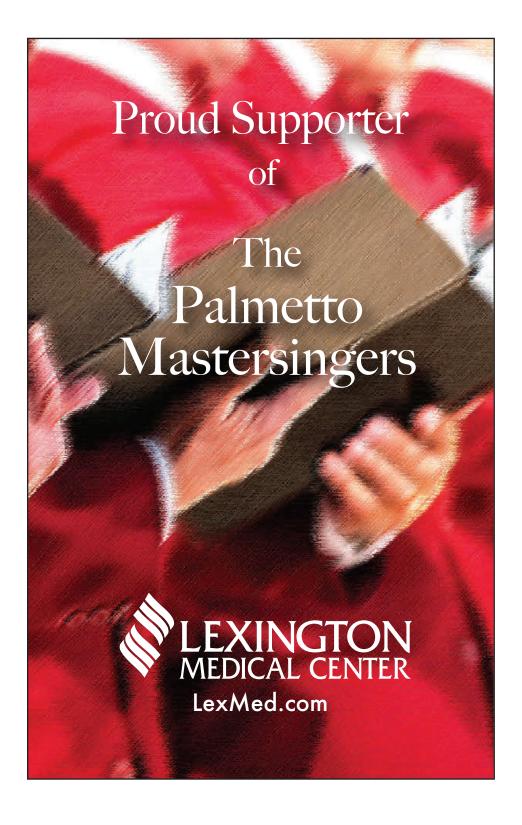


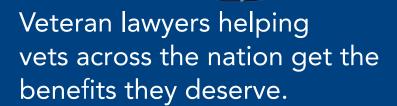
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Allison Sullivan is responsible for this content.

The Palmetto Mastersingers Members

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Johnny Thomas

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Karl Weeks



We are happy for Shandon Presbyterian Church to host us for tonight's concert. Please sit back, relax, snap your fingers, and tap your toes as we present our concert.

~Walter Graham

Meet our Mastersingers Musical Leaders

NATHANIEL WALTER GRAHAM, III

Artistic Director for The Palmetto Mastersingers



r. Graham is in his 2nd year as the Coordinator for Visual and Performing Arts for Richland One School District. Previously, he served as the Director of Choral Activities at Dreher High School (9 years) and Crayton Middle School (5 years). He was also the music teacher at Nursery Road Elementary School (6 years) and Hopkins Elementary School (2 years).

Mr. Graham has served as the Lead Choral Teacher for Richland School District One for five years. In 2013, Mr. Graham was instrumental in establishing and implementing audition standards for Richland One School District Honor Choir participants. The honor choir experience was enhanced from student nominations to an audition process that rated student abilities in solfege, sight-singing, and vocal technique.

Under Mr. Graham's direction, the Dreher Concert Choir was featured at the 2018 SCMEA Conference. Additionally, his choirs have performed with the South Carolina Philharmonic Orchestra, the University of South Carolina Symphony, the Palmetto Mastersingers, the Sandlapper Singers, the Fort Jackson Army Band, Ethan Bortnick (prodigy pianist), and Damian McGintey (from the television shows Glee and The Glee Project). In recent years, his concert choir was featured in the SC Governor's Carolighting and at other community programs throughout South Carolina.

Mr. Graham was named the Teacher of the Year for 2020-2021 at Dreher High School. In 2015, Mr. Graham was the first recipient of the Marjorie Stands Music Educator Award by the Symphony League of the South Carolina Philharmonic Orchestra. The mission of the Symphony League is to foster, promote, and increase musical knowledge and appreciation of the performing arts in the Philharmonic. Later that year, he was nominated and selected in the 2016 class of The State Top 20 under 40 for his professional and community achievements.

Mr. Graham received his bachelor's degree in Choral Music education (1999) and a Master's degree in Choral Conducting (2015) from the University of South Carolina. Since 2011, he has held National Board Certification in Music/Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood and currently serves on the SCMEA High School Choral Performance Assessment committee since 2016.

ALLISON HUDSON HILBISH

Accompanist for The Palmetto Mastersingers



Allison received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the University of South Carolina, after obtaining an Associate of Arts degree from Anderson Junior College.

She was the 1988 regional piano performance winner of the Music Teachers National Association competition, and has performed with the University of South Carolina Symphony Orchestra.

Allison is currently the pianist for Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church.

FRANK TURNER-

Assistant Director for The Palmetto Mastersingers



A native of Jackson, Mississippi, he received his BA from Mississippi College in Vocal Performance. At MS College, Frank performed many roles in the Musical Theater and Opera Programs. In May 2016, he completed the Master of Arts in Teaching -Music Education degree from the University of South Carolina. While attending USC, Frank was a Choral Graduate Assistant within the School of Music. As part of his graduate assistantship, Frank was a part of the USC Concert Choir, Men's Chorus, and Graduate Vocal Ensemble.

Mr. Turner is currently employed by Lexington-Richland School District 5 serving as the Choral Director at Irmo High School. At IHS, Frank directs several choral ensembles, teaches group piano and serves as the vocal coach for musical productions.

ARPAD DARAZS 1922 – 1986



A rpad Darazs was a native of Hungary. From 1941 to 1947, he earned three degrees from the Royal Franz Liszt Music Conservatory in Budapest. He was conductor of the Hungarian State Radio Network. He emigrated to the United States and was a music instructor at Malloy College and Columbia University before coming to the University of South Carolina in 1966 as professor of music and director of choral activities. He earned a Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1972.

Dr. Darazs was a protégé of renowned Hungarian composer Zoltan Kodaly and was an authority on the Kodaly method of choral instruction. While at USC, Darazs founded the Concert Choir and was conductor of the Columbia Philharmonic Orchestra. He organized the Palmetto Mastersingers in 1981 to promote the male choral repertoire beyond the college walls. In 1985, he was awarded the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner award for his contributions and achievement in and to the arts in South Carolina.

In recognition of this heritage, our concerts from time to time will feature compositions by Kodaly and arrangements by Darazs.



SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 Shandon Presbyterian Church

7:00 P.M.

The Palmetto Mastersingers

Walter Graham, Artistic Director
Allison Hilbish, Accompanist

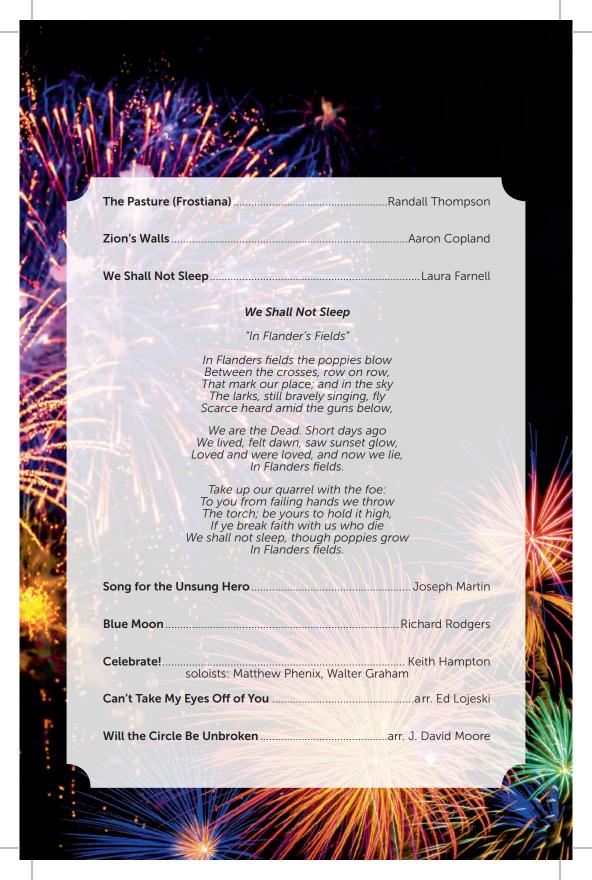
There's A Meeting Here Tonight soloist: Ku	arr. Cantus ırt Stevens
Go Down Mosessoloists: David Den	arr. Moses Hogan ning, Richard Taylor
An Die Musik	Craig Courtney

An Die Musik (To the Music)

Translation

You, beloved Art, in so many grey hours, When life's mad tumult wraps around me, Have kindled warm love in my heart And transported me into a better world, Transported into a better world!

How often a flowing sigh from your harp, A sweet divine harmony from you Unlocked the heaven of better times to me. You, beloved Art, I thank you for it! You, beloved Art, I thank you!



The Palmetto Mastersingers gratefully acknowledge support from our donors

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Do you like to sing? Are you saying to yourself, "I can do that!"

Good news! Our transfer portal is open and you are invited to a try-out!

You don't have to be a first-round draft pick, though we would consider a signing bonus for some first tenors. Our practices are on Tuesday evenings, from late August through early May. If you would like to check us out, then talk to any of the singers, or email director@palmettomastersingers.org.

The Palmetto Mastersingers is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and presentation of male choral music. We are dependent on our individual and commercial friends for financial support. We are grateful for those who enable us by providing sponsorships, purchasing advertisements in the playbill, and making contributions. We accept on-line donations via PayPal, debit, or credit card at www.palmettomastersingers.org.

Thank you for your attendance tonight and we hope you enjoy our songs!



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Songs of Note

Performing music with patriotic themes is a Mastersingers tradition. Tonight's program features two such songs.

We Shall Not Sleep is a musical setting of the poem, In Flanders Fields, commemorating a particularly brutal World War I battle. The fighting overwhelmed the Belgian landscape, leaving a barren and bloody ground. The graves of the dead soldiers were marked not only by crosses, but also by red poppy flowers which sprang up quickly in the disturbed soil.

Song for the Unsung Hero recognizes those who chose "honor more than glory," whose "uniform is courage," and who find, in their love of freedom, "power stronger than their fears."

Spirituals are another staple of Mastersingers concerts. **Go Down Moses** is Moses Hogan's arrangement of the traditional American spiritual, and **Zion's Walls** is Aaron Copland's adaptation of a revivalist song.

An die Musik is a lied, a German term for poetry set to classical music. This example, by Franz Schubert, has been described as "a statement of faith to the wondrous powers of music."

Robert Frost's **The Pasture** is a small, tender poem set to music by Randall Thompson. It tells of a farmer performing routine work—cleaning the pasture spring or checking on a newborn calf. After describing each chore, he pauses to invite his partner: "You come too." This arrangement features our incomparable pianist, Allison Hilbish.



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