

Marquette Symphony Orchestra Presents

Marquette Symphony Orchestra

Sounds of the Holidays

Guest conductors Matt Ludwig and Barbara Rhyneer



Saturday, December 10, 2022

7:30pm | Kaufman Auditorium

 marquettesymphony.org

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String players are listed alphabetically.

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Marquette Symphony Orchestra

Guest Conductors Dr. Matthew Ludwig and Dr. Barbara Rhyneer
present

Sounds of the Holidays

Saturday, December 10, 2022 – 7:30 p.m.

Louis G. Kaufman Auditorium

Walt Lindala, Emcee

Christmas Processional. Andrew Wainwright

The Nutcracker Suite, op. 71a Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Overture
Waltz of the Flowers

Greensleeves.arr. Matt Riley

Pat-a-Pan Bernard de la Monnoye, arr. Robert Longfield

Chanukah Festival Overture. Calvin Custer

INTERMISSION

A Christmas Scherzo. arr. Don Sebesky

“Christmas Lullaby” from Songs of the New World Jason Robert Brown
Megan Ludwig, vocal soloist

Wexford Carol. Elaine Hagenberg
Karen Ludwig, vocal soloist

Home Alone: Three Holiday Songs John Williams
Somewhere in My Memory; Star of Bethlehem; Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
The Lyra Eight - NMU Vocal octet
Caitlin Palomaki, Abby O'Connell, Anna Morozov, Jaymes Winn,
Noah Guernsey, Curt Rogan, Marshall Codd, Andy Vanwelsenaers

“12 Days to Christmas” from She Loves Me Jerry Bock, orch. by Don Walker,
Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick
The Lyra Eight - NMU vocal octet

Christmas Carols Fantasy. Henry Sopkin
The Lyra Eight - NMU Vocal octet



Upcoming concerts:

January 14, 2023, February 25, 2023, April 15, 2023



DR. MATTHEW E. LUDWIG, GUEST CONDUCTOR

Dr. Matthew E. Ludwig is in his twenty-seventh year as Director of Bands at Marquette Senior High School in Marquette, Michigan. He holds undergraduate degrees in biology and music education from the University of Michigan and Doctoral and Masters degrees in wind conducting from Northwestern University. While at The University of Michigan he studied

trumpet with Armando Ghitalla and conducting with H. Robert Reynolds, Gary Lewis and Donald Schleicher. At Northwestern University, he studied with conductors John Paynter, Victor Yampalsky and Mallory Thompson.

Previously, Dr. Ludwig was Assistant Director of Bands at Northwestern University where his duties included serving as the Assistant Director of the 'Wildcat' Marching Band and Assistant Director of the Northwestern University Symphonic Band. Presently, in conjunction with his teaching duties, Dr. Ludwig served the Fine Arts Department chair at Marquette Senior High School. Additionally, Dr. Ludwig was a Contingent Assistant

Professor at Northern Michigan University, where he served in both the Education and Music Departments.

Dr. Ludwig is proud to be a charter member of the Marquette Symphony Orchestra. He is also a member of the Marquette Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet, the "Borealis Brass." Previously, he has received several Influential Educator awards over the years and was recognized with a 2001 Milken National Educator Award. He was named the MSBOA District 14 Teacher of the Year in 2002 and 2016. In 2013, he received honorable mention as a Northwestern University Influential Secondary Educator. Most recently, he was inducted into the Marquette Music Hall of Fame. He has served as an adjudicator and clinician throughout the United States.

Dr. Ludwig enjoys any activity having to do with the outdoors, but is especially fond of biking (all kinds, road, mountain, and fat), traveling, camping, making custom wind chimes and assisting with the family jewelry business, LLAways. Recently, he can be found traveling around and chasing his daughters Anne, Megan and KJ on their various, professional endeavors around the Midwest. He resides in Big Bay with his wife Linda.

DR. BARBARA RHYNEER, GUEST CONDUCTOR

Dr. Barbara Rhyneer grew up in Anchorage, Alaska and moved to Marquette in 1997 to teach at the Department of Music at Music at Northern Michigan University. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Loyola Marymount University, a Master of Music from Bowling Green State University, and a Doctorate of Arts in Orchestral Conducting and Violin Performance from Ball State University.

As a Professor of music, Barbara directs the NMU Symphony Orchestra, coaches chamber ensembles and teaches courses in string pedagogy, string performance lessons, conducting, and music appreciation and literature. She is the Associate Concertmaster of the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, and often a violinist in the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra.

Barbara has been the director of the Eastern Central Indiana Youth Orchestra, the Upper Peninsula Youth Orchestra, and occasionally a guest director for the Marquette Symphony Orchestra. She was also this year's (2022) Wisconsin State Honors Orchestra conductor, directing their performance at the Wisconsin State Music Conference at Overture Hall Madison. Barbara has also been an

adjudicator for the Michigan Solo and Ensemble Festival, and an ensemble coach for the Upper Peninsula Chamber Festival, and a guest string clinician for the Copper Country Music Association and the Soo Theatre Project.

Barbara won the 2019 Marquette Area Theatre award for best supporting actress for the role of "Rosie" in the Forest Roberts Theatre production of Mamma Mia. She also co-composed the incidental music for their 2021 premiere production of "Above the Timberline" by Greg Manchess. She also received the 2022 Arts Educator Award from the City of Marquette. Barbara is currently a fiddler and vocalist in the local American Irish folk ensemble The Knockabouts, performing for Hiawatha Music Festival workshops, Irish dances, and other local events.



Megan Grace Ludwig, vocal soloist

Featured soloist Megan Grace Ludwig is excited to perform at the December 10th Marquette Symphony Orchestra holiday concert alongside her father and conductor, Dr. Matthew Ludwig, and twin sister, KJ Ludwig. Megan grew up singing in the choir at Marquette Senior High School under the direction of Jan Brodersen while doing musical productions with Superior Arts Youth Theater and Northern Michigan University. She competed at State Honors Choir and Michigan Youth Arts Festival and is currently a senior at Western Michigan University studying Musical Theatre and Dance. Upon graduation, Megan hopes to perform on a cruise ship and then make a move to NYC to pursue her dream of one day being on Broadway!

Megan's most memorable performance was this summer at the Clinton Area Showboat Theatre in Iowa. As her first professional theater contract, she performed four musicals in three months, including her dream role of Sister Mary Robert in *Sister Act*. Other shows included *State Fair*, *Wedding Singer*, and *The World Goes Round*. Megan performed with the Battle Creek Symphony Orchestra and Western Michigan University, including Cinderella in *Into the Woods*. Her senior year includes dancing in *Pippin* and playing Claire in *On The Town*. She gives a shoutout to her wonderful family and friends for all their support and love. You can find her on Instagram: @megangraceludwig



Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance. This semester, KJ developed and led two in-person events: Creative Marketing 101 and What Does It Mean To Be An Ethical Arts Leader Today? Additionally, KJ is a member of the Alpha A Province chapter for the international women's fraternity, Sigma Alpha Iota, and holds a leadership position as corresponding secretary.

KJ continues to explore her appreciation for jazz as the co-creative director of the University of Michigan vocal jazz group, Touch of Blue, and started a band called Anytime, where she writes and performs original songs with her best friends. Anytime is excited to release an album of original songs next semester. Additionally, KJ began composing interpretive graphic scores, paintings that encourage one to sing/play/dance and create sounds from a higher power of consciousness without bar lines and limitations. On KJ's journey to discover her own capacity for thought and expression, with an emphasis on improvisation, graphic scores have opened her eyes to endless possibility and opportunity.

KJ is excited to share her first album next year, *World of Souls*, following the release of her first single, *Cotton Candy Skies*, and continues performing with her hometown friend and lifelong collaborator, Eric Banitt. Recently, KJ and Eric were featured soloists at the concert, A Grand Night for Singing, at Hill Auditorium with their own arrangement of *Pure Imagination*. At the University of Michigan commencement in 2022, Touch of Blue performed *Shine Bright, Starlight*, a music video created with the James and Anne Duderstadt Center production team for KJ's vocal graphic score composition. There's a world of pure imagination in KJ and she looks forward to developing her lifelong dream of opening KJ's Cupcakes, alongside creating and performing music with people she loves.

Learn more about KJ here: karenjaneludwig.com

Karen Ludwig, vocal soloist



Featured soloist Karen Jane "KJ" Ludwig can't wait to take the stage this December 10th, for the Marquette Symphony Orchestra Sounds of the Holidays performance with her twin sister, Megan Ludwig and her father and conductor, Dr. Matthew Ludwig. KJ is a Yooper, born and raised in Marquette, Michigan. KJ sees the world through a lens of painted color and song, and is grateful she grew up in an abundant arts community that celebrated her love for music. At Marquette Senior High School, KJ's favorite memories include those where she performed with her dad in the marching band, playing trumpet, and singing with the jazz band. KJ was selected as the Michigan School Vocal Musical Arts featured soloist for the upper peninsula during her senior year and fondly remembers her vocal teacher and mentor Jan Brodersen, who started her on a lifetime journey of the study of voice.

KJ is in her senior year at the University of Michigan, and will be graduating with a Bachelor of Musical Arts (Multidisciplinary) degree in Voice Performance, studying with Professor Stanford Olsen. This path allows KJ the flexibility to concentrate in music composition and performing arts technology, as well as minors in arts administration and entrepreneurship. To explore her entrepreneurial curiosity, KJ works as a program assistant for the EXCEL Entrepreneurship Lab within the University of

The Lyra Eight, vocal octet

The Lyra Eight is a Marquette-based vocal octet composed of local singers and musicians. The group was created in May 2021 by a group of students at Northern Michigan University after the pandemic put a halt to live performances. The group wanted to get extra performance experience and learn new repertoire to make up for the time they lost. Now they sing a variety of a capella music ranging in diverse genres from folk to classical to pop throughout the year. The group's name comes from the Lyra constellation which represents the lyre, a musical instrument with strings that resembles a harp. It is also associated with the myth of the Greek musician Orpheus and contains Vega, the fifth brightest star in the sky and second brightest star in the northern hemisphere.



Walt Lindala, Emcee



Walt Lindala is Network News Director at mediaBrew Communications in Marquette, a multimedia communications and marketing group that operates seven radio stations and manages multiple digital marketing campaigns across diverse platforms. Walt is best known as one half of the award-winning morning radio show, "Mark & Walt in the Morning" heard weekdays on Sunny 101.9 WKQS fm.

Walt serves on a series of community boards, including Big

Brothers/Big Sisters of Marquette & Alger Counties, the Economic Club of Marquette County and the Marquette Area Sister Cities Partnership. He is a founding board member of the Marquette Area Blues Society, which produces the Annual Marquette Area Blues Fest every Labor Day Weekend in Marquette.

Walt is also a guitarist and singer and is a founding member of the long-running Flat Broke Blues Band, which has been performing in the Upper Great Lakes Region for nearly 30 years. Walt and wife April, a Professor of Native American Studies at Northern Michigan University, make their home in South Marquette.

Christmas Processional

Andrew Wainwright



Andrew Wainwright is an award-winning composer and arranger whose music is performed internationally by orchestras, brass bands, wind bands and choirs. As a graphic designer, he is in demand and has worked with many high-profile figures and ensembles in the music world. Conductor, educator and musicologist Dr. Ronald Holz, says of Wainwright, “He has emerged as a major talent via his innovative, attractive scores, both originals and arrangements. His fertile musical imagination balances well with his craft, his technique. Prolific in output, he is building an impressive catalogue of accessible, pleasing works that are making significant contributions in the brass band, orchestra, and wind band repertoires.”

Andrew first received acclaim for his compositional skills when in 1997 he came runner-up in television's Performance, The Arts Channel's Young Composer of the Year for Great Britain. In 2014 his composition, *The Smoke that Thunders*, was one of five finalists in the Salford International Composers' Competition. In 2017, his composition, *Fearless*, was voted as the winner of the New York Staff Band's inaugural international composers' competition. In the same year he was commissioned to write two pieces by New York Philharmonic Brass for its annual Holiday Brass concert at David Geffen Hall, hosted by Philip Smith and featuring guest soloist Doc

Severinsen. Andrew's music has been featured each year since in this concert series.

In 2020 Andrew launched a publishing company called BrookWright Music where much of his work is now published, in addition to Boosey & Hawkes, Faber, and others. In 2022, Andrew won the inaugural River City Brass Composition Competition with his work, *Resilience* coming out on top of 67 entries from 14 different countries. Andrew's music features on over 20 commercial recordings. For those in the Christmas mood, his CD entitled Christmas Fantasia – The Music of Andrew Wainwright is available on the Doyen label.

The MSO will open tonight's Holiday Concert with Andrew's *Christmas Processional*. It is based upon the French carol, “Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabelle.” This work tells the story of a group of children in medieval Provence, dressed up as shepherds and milkmaids, carrying torches and candles as they proceed to the stable. As they draw closer and their excitement increases, they are constantly reminded by their parents to keep the noise down so that they don't wake up the baby Jesus. The music begins quietly and builds to a majestic conclusion. This beautiful holiday composition sets the energy and mood most effectively. The multilayered scoring is a beautiful tapestry, fit for a newborn King.



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Selections from The Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a

Overture
Waltz of the Flowers

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Born 1840 — Died 1893



Just about everyone on the planet is aware that Tchaikovsky was a colossal figure in Russian music in the Romantic Era and one of the most popular composers of all time. He was born in Kamsko-Votkinsk, to a Ukrainian mining engineer and his second wife. His last name derives from “chayka” which means “gull.” Musically precocious, he began piano lessons at the age of five. He went on to study at the St. Petersburg Conservatory from 1861 to 1865. In 1866, he was appointed professor of theory and harmony at the Moscow Conservatory, established that year. He held the post until about 1878. Tchaikovsky spent the remainder of his career composing more prolifically than ever. His collective body of work consists of 169 pieces, including symphonies, operas, ballets, concertos, cantatas and songs. Among his most famed works are *1812 Overture*, *Symphony #6, (The Pathétique)*, *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy-Overture*, *Piano Concerto #1* and the work we will hear a portion of tonight, *The Nutcracker Suite*.

His music has come to be known and loved for its distinctly Russian character as well as its rich harmonies and stirring melodies. His works, however, were much more western than his Russian contemporaries as he effectively used both nationalistic folk melodies and international elements. Just nine days after the first performance of the *Pathétique*, in 1893, in St. Petersburg, Tchaikovsky died.

He was very comfortable with the world of make-believe, so it is no surprise that the great master chose to set to music an adaptation of the fairy tale *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* by E.T.A. Hoffmann in 1891-2. It was originally written as a ballet. *The Nutcracker Suite* consists of material selected from that ballet, which he intended for concert performance. The movements are as follows: I. Miniature Overture, II. Danses caractéristiques a. March, b. Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy, c. Russian Dance (Trepak), d. Arabian Dance, e. Chinese Dance, f. Reed Flutes, III. Waltz of the Flowers. It is frequently one of the pieces of classical music that children hear first. The MSO will play two selections from the Suite this evening: The Overture and the Waltz of the Flowers.

What it's all about? It's fantastic! The scene is that of a party in a town in Germany on Christmas Eve in the house of the President of the Town Council. As the parents set up the tree, the children, Clara and Fritz, come in with their friends. It is the music of the March, with its fanfares, which accompanies the children into the room. Then a new arrival, Counselor Drosselmeyer, alarms the children, but they then realize he is a kind man who brings them presents. One of these is a huge nut-

cracker with a human head. The children fight and break the nutcracker, which Clara picks up. Then she and everyone else go to sleep. A fight ensues between the children's toys with the Nutcracker as the leader, and an army of mice, led by the Mouse King. Clara wakes up from the noisy battle and comes to the aid of the Nutcracker, who turns into a handsome prince and transports Clara to the Kingdom of Sweets, where there is an elegant party.

The Sugar Plum Fairy welcomes the travelers to the palace at the Kingdom. The Nutcracker Prince tells the story of how Clara saved him. They have a banquet, and there are festive dances. There is also a pastoral dance using toy flutes. In the Waltz of the Flowers, the Dance for the Sugar Plum Fairy's attendants takes place. And in the final waltz, the whole court of dancers joins in a tribute to Clara.

This music is regarded as a masterpiece of orchestration. Each movement provides the perfect backdrop for the action of this fanciful story. And each is unforgettable. We are glad to give you a taste of it this evening, but encourage you to discover the entire Suite and/or Ballet at a future date.

Greensleeves

Arr. Matt Riley

Janis Peterson, violin
Andrew LaCombe, cello
Theresa Camilli, piano



Award-winning composer Matt Riley didn't grow up celebrating Christmas. His mother, he explains, was Jewish. But now, it's Christmas year-round for the composer, his wife and their four children. Riley is constantly working on new holiday arrangements, which are glorious, full-orchestra versions of popular favorites, often featuring solo instrumentalists. His wide body of work includes original compositions for radio and TV commercials, charts and orchestrations for TV shows (including NBC's *The Voice*), and hundreds of other arrangements and orchestrations. Riley's philosophy for music: "I want to move and inspire audiences and musicians alike with my music. My mission in life is to share things that I find beautiful, sad, awe-inspiring, euphoric, and sublime with the world. I am not a particularly eloquent person, so I choose to do this through the language of music."

Greensleeves is a traditional English song, which has been associated with the monarch. It was attributed to the six times married Henry VIII, who, when he wasn't busy beheading people, executing his closest advisors, or divorcing wives, was an accomplished musician and composer himself. But he did not write *Greensleeves*, even though there was speculation that the words were inspired by Catherine of Aragon or Anne Boleyn (2 of his wives). In fact, there is no consensus about who actually composed the music. We know that the tune with its roots in Tudor England consists of elements of love and emotional declarations throughout, and is a perfect example of English folk music, since

it brings to mind the sensations of the Renaissance and the beautiful imagery of romantic joy. A classic example of unrequited love. The singer is enraptured by the Lady Greensleeves, but apparently she loves somebody else. He feels that his dismissal from her life was abrupt, and she still has his heart, so now he's complaining through this melody.

The first mention of the song in recorded history dates only from 1580, some 33 years after Henry's death. It is known variously as "My Ladye Greensleeves" or "Ladye Greensleeves" but usually as just "Greensleeves." The song has been recorded numerous times over the years including by jazz artists, but perhaps most memorably (with the lyrics suitably amended) in an advertisement for Dreamland Electric Blankets. Shakespeare mentions this song by name twice in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Ralph Vaughan Williams, one of the 20th century's most popular English composers, was inspired by the piece to compose his *Fantasia on Greensleeves*, complete with the rich strumming of a harp.

Pat-a-Pan

Bernard de la Monnoye
Born 1641 — Died 1728

arr. Robert Longfield



Composer Bernard de La Monnoye initially heeded his father's wish to become a lawyer in Dijon but then aban-

doned jurisprudence for a literary career. He became a poet, composer and lover of literature, and is known chiefly for composing *Christmas in Bourgogne* from which comes Pat-a-Pan, the tune the MSO will perform this evening. It is scored for string orchestra with percussion. This traditional French Christmas carol in Burgundian dialect was later adapted into English. It was first published in 1720. Its original title is *Guillô, Pran Ton Tamborin* ("Willie, Bring Your Little Drum" or "Willie, Take Your Little Drum").

Pat-a-Pan revolves around the birth of Jesus Christ and is told from the perspective of shepherds playing simple instruments—flutes and drums—the onomatopoeic sound of which gives the song its name. "Patapan" is meant to mimic the sound of the drum, and an accompanying lyric, "tu-re-lu-re-lu" the flute. This is similar conceptually to the carol *The Little Drummer Boy*, with its chorus of "pa-rum-pa-pum-pum."

Willie, take your little drum, Robin take your flute and come!

When we hear the fife and drum, Christmas should be frolicsome.
When we hear the fife and drum, Christmas should be frolicsome.

Thus the men of olden days for the King of Kings to praise,
When they heard the fife and drum, ture-lure-lu, pata-pata-pan,
When they hear the fife and drum, sure, our children won't be dumb.

God and man are now become more at one than fife and drum.
When you hear the fife and drum, ture-lure-lu, pata-pata-pan,
When you hear the fife and drum, dance and make the village hum

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Chanukah Festival Overture

Calvin Custer
Born 1939 — Died 1998

Chanukah, Chanukah;
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Ma'oz Tsur (Rock of Ages);
My Dreidel



Calvin Custer (1939-1998) attended Carnegie Mellon University and Syracuse University. He was associated with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra during most of his musical career serving in the keyboard, horn, and string bass sections, holding various conducting positions, and serving as staff arranger. Custer was prolific in his creations of arrangements for orchestra, many of which were performed by orchestras across the country. His many arrangements for band include *Adagio for Strings* (Barber), *Ashokan Farewell* (Ungar), *Rolling Thunder* (Fillmore), and *Star Wars*® Main Theme (Williams).

Chanukah Festival Overture, in its original full orchestra format, is a montage of traditional and original folk songs. This music celebrates and honors the joy, the spirit and the traditions of the Jewish holiday.

Chanukah (sometimes spelled Hanukkah) means “Festival of Lights.” The holiday celebrates the time when the Maccabees, a

group of Jewish people living together, won a battle against the Seleucid Empire, who told Jewish people that they could no longer practice their religion. After the battle, the Maccabees wanted to pray at a temple. They could only find enough oil to light their candles for one night, but a miracle happened, and the oil burned for eight nights! Now the holiday is celebrated by families lighting one branch of a menorah, or lamp, per night. Family members exchange gifts over the eight nights and eat and pray together. The holiday is celebrated at a different time every year, sometime between late November and early December.

Chanukah, Chanukah is a childlike look at a fun holiday that makes the spirit shine. Here are the lyrics:

Chanukah, Chanukah
Chanukah, Chanukah,
What a lovely holiday!
Cheerful lights around us shine,
Children have fun and play.
Chanukah, Chanukah,
The dreidel spins and spins.
Spin your top until it stops,
Have a good time, see who wins!

Oy Chanukah is a traditional Yiddish Chanukah song. Oh Chanukah is a very popular modern English Chanukah song. This upbeat playful children's song has lines about dancing the Horah, playing with dreidels, eating latkes, lighting the candles,



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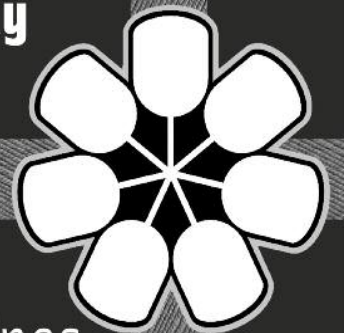
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and singing happy songs. It also celebrates the memories of the sweet light long ago. Here are the lyrics:

Chanukah, Oy, Chanukah

Chanukah, Oy Chanukah
Come light the menorah
Let's have a party

We'll all dance the horah

Gather round the table, we'll give you a treat
Dreidels to play with, and latkes to eat

And while we are playing

The candles are burning bright

One for each night, they shed a sweet light

To remind us of days long ago.

Ma'oz Tsur (Rock of Ages) is a song based on a Jewish liturgical poem that is thought to have been written sometime in the 13th century and is sung on the holiday, after lighting the festival lights. It refers to the strong rock of salvation. It was originally sung only at home, but has been used in the synagogue since the 19th century. Here are the lyrics:

Ma'oz Tsur (Rock of Ages)

Rock of Ages let our song,
Praise thy saving power;
Thou amidst the raging foes,
Wast our shel'rng tower.

Furious they assailed us,
But Thine arm availed us,
And Thy word broke their sword,
When our own strength failed us.
And Thy word broke their sword,
When our own strength failed us.

The last tune in this medley is **My Dreidel**.

On each of the dreidel's four sides is inscribed a Hebrew letter—**nun, gimel, he, and shin**—which together stands for "Nes gadol haya sham," meaning "A great miracle happened there" This phrase refers to the miracle of the oil that kept burning in the Temple of Jerusalem for so many days. But when playing dreidel, the letters have a more utilitarian significance. The dreidel is spun and depending on which letter is on top when it lands, the player's currency—be it pennies or candy—is added to or taken from the pot. (**Nun** means the player does nothing; **gimel** means the player gets everything; **he** means the player gets half; and **shin** means the player adds to the pot.) The word dreidel was borrowed into English early in the 20th century from the Yiddish dreydl (itself from the word dreyen, which means "to turn").

Here are the lyrics:

My Dreidel

I have a little dreidel, I made it out of clay

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And when it's dry and ready then dreidel I shall play
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, I made it out of clay
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, then dreidel I shall play
 It has a lovely body, with legs so short and then
 When it gets all tired, it drops and then I win!
 Dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, with legs so short and thin
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel,
 It drops and then I win!

A Christmas Scherzo

Arr. Don Sebesky



Scherzo is right. The MSO is pleased to bring you this fast-paced, engaging and lively celebration of the season as sparkling as tinsel. This creative full orchestra score is a four-minute holiday showstopper. It includes such carols as "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella," "Adeste Fideles" "The Holly and the Ivy," "I Heard Three Ships on Christmas Day," "O Tannenbaum" and more. It brings a special sparkle to these wonderful songs. The rhythms are played around with in fun, upbeat ways. Each tune is recognizable but also innovatively presented. This music is sure to bring on a smile. The instrumentation is both flashy and lush, all culminating in a thrilling, trilling end. 'Tis the season.

Christmas Lullaby from Songs of the New World

Jason Robert Brown
 Born 1970

Megan Ludwig, vocal soloist



Songs of the New World is a work of musical theatre written and composed by Tony Award-winning songwriter Jason Robert Brown (*Parade; Bridges of Madison County*). He has been hailed by the Philadelphia Inquirer as "one of Broadway's smartest and most sophisticated songwriters since Stephen Sondheim", and the New York Times considers him to be "a leading member of a new generation of composers who embody high hopes for the American musical." *Songs of the New World* was originally produced Off-Broadway in 1995. The show lies between musical and song cycle, but it is neither; it is an abstract musical, a series of songs all connected by a theme: "the moment of decision." There are four performers who, while they have consistently developing character arcs, do not literally play the same characters throughout the show. With a rousing score that blends elements of pop, gospel and jazz, featuring tight harmonies and darling vocals, *Songs of the New World* transports its audience from the deck of a Spanish sailing ship in 1492, bound for a new land, to the ledge of a 57 stories high New York penthouse. Characters range from a young man in the Bronx who dreams of becoming a famous basketball player, to a forlorn and neglected Mrs. Claus lamenting as Christmas approaches.

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The composer states: "It's about one moment. It's about hitting the wall and having to make a choice, or take a stand, or turn around and go back. The moment you think you know where you stand, the things that you're sure of slip from your hand, and you're suddenly a stranger in some completely different land." The songbook consists of 10 vocal selections from the show. Vocalist Megan Ludwig and the MSO will perform one of the songs for you this evening, entitled "Christmas Lullaby." The others are "Flagmaker 1775," "Hear My Song," "I'd Give It All for You," "I'm Not Afraid of Anything," "King of the World," "The New World," "She Cries," "Stars and the Moon, and "Surabaya-Santa." *Songs of the New World* has become a favorite show for colleges and local theatres because of its small cast and orchestra, in spite of its very demanding vocal score.

The song "Christmas Lullaby" is a reflection on the blessing of Mary and the miracle within us all. Here, a young girl who has just discovered she is pregnant, and she seems to be alone in the world. In the course of the show, this is the woman who was left at the altar in "The World was Dancing" but who will reunite with her lover later in the song "I'd Give it all for You." Taken together, these songs chart the girl's emotional growth over the course of the show from innocence to understanding and self-knowledge. Though an unexpected pregnancy might be a devastating predicament for most girls in her position, this girl finds God in it. The lyric never mentions Christmas, but she compares herself to the virgin Mary and by implication, her child to the Christ child. But it's not just her unborn child who is blessed—

she believes that heaven has finally smiled down on her as well by bestowing this gift upon her.

I'll never have the power to control the land
 Or conquer half the world
 Or claim the sun
 I'll never be the kind who simply waves her hand
 And has a million people do
 The things I wish I'd done
 But in the eyes of heaven
 My place is assured
 I carry with me heaven's grand design
 Glory, Oh,
 Glory I will sing the name of the Lord
 And He will make me shine
 And I will be like Mother Mary
 With a blessing in my soul
 And I will give the world my eyes
 So they can see
 And I will be like Mother Mary
 With a blessing in my soul
 And the future of the world inside of me
 In the eyes of heaven
 My place is assured
 I carry with me heaven's grand design
 Glory, Oh,
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 And He will make me shine

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And I will be like Mother Mary
 With a blessing in my soul
 And I will give the world my eyes
 So they can see
 And I will be like Mother Mary
 With a blessing in my soul
 And the future of the world inside of me
 And I will be like Mother Mary
 With the power in my veins
 To believe in all the things
 I've yet to be
 And I will be like Mother Mary
 And I'll suffer any pains
 For the future of the world
 For the future of the world
 Inside of me

Wexford Carol

Elaine Hagenberg
 Born 1979

Karen Ludwig, vocal soloist



Elaine Hagenberg's music "soars with eloquence and ingenuity" (ACDA Choral Journal). Her award-winning compositions are performed worldwide and frequently featured at American Choral Directors Association conferences, All-State festivals, Carnegie Hall, and other distinguished international concert halls from Australia to South America and throughout Europe. In addition to composing full-time, Elaine actively engages in bringing her music to life as the guest artist and featured clinician for professional conferences and festivals both in the U.S. and abroad as a composer, conductor, and accompanist of her work.

The *Wexford Carol* is a traditional religious Irish Christmas carol originating from County Wexford, and specifically, Enniscorthy, dating back to the 12th century. The subject of the song is that of the nativity of Jesus Christ. It is sometimes known by its first verse, "Good people all this Christmas time," and is one of the oldest existing Christmas carols in the European tradition. The song achieved a renewed popularity due to the work of William Grattan Flood (1859-1928), who was organist and music director at St. Aidan's Cathedral in Enniscorthy. He transcribed the carol from a local singer, and had it published in the "Oxford Book of Carols," putting Enniscorthy into most carol books around the world.

Traditions abound concerning this song. For many years, it was felt that only men should sing it. It was only during the current revival of all things Irish that this has changed. This ancient melody, written in Mixolydian mode, gives the tune a simple yet haunting quality. The Christmas story unfolds with unpretentious, quiet wonder.

Good people all, this Christmas time,

Consider well and bear in mind
 What our good God for us has done
 In sending his beloved son
 With Mary holy we should pray,
 To God with love this Christmas Day
 In Bethlehem upon that morn,
 There was a blessed Messiah born.
 Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
 Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep
 To whom God's angel did appear
 Which put the shepherds in great fear
 Arise and go, the angels said
 To Bethlehem, be not afraid
 For there you'll find, this happy morn
 A princely babe, sweet Jesus, born.
 With thankful heart and joyful mind
 The shepherds went the babe to find
 And as God's angel had foretold
 They did our Saviour Christ behold
 Within a manger he was laid
 And by his side a virgin maid,
 Attending on the Lord of Life
 Who came on earth to end all strife.

Home Alone: Three Holiday Songs

John Williams
 Born 1932

Somewhere in my Memory
 Star of Bethlehem
 Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas

The Lyra Eight – NMU Vocal Octet



The great John Williams (1932-present) is the most prolific and widely honored living composer of film music, and with over 50 Oscar nominations, the most Oscar nominated man alive. He was born in New York but moved to Los Angeles with his family when he was 16. He attended UCLA and studied composition with Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco. Williams then returned to New York to attend Juilliard where he studied piano with Rosina Lhevinne. He also worked as a jazz pianist, but Lhevinne urged him to move back to L.A. He did so, and began his career in film studios. He went on to write music for many television programs in the 1960s, winning two Emmys for his work.

In 1974, Steven Spielberg came to Williams after being moved by his score to *The Reivers* to score *Sugarland Express*. It was the beginning of one of the greatest film composer/director collaborations in history. His first Oscar was for his adaptation of the music for the screen version of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Then came nominations and awards for *Jaws*, *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *E.T.*, *The Extra-Terrestrial* and *Schindler's List*.

Home Alone premiered in Chicago on November 10th of 1990.

It received positive reviews, with praise for its cast, humor, and music, grossing \$476 million worldwide, and becoming the highest grossing live action comedy until the release of *The Hangover Part II* in 2011. The film made Macaulay Culkin a child star. It was nominated for a Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture and Culkin for Best Actor, and for an Academy Award for Best Original Score for John Williams, and Best Original Song for "Somewhere in My Memory." *Home Alone* has since been considered one of the best Christmas films.

The original *Home Alone* plot: It is Christmas time and the McCallister family is preparing for a vacation in Paris. But the youngest in the family, Kevin (played by Culkin), got into a fight with his older brother and was sent to his room on the third floor of his house. Then, the next morning, while the rest of the family was in a rush to make it to the airport on time, they completely forgot about Kevin, who now has the house all to himself. Being home alone was fun for Kevin, having a pizza all to himself, making a mess. But then came a scare. Kevin discovered two burglars, played by Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern, about to rob his house on Christmas Eve. Kevin acted quickly by wiring his own house with makeshift booby traps to stop the burglars and to bring them to justice.

The first song of the three featured in this medley is "Somewhere In My Memory," the main title. This song is about the true joys of Christmas, and the true meaning of being together with your loved ones. This lovely song mentions some of the little things

about Christmas that mean a lot to people.

Candles in the window
 Shadows painting the ceiling
 Gazing at the fire glow
 Feeling that gingerbread feeling
 Precious moment Special people
 Happy faces I can see,
 Somewhere in my mem'ry
 Christmas joys all around me,
 Living in my mem'ry
 All of the music, all of the magic
 All of the fam'ly home here with me

"Star of Bethlehem" appears only in the Book of Matthew. The gospel tells us that a bright star appeared in the eastern sky when Jesus was born, famously seen by a group of wise men. These biblical "Magi," sometimes called kings, now adorn nativity scenes around the world. Hidden in the orchestral score of the film *Home Alone* you'll find this magnificent Christmas hymn. The incomparable film composer John Williams' exquisite melody and lush harmonies, blend together to create a moment of the highest order.

Star of Bethlehem shining bright
 bathing the world in heav'nly light,
 Let the glow of your distant glory
 fill us with hope this Christmas night.

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 with the beauty we see, to pass into it,
 to receive it into ourselves, to bathe in it,
 to become part of it."*

- C. S. Lewis, *The Weight of Glory*

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Star of innocence, star of goodness
gazing out since time began,
You who've lived through endless ages
view with love the age of man.

Star of beauty hear our plea,
whisper your wisdom tenderly.
Star of Bethlehem set us free
make us a world we long to see.

Star of Bethlehem, star up high,
miracle of the midnight sky,
Let your luminous life of heaven
better our hearts and make us fly.

Star of happiness, star of wonder
you see everything from afar,
Cast your eye upon the future
make us wiser than we are.
Star of gentleness, hear our plea,
whisper your wisdom tenderly.
Star of Bethlehem set us free
make us a world we long to see.

Next is the festive tune "Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas" from *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York* released in 1992. In this sequel, Kevin's family are going to Florida for Christmas, which he thinks is silly. Somehow, he's separated from his family at the airport, and ends up alone in New York City with his father's credit card. Staying at the swanky Plaza Hotel, he befriends a big-hearted toy-store owner, who's the unwitting next victim of the villains from the original *Home Alone*. Kevin defeats them, while taking in iconic New York sights (Carnegie Hall, Rockefeller Center), before being reunited with his family. This strong-spirited, upbeat tune by Williams and Leslie Bricusse makes you want to sing along.

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Sing a song for the glorious season.
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Sing a song for a happy new year.
Sing merrily, merrily, loud and strong,

Welcome the wintry season.
Just follow along with the holiday song.
Santa is here again, yes!
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Sing a song for the glorious season.
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Sing a song for a happy new year.
The reindeer fly, if you need any proof.
It's merely a matter of reason.

Just listen, you'll hear when they land on the roof.
Santa is here again, yes!
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Sing a song for the glorious season.
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Sing a song for a happy new year.
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Sing a song for the glorious season.
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
It's a magical, miracle, annual, lyrical,
Sing-along now, sing a song for a happy new year!

"12 Days to Christmas" from *She Loves Me*

Jerry Bock

Born 1928 — Died 2010

Orchestration by Don Walker
Lyrics Sheldon Harnick

The Lyra Eight – NMU Vocal Octet



Composer Jerry Bock was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1928. Thirty years later, he and Sheldon Harnick's celebrated collaboration yielded five musical scores in seven years. *Fiorello!* won Broadway's triple crown: Tony Award, New York Critics' Circle Award, and the Pulitzer Prize in drama. Their music to *Fiddler on the Roof* received nine Tony Awards, notably "Best Musical of the Year."

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touching show featuring music by the above team. Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick's *She Loves Me*, from which we'll hear a number tonight called "12 Days to Christmas" originally winning the Variety's Critics' Poll for Best Musical, citing Bock and Harnick as Best Composer and Best Lyricist, respectively, was nominated for 5 Tony Awards in 1964. Many moons later, the 2016 Broadway revival took home the Tony for Best Scenic Design (beating *Hamilton*!) Considered by many to be the most charming musical ever written, *She Loves Me* is a warm romantic comedy with an endearing innocence and a touch of old world elegance. The Mikos-Lazlos play *Parfumerie*, on which it is based, has inspired many adaptations including the beloved film *You've Got Mail* starring Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks.

Set in a 1930s European perfumery, we are introduced to shop clerks, who maybe don't get along quite so well. However, after both respond to a lonely hearts ad in the newspaper, they now live for the love letters they exchange, but their admirers remain unknown. There are twists and turns along the way to discovering who their true loves are.

We shall hear the song "Twelve Days to Christmas", performed in the show by Carolers, Customers and Clerks and on our stage tonight by NMU's Vocal Octet – The Lyra Eight. Please take a break from your Christmas shopping to enjoy a musical holiday with the MSO.

Christmas Carols Fantasy

Henry Sopkin

Born 1903–Died 1988

The Lyra Eight, NMU Vocal Octet

Henry Sopkin was an American conductor. As a youth, he studied violin and entered the American Conservatory in Chicago, where he grew up, earning bachelor's and master's degrees in music. In the 1920s and 30s he became an educator at the American Conservatory in conducting, led the Conservatory Symphony Orchestra and taught extensively in the Chicago public schools. In 1945, under the patronage of the Atlanta Music Club, the successful Youth Orchestra grew into the Atlanta Symphony which Sopkin founded and conducted. By the time he retired in 1966, the Symphony was a fully professional organization. A young orchestra matured because of his hard work and dedication. He was a man full of great ideas for attracting fine, interested musicians to the community, and his efforts had such an impact that the concerts were always sold out.

Tonight, we will hear one of Sopkin's compositions for Christmas entitled *Christmas Carols Fantasy* including some of the most beautiful and popular songs of this special winter holiday: "Joy to the World", "Silent Night", "Jingle Bells", "Westminster Carol" (also called "Angels We Have Heard on High") and "O Come, All Ye Faithful".

–Program Notes by Claudia Drosen

Joy to the world

Joy to the world

the Lord is come

Let Earth receive her King

Let every heart prepare Him room

And Heaven and nature sing

And Heaven and nature sing

And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

He rules the world with truth and grace

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love

And wonders of His love

And wonders, wonders, of His love

-

Silent night

Silent night, holy night!

All is calm, all is bright.

Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.

Holy infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace,

Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight.

Glories stream from heaven afar

Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,

Christ the Savior is born!

Christ the Savior is born

Jingle bells,

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way

Oh what fun it is to ride

In a one-horse open sleigh hey!

Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way

Oh what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh

Dashing through the snow

In a one-horse open sleigh

O'er the fields we go

Laughing all the way

Bells on bobtails ring

Making spirits bright

What fun it is to ride and sing

A sleighing song tonight, oh!

Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way

Oh, what fun it is to ride

In a one-horse open sleigh hey!

Jingle bells, jingle bells Jingle all the way

Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh

(Westminster Carol)

Angels we have heard on high

Angels we have heard on high

Sweetly singing o'er the plains

And the mountains in reply

Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly, sweetly through the night
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brief delight

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

O come, all ye faithful
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.

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God,
Glory in the highest;

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.



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Marquette Symphony Orchestra

String Scholarship

for

Highschool String Students of the Upper Peninsula



1st prize \$500 & 2nd prize \$500

February 11, 2023 (in-person auditions)

Winners will be announced LIVE immediately following the last audition.

Apply Today! | MarquetteSymphony.Org/inspiring-young-musicians

Competition requirements:

- 1) No prior 1st place winners are allowed to participate.
- 2) Applicants must be string students residing in the Upper Peninsula or string students studying with an Upper Peninsula teacher at time of application deadline. Entrance Forms must be postmarked by January 2, 2023, 11:59pm.
- 3) The 1st and 2nd place prize money will be given directly to a summer music camp experience approved by the Artistic Advisory Board of the MSO.
- 4) **What to prepare:** You will be asked to play an orchestral excerpt. *A scanned excerpt will be sent to the application email after the application has been received.* A Solo of your choosing is also required.

*Music students can download application on MSO website which includes instructions on how to apply and a request for instructor's signature and reference.
Please bring an accompanist, or request to pay for accompanist at time of application.*