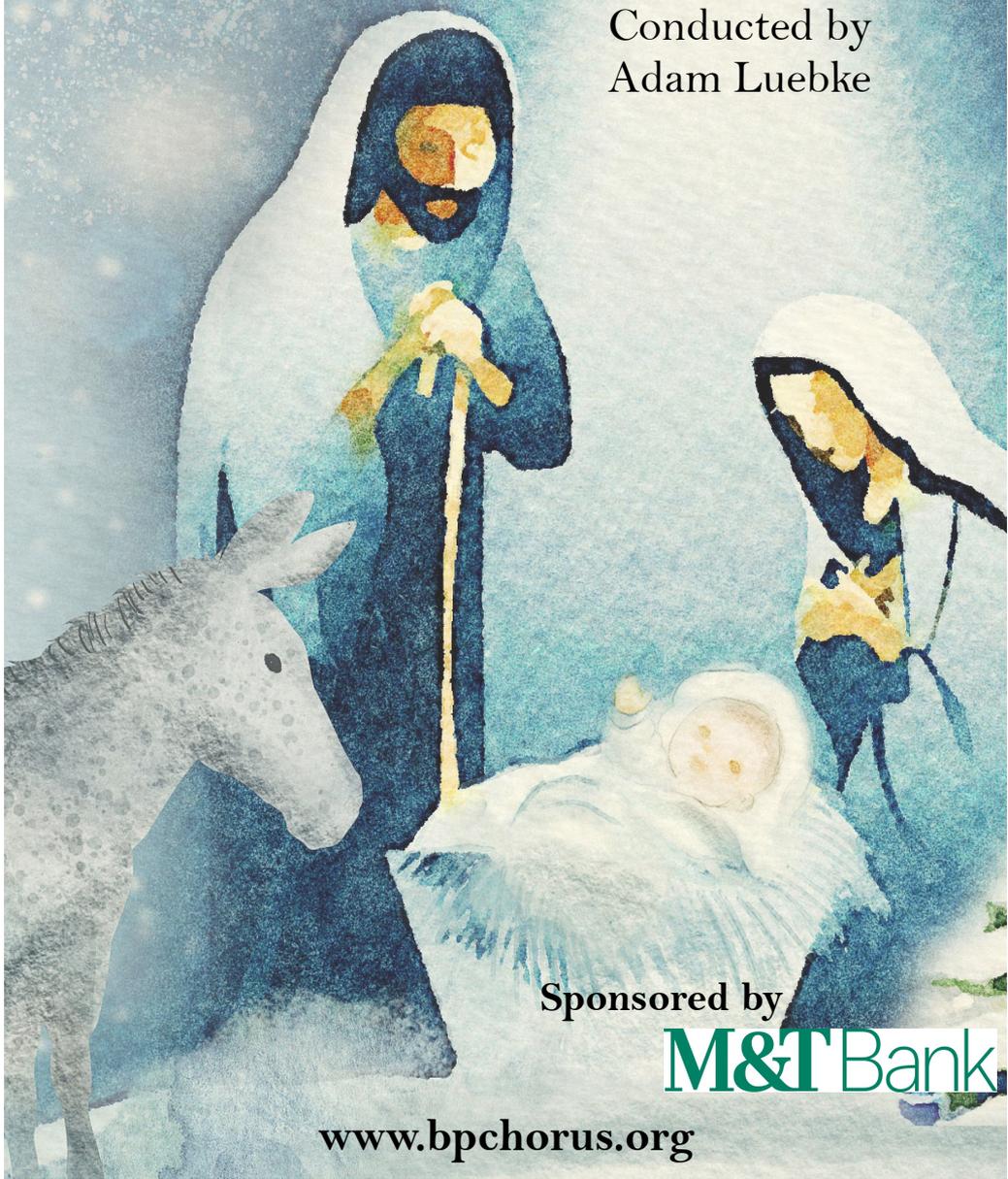


Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus Presents

A Buffalo
Messiah

Conducted by
Adam Luebke



Sponsored by

M&T Bank

www.bpchorus.org



Mission

The Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus is an independent symphonic chorus whose mission is to provide the highest quality performances of choral music for the WNY community, while developing singers of all ages in the choral arts through self-sponsored concerts.

Values

Commitment- Dedication to and respect for the music, the organization, our fellow singers and the enhancement of the quality of life in our community.

Professionalism- The constant drive to maintain high standards of competency, honesty, accountability, knowledge and integrity which enhance the performance experience for the musicians and the patrons.

Camaraderie- The unparalleled satisfaction and uplifting human connection that comes from the shared experience of an outstanding performance and honors the broad range of talents and abilities that we all bring.

Artistry- The creative spirit and passionate force that summon us constantly to seek new, different and better ways to infuse the joy of music into the lives of our audience.

Joy- The exhilarating sensation that moves us toward amusement, gratitude, serenity and pride in our relationships with the music, our community, and each other.

Message from the Music Director

Welcome to the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus' annual presentation of Handel's *Messiah*! This season's performance is a bit different than in years past as the pandemic has changed so much for so many, the BPC included. We suspended in-person rehearsals and cannot host sold-out audiences across Western New York, but we are still singing through the pandemic. We assembled the Christmas portion of *Messiah* through video performances of small ensembles from the full chorus. The orchestra was recorded separately and small ensembles of singers appear singing in masks, socially distanced, listening to the pre-recorded orchestra to create the vocal tracks. Soloists recorded directly with the orchestra on the stage of Kleinhans. The chorus rehearsed weekly in their own homes via Zoom and the full chorus can be heard on "And the Glory of the Lord" and the "Hallelujah Chorus" from our 2019 concert recording at Our Lady of Victory Basilica. We are thrilled to showcase four of Buffalo's distinctive architectural gems: Kleinhans Music Hall, St. Joseph's Cathedral, The Ellicott Square Building, and the Basilica of Our Lady of Victory. This performance is truly a product of our time. Not only does it illustrate the many challenges we face as a chorus and a performing arts organization, but it also displays the resilience, commitment, and undying passion of our singers to persevere through hardship, loss, and complexity. We are so proud of the hard work - from the singers to the technicians - that was put into our performance and we hope you find joy and inspiration in Handel's incredible music and message of hope.

Adam Luebke, Music Director
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus



Adam Luebke became music director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus in the 2014-2015 season. Since that time, critics have hailed the chorus as "in top shape," "splendid," "articulate," "soaring," and "virtuosic." He has worked with conductors JoAnn Falletta, John Morris Russell, Rossen Milanov, and Carl St. Clair; singers Hila Plitman, Angela Brown and Kevin Deas; and composers Fabio Luisi and Richard Danielpour, among others. Recent highlights include the East Coast premiere performances and world premiere recording of Richard Danielpour's *The Passion of Yeshua*; the world premiere of Fabio Luisi's *St. Bonaventure Mass* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; heralded performances of Verdi's *Requiem*, *Carmina Burana*, and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*; a recording featured on American Public Media's *Performance Today*; and debuts at the Chautauqua Institution and David Geffen Hall. As a chorister, he has sung with the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, and Spoleto Festival USA opera chorus under Kurt Masur, Lorin Maazel, Andre Previn, Neville Marriner, Nicholas McGegan, Marvin Hamlisch, and Robert Shaw.

Luebke is also Assistant Professor in Voice and Choral Conducting at the State University of New York at Fredonia where he teaches choral conducting and studio voice, and conducts the Camerata, College Choir, and Masterworks Chorus. He received his earliest musical training at the American Boychoir School, and has degrees from St. Olaf College, Westminster Choir College, and Florida State University.

Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus Staff



Angela Goldberg **Managing Director**

Angela Goldberg is a Buffalo native with a strong passion for local arts and music. Angela first came to the BPC in 2015 and worked as the group's Business Manager for two years before becoming Managing Director in 2017. Angela is the first to hold the title of Managing Director and is the BPC'S first ever full-time employee. A musician and artist herself, Angela grew up studying the violin, honing her photography skills, and writing fiction and poetry. Despite a deep love for music and the performing arts, she knew that being in front of an audience wasn't quite the right fit for her. After working as an immigration legal assistant and a music reviewer and editor in Ithaca NY, Angela chose to pursue an MA in Arts Management, which she received from the University at Buffalo in 2017. While at the University at Buffalo, her coursework included non-profit management, music management, and theater management. She completed her fieldwork for the program with Chautauqua Institution. Angela also holds a BA in Writing from Ithaca College where she studied everything from poetry to grant writing. Working in Arts Management has given Angela the opportunity to utilize her communication, organizational, and creative problem-solving talents within the context of the performing arts. Striving to continually develop her skills as an administrative arts leader, Angela has attended Chorus America conferences, is a member of the WNY chapter of the Association for Fundraising Professionals, and was selected as a 2019 Cullen Fellows Program participant.



Abigail Rockwood Puehn, DMA **Silvia B. deRosas Accompanist Chair**

Abigail Rockwood currently works as a keyboard player in the Buffalo area, playing organ, piano, and harpsichord. Her primary work takes place at St. Paul's Cathedral (Assistant Organist-Choirmaster), Buffalo State College (Lecturer), the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus (Pianist), and the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus (Associate Artistic Director). Abigail earned her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at the Eastman School of Music, where she studied organ with David Higgs, harpsichord with William Porter, and piano with Tony Caramia. She also holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music (M.Mus) and Hope College (B. Mus). Other significant teachers include Todd Wilson, Huw Lewis, and Charles Aschbrenner. Awards include first place in the Rodland Competition and Strader Competition, Peter B. Knock Award, Adele Heinrich Award (Cleveland Institute of Music), Lilly Scholar, Hope College Trustee Scholarship.

M&T Bank presents

A Buffalo Messiah

Adam Luebke, conductor

Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus

Members of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

Madeline Harts, soprano,

Mariami Bekauri, mezzo-soprano,

James Judd, tenor

This performance was filmed across the city of Buffalo in
Kleinhans Music Hall, St. Joseph Cathedral, and the Ellicott Square Building.

Audio recorded at our 2019 Messiah performance at
Our Lady of Victory Basilica is also included.

MESSIAH

G.F. Handel

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sinfony | <i>Orchestra</i> |
| Comfort ye my people | <i>Tenor</i> |
| Ev'ry valley shall be exalted | <i>Tenor</i> |
| And the glory of the Lord | <i>Chorus</i> |
| Thus saith the Lord | <i>Mezzo</i> |
| But who may abide | <i>Mezzo</i> |
| And He shall purify | <i>Chorus</i> |
| Behold, a virgin shall conceive | <i>Mezzo</i> |
| O thou that tellest good tidings | <i>Mezzo/Chorus</i> |
| For unto us a Child is born | <i>Chorus</i> |
| There were shepherds abiding | <i>Soprano</i> |
| And lo, the angel of the Lord | <i>Soprano</i> |
| And the angel said unto them | <i>Soprano</i> |
| And suddenly there was with the angel | <i>Soprano</i> |
| Glory to God in the highest | <i>Chorus</i> |
| Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion | <i>Soprano</i> |
| His yoke is easy | <i>Chorus</i> |
| Hallelujah | <i>Chorus</i> |

A Buffalo Messiah



Music Director—Adam Luebke

Board President—West Richter

Managing Director—Angela Goldberg

Accompanist/Harpsichord—Abigail Rockwood

Chorus Logistics Coordinator—Brenda Bridges

Concert Committee Chair—Devin Borget

Audio Engineer—Glenn Bernardis

Video Production Manager—Dee Jakel

Video Engineers – Paul Calandra, Chris Back

Still Photography—Nancy J. Parisi

Soloists

Soprano—Madeline Harts
Mezzo-soprano—Mariami Bekauri
Tenor—James Judd



Members of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

Violin I – Nikki Chooi

Violin II – Antoine Lefebvre

Viola – Maria Hardcastle

Cello – Feng Hew

Director of Artistic & Orchestra Operations –
Alison Bolton

Chief Engineer – Charlie McDonald

Recorded at St. Joseph Cathedral, 11/14/2020

And He Shall Purify

| Soprano: | Alto: | Tenor: | Bass: |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Katie Engel Cori Hahn | Andrea Copley Kelly Nieman Betsy Stone | West Richter Jeff Shevlin | Scott Schaefer Brad Felton |

O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion

| Soprano: | Alto: | Tenor: | Bass: |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Katie Engel Cori Hahn | Kathy Almeter Paula Cramer Kelly Nieman | Cindy Stone Josh Wisinski | Stephen Edge Scott Schaefer |

Glory to God

| Soprano: | Alto: | Tenor: | Bass: |
|--|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Marisa LaFalce Rebecca Regan Adrienne Zornek | Jane Mathias Kelly Nieman Mary Lou Wiltberger | David Henry West Richter | David Roberts Craig Schettler |



Recorded at Ellicott Square Building, 11/15/2020

For Unto Us a Child is Born

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Soprano: Cori Hahn Christina Kinney Alexandra Tramposch | Alto: Melissa Herr Dee Jakel Kathy Sautter | Tenor: Devin Borget West Richter | Bass: Bill DeRoo Tom Jacobs |
|---|--|---|--|



His Yoke is Easy

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Soprano: Cori Hahn Alexandra Tramposch | Alto: Melissa Herr Nicole Morreale Kelly Nieman | Tenor: Daniel Johnson West Richter | Bass: Scott Schaefer Bill DeRoo |
|---|---|---|--|

Recorded at
Our Lady of Victory Basilica, 12/1/2019

*And the Glory of the Lord
&
Hallelujah*



Photo by Nancy J Parisi



Photo by Nancy J Parisi



Photo by Nancy J Parisi

Performed by the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
And members of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra
Recorded by Bernd Gottinger
Still Photography by Nancy J. Parisi

Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus Sopranos

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Ashley Abrahão | Janelle Harb | Rebecca Regan |
| Laura Anderson | Maer Hatzenbuhler | Kensia Russell |
| Kathleen Barleben | Alayla Henry | Laura Schleicher |
| Ana Branson | Jodie Hodge | Melissa Smythe |
| Suzanne D'Amico | Meredith King | Janice Stevens |
| Teresa Danforth | Christina Kinney | Hannah Taylor |
| Katie Engel | Elisabeth Klimek | Katherine Thompson |
| Leigh Esposito | Marisa LaFalce | Tashieka Thompson |
| Jane Faruga | Jane Lehman | Alexandra Tramosch |
| Deborah Fenn | Pam Lupfer | Rebecca Vogt |
| Andrea Gaudio | Lynnette Mende | Mary Weimer |
| Simoya Ghajar | Rosemary Owens | Catherine Weyand |
| Anna Grant | Janice Peters | Adrienne Zornek |
| Holly Grant | Christina Reece | |
| Cori Hahn | | |

Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus Altos

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Cathy Agnello | Allison Hedberg | Lora Park Bunting |
| Kathleen Almeter | Melissa Herr | Megan Ritchey |
| Lesta Ammons | Dee Jakel | Kathy Sautter |
| Mariami Bekauri | Taylor Jeromos | Nancy Schettler |
| Michelle Buhite | Donna Kiersz | Bridget Schmidt |
| Margaret Callanan | Rebecca Knappert | Clare Schultz |
| Rebecca Caufield | Deanna Clohessy | Betsy Stone |
| Joyce Cline | Knutsen | Kathy Vitagliano |
| Andrea Copley | Sarah Krzyzanowicz | Mary Lou Wiltberger |
| Paula Cramer | Lauren Masters | Gloria Wise |
| Emily Donahue | Jane Mathias | Kayla Witherspoon |
| Helen Duchene | Brenda McCormick | |
| Sarah Fortna | Adria Moffatt | |
| June Foster | Nicole Morreale | |
| | Kelly Nieman | |

Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus Tenors

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Devin Borget | Ralph Marino |
| John Cline | Caleb Meurer |
| Aron Cole | Philip Reynolds |
| David Henry | West Richter |
| Daniel Johnson | Jeff Shevlin |
| Shayne Jones | J. Robert Smythe |
| Ray Kelleher | Cindy Stone |
| Steven Malavé | Joshua Wisinski |

Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus Basses

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Ben Adams | Stephen Edge | Ernest Renaud |
| Chejin Bae | Brad Felton | David Roberts |
| Justin Barleben | Eric Froebel | Marcus Rosten |
| Peter Bleckinger | Donald Gibson | Brian Sawka |
| James Bobak | David Hofmeier | Dennis Scaringi |
| Don Colligan | Kevin Iacovelli | Scott Schaefer |
| Don Copley | Thomas Jacobs | Craig Schettler |
| Kevin Cosby | Timothy Lane | Peter Siedlecki |
| George Davidson | David Lewis | Ignacio Villa |
| William DeRoo | Tyler Mecklenberg | |

Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
2020-2021 Board of Directors

Ben Adams
Devin Borget
Theresa Buckley, ***Treasurer***
Don Colligan
Carol Dambmann
Stephen Edge
William Fay
June Foster
Melissa Herr
Raymond Kelleher
James Macri
Nicole Morreale, ***Secretary***
Barbara Nelson
West Richter, ***President***
Tim Socha
Cindy Stone
Kayla Witherspoon, ***Vice President***
Adam Luebke*, ***Music Director***
Angela Goldberg*, ***Managing Director***
Janice Peters*, ***Music Librarian***

*Ex Officio board member



Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus

What began in 1937 as the Buffalo Schola Cantorum became the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus in 1992 to reflect its close association with the BPO, and to clarify its mission to the public. Founder Jessamine E. Long led the group until 1945 when she was succeeded by a succession of noteworthy musicians. These include Cameron Baird, and Thomas Swan, who for 22 years guided the BPC to prominence in its developing years. The BPC is now led by music director, Adam Luebke and continues to perform under the direction of renowned BPO music directors and guest conductors of all genres including classics, pops, Broadway, and children's music.

Visit bpchorus.org. to stay up to date on everything we have planned in 2021!
You can also follow us on social media -

Facebook: facebook.com/bpchorus; Twitter: [@bpchorus](https://twitter.com/bpchorus); Instagram: [@bpchorus](https://instagram.com/bpchorus)

Thank you to our sponsors and supporters!

The Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus offers heartfelt appreciation to all of our sponsors and donors. We are especially grateful to **M&T Bank** for, once again, serving as this year's corporate sponsor, **Mary Moglia-Cannon** for her generous support of this year's program, as well as the **Dowdell Family** for their ongoing support of our annual *Messiah* performance. It is through the support of donors like you that the BPC has flourished!

Please consider making a tax-free contribution to the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus via mail, or online at <http://bpchorus.org/contribute> so that we can continue to share our passion and commitment to choral music with the WNY community.

Thank you for joining us in singing through the pandemic!



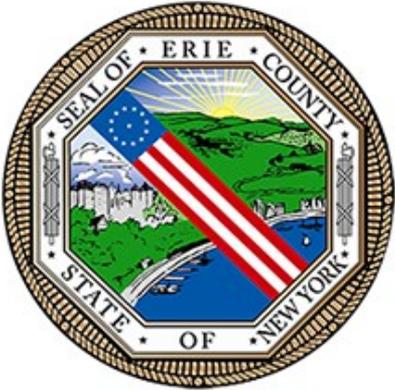
Special thank you to:

| | |
|--|---|
| Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and staff | Erie County, Mark Poloncarz and the Erie County Legislators |
| Bruce and Susan Baird | M & T Bank |
| The Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation | Mary Moglia-Cannon |
| The Cullen Foundation | The Mulroy Family Foundation |
| Daemen College | Our Lady of Victory Basilica and staff |
| The Diocese of Buffalo and staff of St. Joseph's Cathedral | Robert and Patricia Colby Foundation |
| The Dowdell Family | Jane and William Mathias |
| The deRosas Family | WNED Classical 94.5 |
| The staff of the Ellicott Square Building | WNED PBS |

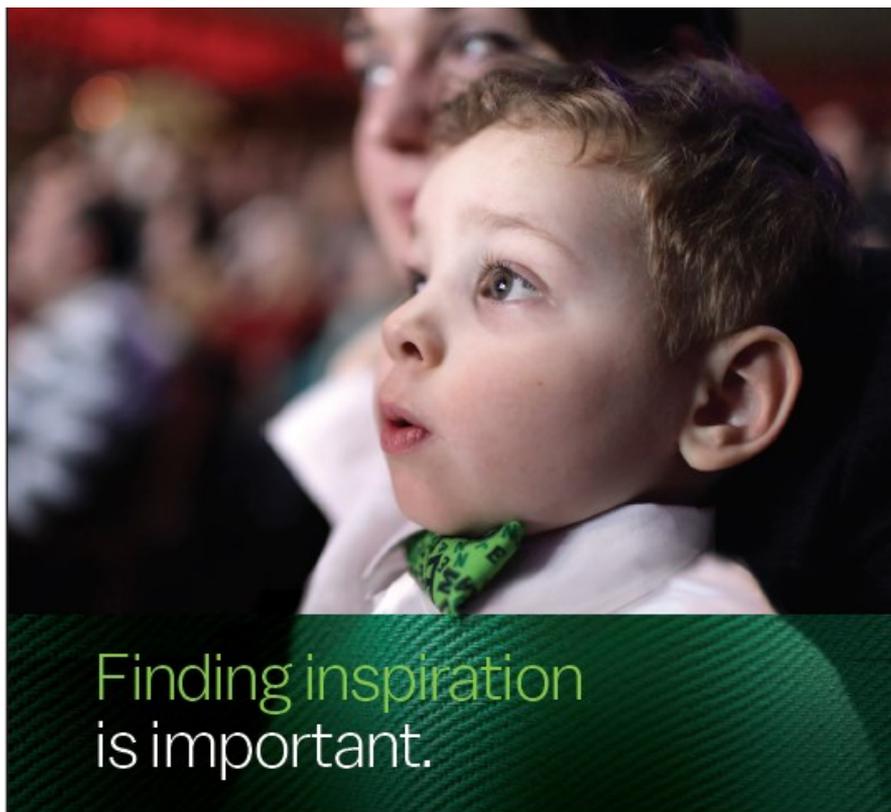
All of our many contributors and supporters!

The Buffalo
Philharmonic Chorus is
proudly supported by:

M&T Bank



Cullen
FOUNDATION



Finding inspiration
is important.

At M&T Bank, we understand how important the arts are to a vibrant community. That's why we offer our time, energy and resources to support artists of all kinds, and encourage others to do the same. [Learn more at mtb.com.](https://www.mtb.com)

M&T Bank
Understanding what's important®



Equal Housing Lender. ©2018 MGT Bank. Member FDIC.