

SELECTED COMPOSER BIOGRAPHIES

Aimée Ringle

<https://aimeeringlemusic.com/>

Aimée Ringle is a multi-instrumentalist musician, song leader, storyteller and teacher.



Steph Drouin

<https://www.fiercelyok.ca/>

Steph Drouin holds weekly singing communities in various cities throughout Canada under the label of Fiercely OK. Informed by a life-long relationship with anxiety, she writes and teaches songs to help participants embrace their messiness and stay connected to their sense of being OK.



Dolly Parton

<https://dollyparton.com/>

With a chart-topping, unprecedented career spanning more than 60 years, Dolly Parton has been described as a "country legend" by many. In addition to the songs heard tonight, Dolly has composed over 3,000 songs, including "I will Always Love You," "Jolene," and "9 to 5." She has sold more than 100 million records worldwide, making her one of the best-selling music artists of all time.



Lissa Schneckenburger

<https://lissafiddle.com/>

During the past few decades, Lissa Schneckenburger has made music showcasing everything from traditional dance tunes, to original songs. She has taught and performed all over the world as a fiddler and vocalist, including appearances as herself and as part of other bands. Releasing her first songs at 18 years old, Schneckenburger has gone on to release over a dozen more albums during her lifelong career in music.



J. David Moore

<https://jdavidmoore.net/>

J. David Moore is a composer, arranger, conductor, teacher, and Southerner who has lived in the Upper Midwest for most of his life. His music has been called “endlessly inventive,” “glorious...haunting... breathtaking,” and “joyous...wild and elemental.” He publishes through his company Fresh Ayre Music.



Heather Pierson

<https://heatherpierson.com/>

Heather Pierson is a New Hampshire based singer/songwriter, pianist, song leader, and performer with a passion for cultivating joy, both onstage and off.



Mark A. Miller

Mark A. Miller serves as Professor of Church Music at Drew Theological School and is a Lecturer in the Practice of Sacred Music at Yale University. He also is the Minister of Music of Christ Church in Summit, New Jersey. Since 1999, Miller has led music for United Methodists and others around the country, including directing music for the 2008 General Conference. His choral anthems are best sellers for Abingdon Press and Choristers Guild and his hymns are published in "Worship & Song", "Sing! Prayer and Praise", "Zion Still Sings", "Amazing Abundance", "The Faith We Sing", and others.



Rollo Dilworth

Rollo Dilworth is Associate Professor of Choral Music Education and Chair of the Music Education Department at Temple University's Esther Boyer College of Music and Dance in Philadelphia, PA. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in choral music education, he serves as conductor for the University Chorale. Dilworth has written and/or arranged over 150 choral works that are currently in print.



Tracy Wong

<https://tracywongmusic.com/>

Dr. Tracy Wong hails from Malaysia and is a choral conductor, music educator, composer, vocalist, and pianist. She is passionate about helping choral educators to provide unique experiences for their students through collaborative commissions, customized workshops, festivals, and artist residencies. She had conducted workshops for choirs in North America and internationally. Her choral works are widely published and they have been performed by choirs at international competitions and festivals.



Rosephanye Powell

<https://www.rosephanyepowell.com/>

Rosephanye Powell is an American choral composer, singer, professor, and researcher. She has been hailed as one of America's premier composers of choral music. Dr. Powell currently serves as Professor of Voice at Auburn University. Her compositions include sacred and secular works for mixed chorus, women's chorus, men's chorus, and children's voices.



Alicia Keys

<https://www.aliciakeys.com/>

Alicia Keys is an American singer and songwriter. A classically trained pianist, Keys began composing songs when she was the age of 12 and was signed by Columbia Records at the age of 15. Some of her more popular works include “If I Ain’t Got You,” “Falling,” “No One,” and “Girl On Fire” as well as her collaborations with other artists.



Brandi Carlile

<https://www.brandicarlile.com/>

Brandi Carlile is an American singer-songwriter and producer. Her music spans numerous genres, including folk rock, alternative country, Americana, and classic rock. Carlile has released seven critically acclaimed albums, as well as an eighth album with supergroup, The Highwomen. As a producer, Carlile has collaborated with artists such as Tanya Tucker, The Secret Sisters, and Joni Mitchell.



Reena Esmail

<https://www.reenaesmail.com/>

Reena Esmail is an Indian-American music composer of Indian and Western classical music. Esmail divides her attention evenly between orchestral, chamber and choral work. She has written commissions for ensembles including the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Seattle Symphony, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Kronos Quartet, and her music has featured on multiple Grammy-nominated albums, including *The Singing Guitar* by Conspirare, *BRUITS* by Imani Winds, and *Healing Modes* by Brooklyn Rider.



Faya Rose Touré

Faya Ora Rose Touré is a Harvard-educated Civil Rights activist and litigation attorney who has worked on some of the highest-profile civil rights cases to come before the courts. She was the first African-American female judge in Alabama and was part of the winning legal team in Pigford vs. Veneman, the largest civil rights case in history. Touré has founded learning and cultural centers, political and legal organizations, and community initiatives that have benefited Alabamians for four decades. She uses her many talents to further her message and is a prolific songwriter and playwright, as well as the host of a weekly radio show, Faya's Fire.



Shaina Taub

<https://www.shainataub.com/>

Shaina Taub is an American actress, singer, musician, and Tony Award-winning composer. Her original musical, *SUFFS*, based on suffragists and their American women's suffrage movement, premiered in 2022. Taub wrote the book, music, and lyrics, and also starred as Alice Paul in the original Broadway production. Taub won Tony Awards in 2024 for Best Book and Best Score.

