

 **RCMC**
River City Mixed Chorus PRESENTS

I SING THE BODY ELECTRIC

January 23, 2010 at 7:05 pm
January 24, 2010 at 4:05 pm
First United Methodist Church
7020 Cass Street
Omaha, Nebraska



Tickets available online at www.rcmc.org

December 11th, 2009
7:00PM

 **RCMC**
River City Mixed Chorus
Omaha's GLBTA Chorus!

River's Edge
presents...

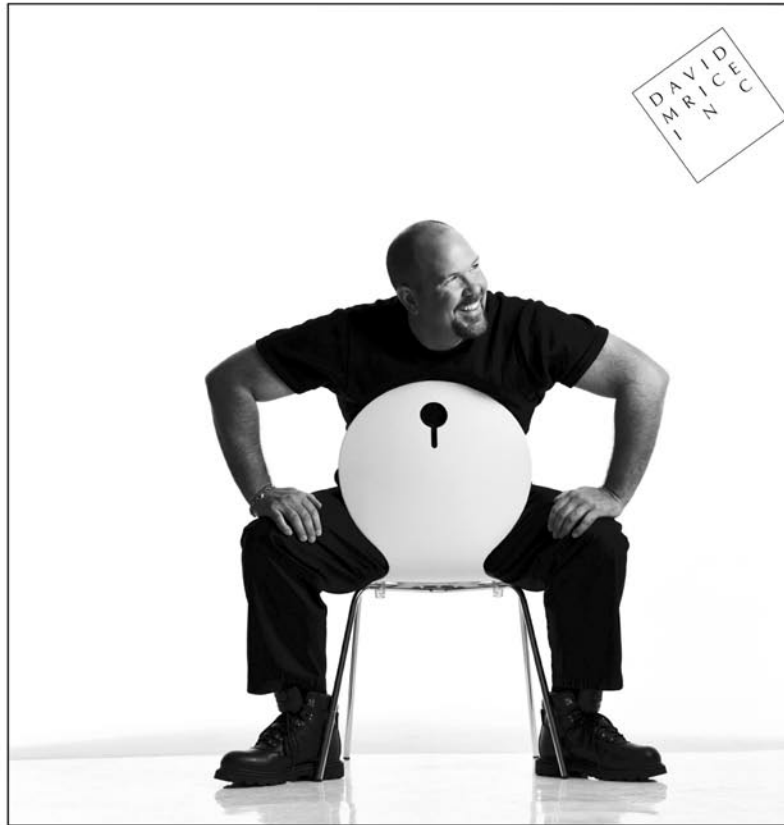


Happy Holly Gayz

Dietz Memorial United Methodist Church
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Art Design by Richard White





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Notes from RCMC Artistic Director

Welcome!

River's Edge is pleased to present its first concert, "Happy Holly Gayz," and all of us in River City Mixed Chorus are pleased that you have joined us for this fun holiday event!

River's Edge is made up of 14 singers from the ranks of the River City Mixed Chorus. As a smaller group, River's Edge has already made its presence known in this community and also outside of Omaha by singing for church services, at the mall, for fundraisers, and even for weddings! Wayne Moore is the artistic director of River's Edge; much thanks to Wayne for getting this group going and for leading them to their first featured performance!



Holiday music probably has a special place in all of our hearts, no matter what tradition we come from. Whether we're celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, or simply celebrating the New Year and the change of season, there's something about this time of year that brings us together and makes us appreciate each other and the bonds between us.

Of course, any group that has emerged from River City Mixed Chorus will also bring with it a sense of humor, so be prepared for all traditions to simultaneously be celebrated and caricatured! We hope that you will find occasions this evening to laugh, as well as to have your spirits lifted. Thanks again for joining us! We wish you all the best in this season and in the coming New Year!

Mark Kurtz, RCMC Artistic Director



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Notes From River's Edge Artistic Director



Welcome to Happy Holly Gayz!! We are so excited that you are here to share your holidays with us.

There are so many people responsible for making this night happen. There are so many that I fear I may leave some out, and if I do, please charge it to my head and not my heart, as I assure you, it was not intentional.

I wish to thank:

- All the **members of River's Edge** who have worked so hard at learning the music and working at the behind the scenes tasks. Having such an enthusiastic, energetic team to collaborate with has made this an incredible experience.
- **Pastor Judith Rainforth and First Lutheran Church** for the donation of rehearsal space and for supporting River's Edge and River City Mixed Chorus.
- **Pastor Stephanie Ahlschwede and Dietz Memorial United Methodist Church** for generous provision of performance space.
- **Mr. Keith Hart**, Director of Music Ministries at Dietz Memorial United Methodist Church for being our contact person and assuring access to the building.
- **Musicians, Mr. Bud Phillips, Mr. Vince Krysl and Mr. Fred Goodhew** for volunteering their time and exquisite talents for this concert.
- **American Sign Language Interpreter, Ms. Tracy Loucks** for donating her time to ensure that we are more accessible.
- **Stage Manager, Ms. Melissa Linn** for donating her time, resulting in a seamless production.
- **Special guest, Holly Day** for joining us for our first holiday concert.
- **Salli Compton** for providing extra rehearsals and assistance with the ensemble. Your leadership and your friendship are a precious gift to me.
- **Mark Kurtz**, you are truly one of my dearest friends. Your leadership and musical direction are inspiring and appreciated. Thank you for all of your hard work with River's Edge and helping to prepare for this concert.

E. Dwayne Moore, Artistic Director, River's Edge

RCMC MISSION

Building community and enriching the lives of our members and audiences through our passion for music.



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E. Dwayne Moore

River's Edge

Artistic Director
RCMC Assistant
Artistic Director

E. Dwayne Moore (Wayne), is in his fourth season with River City Mixed Chorus as the Assistant Artistic Director of RCMC. He is honored to direct its newly formed outreach ensemble, River's Edge. He has 18 years of directing choirs serving as a choral director in Texas, Oklahoma, North Dakota, and Minnesota. He has sung all over the globe, throughout the United States as well as in Guatemala, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Poland, the Czech Republic, Holland, England, and Canada. He had the privilege of singing at Carnegie Hall at the age of 23.

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Mark Kurtz

RCMC Artistic Director



Mark Kurtz is active as a director, performer, and composer of music that connects others to all of Creation. His studies began at the North Carolina School of the Arts, where he received a Chancellor's Award for Excellence and graduated as Outstanding Senior. From there, he continued studies at the University of Michigan School of Music, where he was twice named an Angell Scholar and graduated with highest honors. His Master of Arts degree is from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, where he lived and worked in musical theater, church music, and composition, before moving to Omaha in 2000.

In 2008, Mark composed "The Gender Blender" for the RCMC to present at the Omaha summer concert and at the international GALA Chorus Festival in Miami, Florida. His compositions have been performed across the United States, in Canada, and in Europe, winning awards from Westminster Choir College and the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers. Recently, he has begun offering workshops on creatively using the organ for contemporary music.

Mr. Kurtz is currently Director of Music Ministries at First United Methodist Church as well as Artistic Director of the River City Mixed Chorus.

Salli Compton

Accompanist

I am so happy to be playing my first concert with this special group made up of River City Mixed Chorus artists! As the accompanist for River City Mixed Chorus, I have the weekly privilege of playing for the most talented chorus in town directed by the most accomplished conductor. Playing



for singers has always been my musical passion. My mother taught

me to accompany by singing our beloved Broadway tunes from the kitchen with a variety of tempos and dynamics. My gifts from the universe have included many different church choirs, numerous community theater folks, elementary school children, vocal students of all ages, and my extended RCMC family. When I am not playing the piano, I am thinking and breathing the art of teaching children. Joyce, Whit, Luke, Mack, Laci, Henry and Maggie learn every show right along with me and keep me in the now. I believe that music is the expression of the essence of life. May your holidays be seasoned with the essence you hear this evening!

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Melissa Linn

Stage Manager

This is Melissa's second adventure with River City Mixed Chorus. Melissa 'Builds America' by day, and stage manages at night for BroadStreet Theatre Company (Impact Award Winner 2008) and the Shelterbelt Theatre (Board of Directors, Bar Manager, House and Grounds Manager). Her most recent work has been *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* - BroadStreet (TAG Award - Properties Design), *Blithe Spirit* - Omaha Community Playhouse, *Baby* - BroadStreet, and various Shelterskelters and From Shelterbelt With Love(s).

Tracy Loucks

Sign Language Interpreter

Tracy Loucks hails from Nebraska and obtained a BFA degree in Theatre Arts from the University of New Mexico in 1985. This degree led her to many years of working in theatre, opera, commercials and movies. In 2004, she earned an AAS degree in Sign Language from Iowa Western Community College. She has served as an Educational Interpreter for the last six years. Working with River City Mixed Chorus has given her an opportunity to not only use her musical background and signing skills but also to be a part of a group dedicated to a cause that affects Omaha in a positive way. This is Tracy's third concert with RCMC.

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A HARD MAN-CANDY CHRISTMAS
7:00PM - THE MAX

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THROUGH THE YEARS...A CHRISTMAS JOURNEY
9:00PM - THE MAX

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19TH
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7:00PM - THE MAX

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HAPPY HOLLY GAYZ SONGS

Welcome by Holly Day, Empress 29

Gloria

Music and Lyrics by Michael W. Smith
Choral arr. by Ronn Huff

The Twelve Days After Christmas

Music by Frederick Silver

Soloists: Judy Prenzler, Mark Van Kekerix, Sarah Phelps, Daniel Whitehouse,
Corrie Suhr Mikityuk, Michael Taylor-Stewart

Al Shlosha D'Varim

Text: Pirkei Avot (Mishna)
Music by Allan E. Naplan

Pirkei Avot translates to English as **Chapters of Fundamental Principles**, or more commonly, **Chapters of the Fathers**. This compilation contains the ethical teachings and maxims of the Rabbis of the Mishnaic period.

"Al shlosha, d'varim haolam kayam; Al haemet v'al hadin v'al hashalom"

Translation

"The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace"

Baby It's Cold Outside

Music by Frank Loesser

Soloists: Corrie Suhr Mikityuk, Mark Van Kekerix, Sarah Phelps, Daniel Whitehouse

Deck the Halls in 7/8

Arr. by James McKelvy

Santa Baby

Music by Joan Javits, Philip Springer, Tony Springer

Soloist: Michael Taylor-Stewart

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Music by Lewis Redner

Lyrics by Phillips Brooks

Arr. by Don and Lorie Marsh

Little Drummer Boy

Music, Lyrics by Katherine K. Davis

Sextet: Tom Nielsen, Judy Prenzler, Megan Van Alstine, Mark Van Kekerix, Daniel Whitehouse, Travis Wilcox

Boogie Woogie Hanukkah

Music and Lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes

A Miracle for Christmas

Music by David Friedman

Lyrics by Ron Kaehler

Soloists: Tom Nielsen, Kristi Hooper, Michael Taylor-Stewart

Am I Welcome Here?

Music and Lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes

Soloist: Travis Wilcox

Joyful, Joyful

Music by Ludwig van Beethoven

Lyrics by Henry van Dyke

Arr. by Mervyn Warren

Adapt. by Roger Emerson

Soloists: Karen Davidson-Fisher, Corrie Suhr Mikityuk, Kristi Hooper, Sarah Phelps

Please join us for a complimentary Reception following the concert

River's Edge Singers & Musicians

Soprano

Corrie Suhr Mikityuk
Sarah Phelps
Megan Van Alstine

Alto

Karen Davidson-Fisher
Kristi Hooper
Judy Prenzler

Tenor

Jerry Meis
Mark Van Kekerix
Daniel Whitehouse
Travis Wilcox

Baritone

Brian Adams
Stan Brown
Scott Miller
Tom Nielsen
Michael Taylor-Stewart

Keyboard

Salli Compton
Mark Kurtz

Clarinet/Sax

Fred Goodhew

Percussion

Vincent Krysl

Bass Guitar

Bud Phillips

Compassion.

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E. Dwayne Moore

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Empress 29
Holly Day

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Melissa Linn

ADVERTISEMENT CHAIRS

Stan Brown
Scott Miller

PRODUCTION TEAM

Jerry Meis
Coordinator

Patrick Wait
Assistant Coordinator

Michael Taylor-Stewart
Set Design

Corrie Suhr Mikityuk
Photography

Michael Taylor-Stewart
Judy Prenzler
Travis Wilcox

Scripts

Pat Gromak
Playbill Coordinator

Richard White
Cover Art

Ric Chamberlin
Fifth Voice

Reception

Following the concert, all are invited to mingle with Singers and Staff to celebrate this debut at a complimentary reception.

ADVERTISING

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Please consider advertising in future RCMC concert programs. For specific details and ad packages, e-mail Marketing4RCMC@yahoo.com or call our sing line at 402-341-SING (7464). Please email your Ad to Marketing4RCMC@yahoo.com. A minimum resolution of 300 dpi is required. JPG or PDF formats are accepted.

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*Best Wishes to the
River City Mixed Chorus
On another successful season!*



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RCMC
River City Mixed Chorus PRESENTS

A COMEDY TONIGHT



June 12, 2010 @7:05PM

June 13, 2010 @4:05PM

**Tickets available online
at www.rcmc.org**

Art Design: Richard White

Producer's Circle of Cash Donations

Received September 1, 2008 – August 31, 2009

Virtuoso \$1,000 - \$2,499

Judy Prenzler
Mark Van Keckerix
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The River City Mixed Chorus acknowledges all persons who participate in our Producer's Circle in each concert program and on our website. Your support and belief in the cause of our organization is commendable. If you wish to become a member of our Producer's Circle family, please call our sing line at 402-341-7464.

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RIVER'S EDGE

River's Edge, is the outreach ensemble that partners with River City Mixed Chorus. Under the direction of Wayne Moore, the assistant artistic director of RCMC, River's Edge is branching out to spread the message of diversity and acceptance for all people. They have performed at weddings and the 32nd opening of Omaha Community Playhouse world-renowned "A Christmas Carol". River's Edge excitedly looks toward the future as they continue to build their repertoire while reaching out to the Greater Omaha Community. River's Edge is available to perform at special events. For more information, please contact their director at rev.wayne@ymail.com.

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Ex-officio

Artistic Director – Mark Kurtz
President of Chorus – Sarah Phelps

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Very Special Acknowledgments

St. Andrew's Methodist Church
Sarah Phelps
Stan Brown and Scott Miller

All of the members of the River's Edge Chorus are deeply grateful to those individuals and businesses that have been so generous with their financial support, time and energy. Everyone associated with River City Mixed Chorus is profoundly aware that if not for the loyalty and personal sacrifice of our audience, contributors, family and friends, we would not be able to continue building community through our passion for music.

Thank you all!

River City Mixed Chorus

FIFTH VOICE

CHAIR: Ric Chamberlin

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Elizabeth Bennet
Scott Bryant
Cassandra Burgdorf
*Sue Chamberlin
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Lucas Compton
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**Current RCMC singing members*