

Warren Performing Arts Center
November 23 & 24, 2024



THE WORLD WE SHARE

United in Purpose



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Song lyrics & additional program information are [HERE!](https://www.indianapoliswomenschorus.org/unitedinpurpose)
Scan this QR code or go to <https://www.indianapoliswomenschorus.org/unitedinpurpose> for more information about today's concert and IWC.

United in Purpose

November 23 & 24, 2024 | Warren Performing Arts Center

Meagan Johnson, *Artistic Director* Ross Dryer, *Collaborative Pianist*

Lisa Kincaide, *Percussion* **Ginger Stolz**, *Piano (Saturday)* Tai Jackson, *ASL Interpreter*

Not a Lone Wolf	Steph Drouin and Aimee Ringle
World on Fire	Dolly Parton, arr. Ash
Hope Lingers On	Lissa Schneckenburger, arr. Andrea Ramsey
When I Rise Up	J. David Moore, text by Wendell Berry
Plant a Seed⁺	Heather Pierson
I Choose Love	Mark A. Miller, text by Lindy Thompson <i>Katherine Vellenga (Saturday), Allie Gentry (Sunday), solos</i>
United in Purpose	Rollo Dilworth, text by Maya Angelou
Take This Gift	Tracy Wong, text by Tracy Wong and Cherie Chai

— *Intermission* —

You Don't Own Me	John Madara and Dave White, arr. Jay Althouse
To Sit and Dream⁺	Rosephanye Powell, text by Langston Hughes
A Beautiful Noise	Alicia Keys, Brandi Carlile, Linda Perry, Hillary Lindsey, Ruby Amantu, Hailey Whitters, Lori McKenna and Brandy Clark, arr. Clelyn Chapin
Listen	Reena Esmail
I Want to Lift My Sister Up	Faya Rose Touré, arr. Jane Sapp
Light of a Clear Blue Morning	Dolly Parton, arr. Craig Hella Johnson, adapted by Richard Gabrillo <i>Sally McSpadden (Saturday), Dennese Adkins (Sunday), solos</i> <i>Abigail Danner, Flute</i>
Keep Marching From <i>SUFFS</i>	Shaina Taub, arr. Andrea Grody

⁺*IWC Small Ensemble*

From our Artistic Director

Dear Friends,

How can we be better sharers of the world? In a world that can feel tumultuous, uncertain, and divisive, we ask ourselves: how can we work — together and individually — for good, for a better world with more justice, more love, and more hope?

This quote from Dr. Maya Angelou offers us an important perspective. In *Rainbow in the Cloud*, a book of the “wisdom and spirit of Maya Angelou,” which was published shortly after her death in 2014, we read:

“The onus is upon us all to work to improve the human condition. Perform good deeds, for that is truly the way to battle the forces of entropy that are at work in our world. The composite of all our efforts can have an effect. Good done anywhere is good done everywhere...”

Together, we may be able to plan a less painful future. Separate, we can only anticipate further ruptures and deeper loneliness.

We are social animals. When we unite in purpose, we are greater than the sum of our parts. Everything that divides or isolates us prevents and obstructs us from realizing our potential as a species.”

These words form the text of our title song, “United in Purpose,” with music by Dr. Rollo Dilworth. A quick vocab reminder: the word “onus” means something more than a responsibility; it’s a duty. “Entropy” describes the tendency of things to break apart, to dissolve. In this context: it is our moral duty to work against the forces that continually try to tear humanity apart.

Throughout IWC’s program, we explore responses to the question, “How should I be, while participating in that work?” And not only as individuals, but “how should WE be?” If good done anywhere is good done everywhere, and it takes all of us to do it — what qualities of being, what actions, what approaches are necessary for us to truly unite in purpose?

The texts of our songs offer us hopeful wisdom: the answer is about interdependence.

It's about the dance of belonging, the weaving together of individual steps and gestures, the intertwining of branches.

It's about recognizing that no one is truly a "lone wolf," that we all are indebted to those who came before us — whether familial ancestors or predecessors in our work — and that we are responsible to those who come after.

It's about balancing "me" with "we" — to know when it is our turn to raise our voices, to express resistance and anger at injustice, and when it is an act of love to listen.

It's about generosity and gratitude, about times of rising up joyfully and those of falling without regret.

It's about the power of an individual choice, to anchor ourselves and to inspire others: choosing hope in the midst of fear, love in the midst of pain, peace in the midst of war.

It's about persistence, knowing that the work will never be finished, that setbacks may come...but that our place in the work is important, that our task is to keep marching on.

Thank you for being with us today. You are an important part of our community, whether this is your first IWC concert or your 50th. I am — we all are — grateful to work together with you, in united, joyful, hopeful purpose, to make our world a better place for everyone.

In harmony,

Meagan Johnson
Artistic Director

Indianapolis Women's Chorus Members

Dennese Adkins⁺
Sara Allaei
Michelle Arthur
Jodie Barnett
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Cara Berg Raunick
Sarah Blair
Mary Bondeson⁺
Vanessa Bozzo
Vicki Bynum⁺
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⁺IWC Small Ensemble

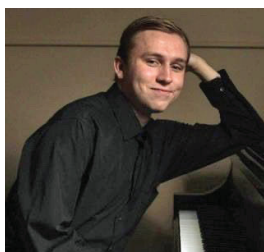
* Leave of absence for this concert



Meagan Johnson, Artistic Director

Meagan Johnson is a dynamic, interdisciplinary artist-educator with more than 15 years' experience leading choirs and teaching Alexander Technique and voice to individuals and groups. Meagan's goal in all settings is to empower people with the skills and tools that support them in doing their best work and living their most whole lives — with ease, with freedom, and with joy. Building on a lifelong interest in the intersection of artistry, education, and well-being, Meagan Johnson is a certified teacher of the Alexander Technique, experienced singer and voice educator, and choral conductor.

In addition to her studio teaching in Indianapolis and online, she has served on the faculties of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, Butler University, Marian University, and University of Indianapolis. In 2015, she was appointed Artistic Director of Indianapolis Women's Chorus. Meagan is also a sought-after clinician for choirs, collegiate music departments, and conferences. She holds the Master of Music in Voice Performance and the Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance/Music Education from Ithaca College, and completed her Alexander Technique Teacher Certification (1600 hours, AmSAT) at Alexander Technique Urbana. More information at meaganjohnsonstudio.com.



Ross Dryer, Collaborative Pianist

Ross Dryer, collaborative pianist, received his Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and his Master of Music in Collaborative Piano from the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he studied with Dr. Peter Miyamoto. In addition to his work with IWC, he is currently employed as the choir accompanist at Fishers High School and has worked with several theater programs in Columbia and Indianapolis.

In Memoriam

IWC remembers the following chorus members, leaders, and supporters who have passed away:

Joey Burt, *stage manager & supporter*
Pamela O'Haver Day, *chorus member*
Sharon Farley, *chorus member*
Esther Fuller, *chorus leader & supporter*
Kathleen "Kassie" George, *chorus member*
Phillis Green, *chorus leader & supporter*

Holly McLin, *chorus member*
Pam Mueller, *chorus member*
Juliet Port, *chorus member*
Mary Ellen Reed, *chorus member*
Christy Lynn Stossmeister, *chorus member*

If a name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies and contact us at info@indianapoliswomenschorus.org.

Thank you for your support

We are so pleased you can share this concert with us today!

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to IWC to supplement our income from ticket sales, sponsors, and grants. Your gift funds:

- *Access to concert performances for those with limited resources*
- *Member dues assistance for singers who need it*
- *Higher music and venue costs as IWC continues to grow*
- *Additional staff time to support our growth and greater community outreach through IWC's small ensemble.*

You can make a gift:



- *In the lobby at this concert*
- *With this QR code or online at indianapoliswomenschorus.org/support*
- *By check mailed to IWC, 4550 Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46205*

Interested in planned giving to support IWC? Email us at giving@indianapoliswomenschorus.org

Special thanks to...

- *Our wonderful concert day volunteers*
- *First Mennonite Church, our rehearsal home*
- *Markell Pipkins for vocal and stylistic coaching on "United in Purpose" and "I Want to Lift My Sister Up"*
- *Indianapolis Children's Choir for chorus retreat space*
- *Our amazing singer and community volunteers who help make all we do possible*

Thank You to Our Donors

(Gifts given between 1/1/2024 - 11/3/2024)

Our apologies for any errors or omissions. Please let us know at giving@indianapoliswomenschorus.org

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*In Memory of Kathy
Weliever*
Tina Wiesert

*In Memory of Holly McLin
"Thank you IWC for all you did
and meant to my daughter"*
Joyce McLin

*In Memory of my father,
Richard (Tom) Ryker*
Mary Ryker Hernandez

*In Memory of my brother,
David Dean Ryker*
Mary Ryker Hernandez

*In Memory of Phillis D. Green,
IWC's first Volunteer Coordi-
nator*
Angela Cosentino, IWC's first
President, 1994-1995

*In Loving Memory of
Christy Stossmeister*
Hache Stossmeister

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*In Special Recognition of
IWC members:*
Cat Cardwell—Iris Beechler
Marty Miles—Beth Kloote,
George Hanlin
Holly Miller—Angela Miller

Larisa Woodruff—Aunt Pat

*In Honor of Tina Wiesert's
Birthday*
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*In Honor of Meagan
Johnson's leadership*
Anonymous

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June Lyle & Bill Simmons

*In honor of the 2023-2024 A2
Section*
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Sherry DuBois, Artistic Administrative Assistant

Ross Dryer, Collaborative Pianist

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Use this QR code to give us some quick feedback on your concert experience, or please respond to our survey next week. THANK YOU!



Mission: Indianapolis Women's Chorus sings diverse and powerful music to build an inclusive community, inspire change, and nurture the human spirit.

KEEP IN TOUCH FOR FUTURE EVENTS!

Mark your calendar for IWC's Spring 2025 concert:

The World We Share—Easy on the Earth, May 17-18, 2025 (*Christel DeHaan Fine Arts Center, University of Indianapolis*)

Other exciting events are in the works!

Please join our e-newsletter list at indianapoliswomenschorus.org/joinmailinglist to receive information about upcoming IWC events.