



RSVP

proudly presents

OPEN DOORS

A Concert Series Benefiting St. John's Program for Real Change

Friday, May 12 at 7:30 pm

Journey Church • 450 Blue Ravine Road, Folsom

Saturday, May 13 at 7:30 pm

St. Mark's Lutheran Church • 7869 Kingswood Drive, Citrus Heights

Friday, May 19 at 7:30 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church • 1701 L Street, Sacramento

Saturday, May 20 at 7:30 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church • 1701 L Street, Sacramento

Admission free, donations accepted.

RECONCILIATION SINGERS VOICES OF PEACE

A message from the President

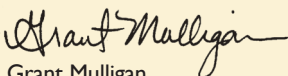
Welcome Everyone!

As you know, RSVP's mission is to bring people together through the arts and give back to the community. Rarely are we able to give back in a more direct way than we will tonight. Almost since RSVP's beginning, St. John's Lutheran Church in Sacramento has been donating their beautiful venue for RSVP concerts. Because of their generous support, and that of other organizations such as St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Citrus Heights, and Journey Church in Folsom, RSVP has been able to raise awareness and funding for the wonderful work being done your neighbors. Over the years, you've donated tens of thousands of dollars to the charities sponsored at RSVP concerts while listening to our singers and our guests in these beautiful venues.

This season we have the special privilege to give back by supporting St. John's Program for Real Change, an organization changing the lives of women and their children living in crisis. From their website, Saint John's, "is for the woman who wants to make the leap. Who will fight the pervasive influence of homelessness, poverty, and abuse. Who will make an empowered decision to rise up and become a productive community member. Who understands, unequivocally, that the decision to create a better life – for herself and for her family – rests entirely on her." I encourage you to read about their organization in tonight's concert program, and pay special attention to our guest speakers as they talk about the Program's extremely high success rate getting these families on a permanent path to a better life.

After the concert, be sure to visit their table to collect literature about the program, and look for additional ways you can share your support. Thank you for being here tonight, and for making our community a better place.

Sincerely,



Grant Mulligan
President, RSVP

rsvp@rsvpchoir.org

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Jennifer Reason, *Artistic Director*

Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. No flash photography or recording of any kind is permitted. RSVP Recycles! If you do not wish to keep your program, please place it in the box in the lobby. Thank you!

*Time to walk my troubles away.
My thoughts are heavy at the end of the day.
Oh this weary heart of mine.
If I start singin' then I know I'll be fine.*

*In the night I wake in despair.
All my choices wrong.
I lose faith my courage dissolved.
All my hope is gone.*

*Open wide.
There's so much waiting for you,
If you know what's down inside
What makes you alive.
Don't be afraid it's gonna be fine.*

*When I awake and I'm still alive.
I've got my problems but I'm gonna survive.
I take a breath and open my eyes.
Then I start singin' and I'm gonna be fine.*

~ Excerpt from "Fine" by Rhiannon

OPEN DOORS

The concert will be performed without an intermission.

No Mirrors In My Nana's House Ysaye M. Barnwell

Sister My Sister Sue Johnson

Soloists: Jennifer Reason, Allison Kanemoto, Lara Pucik Johnson,
Megan Scroggins, Andy Michael Paul, Monica Crumley

Yesterday John Lennon and Paul McCartney, arr. Bob Chilcott

Soloists: Grant Mulligan, Andy Michael Paul

Ave Maria: A Choral Prayer Jessica Franchi

Wildfire Julia Seeholzer, text by Adrienne Pope

Evelyn's Song, from the Beatitude Mass for the Homeless

Henry Mollicone, text by William Luce

Solo: Noreen Barnett

✎ Please hold applause...

Song of Survival arr. Margaret Dryburgh and Norah Chambers

II. Largo, Antonin Dvorak

.....
▶ **Charity Introduction: St. John's Program for Real Change**
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The Red Door Song Phil MacDougall

Soloists: Jodi Serrano and Joshua Ray

How Can I Cry? Moira Smiley

Soloists: Monica Crumley, Karen Percy

Bass: Eric Rosander, percussion: Jeremiah Jacks

Gentle Annie Stephen Foster, arr. Roger Wagner

Guest soloist: Matt Hidalgo, tenor

Sherry Bob Gaudio, arr. Mac Huff

Guest soloist: Matt Hidalgo, tenor.

Bass: Brett Cole (5/19: Casey Lipka), drums: Anders Swanson

Jenny Rebecca Carol Hall, arr. Clair McElfresh

I Am Not Yours Randall Stroope, text by Sarah Teasdale

Fine Rhiannon

Solo: Allison Kanemoto, vocal percussion: Eric Rosander

For Elizabeth Rosana Eckert

Soloists: Jodi Serrano, Karen Percy.

Bass: Brett Cole (5/19 Casey Lipka), drums: Anders Swanson



RSVP Singers

Jennifer Reason
Artistic Director

Noreen Barnett
Monica Crumley
Aaron Gardner
Sarah Haynes
Jeremiah Jacks
Allison Kanemoto
Lin Kassouni Walker
Jeremy Kauffman
Keir MacMillan
Grant Mulligan
Andy Paul
Karen Percy
Lara Pucik Johnson
Joshua Ray
Eric Rosander
Megan Scroggins
Jodi Serrano
Jordan Thomas Rose

RECONCILIATION SINGERS VOICES OF PEACE



Artistic Director

Jennifer Reason joined RSVP as a singer in 2009 and took over the position of AD in 2014. She has extensive experience in the choral field and is an accomplished pianist, performer and music director. Ms. Reason made her international choral conducting debut in St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, as part of the Festival of Peace and Brotherhood. She previously oversaw the founding of the choral arts program at

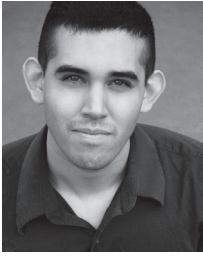
George Washington Carver School of the Arts in Sacramento, and was also a five year member of the artistic staff with the Sacramento Children's Chorus. Other notable previous choral positions include being a founding member of Sacramento State's award-winning vocal jazz ensemble, C-Sus. (Downbeat Award: Best Collegiate Vocal Jazz Ensemble, US/Canada.) Ms. Reason is currently working with the nine award winning choirs at Monte Vista High School in Danville, CA.

Ms. Reason was just selected as a 2016 winner of the *Sacramento Business Journal's* Top 40 Under 40 Award! She is in high demand as a performer and has appeared in solo and ensemble performances throughout Europe, the United States and Canada, notably including the Schlern and Orfeo International Music Festivals in Italy, the Inter-Harmony International Music Festival in Germany, the Festival of Peace and Brotherhood in Italy, and two appearances at Carnegie Hall, as well as the Liszt Academy in Hungary. A widely versatile artist, Ms. Reason has also shared the stage with many diverse acts ranging from Tony Award winner Faith Prince, to members of Journey, Santana, Tower of Power and Sly and the Family Stone, to composer John Rutter, to actor Billy Bob Thornton, Governor Jerry Brown, and baseball's Tony La Russa.

In addition to her work with RSVP, Ms. Reason is also a founding member of the modern chamber ensemble, Citywater—currently Ensemble in Residence at CSUS, and a founding member of The Reassemblers of Whimsy, a mash-up band currently Ensemble in Residence with the Townsend Opera Company. She earned her Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance at CSUS under the tutelage of Steinway Artist Richard Cionco. Upcoming projects include the National Festival of the States in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor; Music Director for Marin Theatre Company's fall production of Shakespeare in Love, Music Director for High Holy Days at Beth Shalom Synagogue, and a recording project of all new music, featuring saxophonist Alan Theisen and composers Clare Shore and Stephanie Ann Boyd.

For more information, please visit www.jennifer-reason.com

Guest Artist Matt Hidalgo



Matt Hidalgo, tenor, is a graduate of California State University, Sacramento; and holds a Bachelor's of Music in Vocal Performance. He has sung and performed regularly throughout the greater Sacramento region and is a familiar face with many local performing groups. Matt performs regularly with St Mark's United Methodist Church, Fifth Church of Christ Scientist, Sacramento Opera, The Sacramento Choral Society, Capella Antiqua, Sacramento's Classical Revolution, the choirs at UC Davis, the Carson City Chamber Singers in Carson City, NV; and is also a regular performer for the St Mark's annual Bravo Bach! Festival.

Recently, Matt made his Bay Area debut with the Fremont Symphony for their annual Valentine's Day Concert. In 2016, Matt returned to his alma mater to perform the role of Paolino in *Dominico Cimarosa's Il Matrimonio Segreto* with the Sacramento State Opera Theater under the direction of Omari Tau. In Spring 2014, Matt was also asked to return to Sacramento State to perform the role of Pluto in Jacques Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld*; also under the direction of Tau. In 2013, Matt made his Sacramento Opera solo debut as Eddie Pensier for Sacramento Opera's 2013 opening production of *The Bremen Town Musicians at Fairy Tale Town*. Matt's operatic career highlights include Don Ottavio in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Tamino in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, Sir Hugo in Gerald Cockshott's *The Faun in the Forest*, Don Basilio and Don Curzio in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Mercury in Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld*, and Luiz in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers*.

A distinguished concert performer, Matt Hidalgo has performed the tenor solos in Benjamin Britten's *Serenade for Horn and Tenor*, Haydn's *Missa Celensis*, Handel's *Messiah*, Saint Saens' *Oratorio de Noël*, Bach's *Coffee Cantata*, Haydn's *Paukenmesse*, and Pergolesi's *Magnificat*.



James Piper

This season is lovingly dedicated to the memory of Jim Piper, our dear friend and tireless supporter. He was the devoted husband of Jennie Piper and father of our beloved founder, Julie Adams.

Jim passed from this life on April 15, 2017.

We will miss him greatly.



RSVP Board of Directors

Joe Dellly
Lin Kassouni Walker
Grant Mulligan
Karen Percy
Eric Rosander
Steve Walker

RSVP Auxiliary

Our thanks to the RSVP Auxiliary for their continued support and hands-on help. If you're interested in joining the auxiliary to help at upcoming RSVP concerts or events, please contact the Auxiliary Coordinator, Gina Mulligan, at volunteers@rsvpchoir.org.

Reconciliation Singers Voices of Peace

P.O. Box 2053
Fair Oaks CA 95628
(916) 905.7787
rsvp@rsvpchoir.org
www.rsvpchoir.org

MISSION

Creating Joyful Music to Build a Better World

Founded in 2000 by former Artistic Director Julie Adams, RSVP's mission is bringing people together through the arts and giving back to the community. RSVP nurtures the community with its highly-praised, dynamic concerts while providing concrete, financial contributions that continue to make a difference long after the applause.

Uplifting Audiences with Great Music from Schumann to Sting

The versatile singers of RSVP perform many genres, from classical choral literature and madrigals to contemporary music, freedom songs, folk tunes and jazz. Each creative and artistic concert is tailor-made for the audience and the organization being supported.

Making Tangible Contributions to Local Charities

RSVP has enjoyed collaborating with choirs, storytellers, authors and other musicians to present concerts with fresh ideas and imaginative programs. RSVP continually seeks ways to uplift audiences and support the communities it serves. To this end, all members of RSVP donate their time so that all concert proceeds go to local charitable organizations in need.

More Information

RSVP is available for private parties and special events. If you or someone you know would be interested in sponsoring RSVP during the season, please contact us at (916) 905-7787.

To learn more about RSVP, please visit www.rsvpchoir.org. We invite you to join our email list to find out about future concerts. CDs are on sale following each concert.



saint john's
PROGRAM FOR REAL CHANGE

The mission of Saint John's Program for Real Change is to unleash the potential of mothers in crisis to improve their quality of life and enrich the lives of their families.

Based on more than a quarter-century's worth of experience, we know what our clients need to become self-sustaining. And it's much more than being housed, clothed and fed. It's giving mothers real love so they can finally learn to love themselves. It's helping them fully realize their potential. It's establishing a sense of self-worth and readiness for the real world. Through the following services, we empower mothers to rise above devastating elements and achieve job readiness and self-sustainability:

THE TOOLS FOR REAL CHANGE.

When a family enters Saint John's year-long rehabilitative program, they are immediately encircled with structure, with mental health therapy, with alcohol and drug counseling, with parenting education, with budgeting classes, with healthy relationship training, AND with hands-on employment training. All services are onsite and required. The program is designed to support these women in taking responsibility for themselves and their families. Each family receives an average of 675 hours of services each month. 96% of mothers are placed in non-subsidized employment upon completion of our employment training!

In the past eight years, Saint John's has evolved from providing emergency shelter only, to a year-long program that provides real change in the lives of women and children who have become homeless. During that same period, we have reduced our reliance on public funding to less than 20% of our \$5M budget to have the flexibility to require sobriety of our clients which is no longer allowable if you accept HUD funding. We rely heavily on private funding to fuel the programs we provide to families who have become homeless.

Today, Saint John's serves up to 180 women and children daily. Although our program is running at capacity, our wait list still includes over 250 people each night. Our expansion will allow us to reduce this wait list by one-third!

www.saintjohnsprogram.org

► Please make checks payable to Saint John's Program for Real Change

Past Concert Beneficiaries

Blessings In A Backpack
www.bibsac.org

TLCS
www.tlcssac.org

916Ink
www.916Ink.org

Alpha K9
www.alphak9.org

NextMove
www.nextmovesacramento.org

Lilliput Children's Services
www.lilliput.org

Courage Worldwide
courageworldwide.org

Music Partners in Healthcare
www.mpih.org

The Perla Warren
Endowment for Music

Roseville Home Start
www.rosevillehomestart.org

South Sacramento Interfaith
Partnership Food Closet
www.ssipfoodcloset.com

InAlliance
www.inallianceinc.com

WEAVE of Sacramento
www.weaveinc.org

Doctors Without Borders
www.doctorswithoutborders.org

Adolfo Program and Project HOPE
<http://dhaweb.saccounty.net/homeless/laVerneAdolfo.htm>
Project HOPE: 448-5621 x30

Beacon of Hope, Louisiana
www.lakewoodbeacon.org

Fuller Center for Housing
www.fullercenter.org

PRC Compassion
Formed in aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

Golden State Middle School
www.wusd.k12.ca.us

Children's Receiving Home of Sacramento
www.crhkids.org

Foothill Volunteer Center—Meals on Wheels
www.seniorsfirst.org/meals_on_wheels.htm

Rebuilding Together
www.rebuildingtogethersacramento.org

Adopt an Elder
www.adoptanelderfoundation.com

Peace for Families
www.peaceforfamilies.org

Mustard Seed School
www.sacloaves.org/programs/mustardseedschool

Share Our Strength and
Sacramento Food Bank Services
www.strength.org and www.sfbns.org

Literacy Support Council of Placer County
Placer Adult Literacy Service
www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Library/adultliteracy.aspx

Keaton Raphael Memorial
for Neuroblastoma
www.childcancer.org

Sacramento Children's Home
www.kidshome.org

Harold Pressley's Treat 'em
Like A King Foundation
www.tlkfoundation.org

Neighborhood Breakfast Program, Roseville
www.fpcroseville.org

Thanks to Our Donors

RSVP is supported by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission's Cultural Arts Awards Program, funded by the City and County of Sacramento.

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\$1,000 and above

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St. John's Lutheran Church
Rev. Frank Espegren, *Pastor*
Steven Johnson, *Director of Worship and Music*
Trish Russell, *Receptionist*

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Marty Pucket, *Chairman, Board of Worship*

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Koos Prins, *Sound Technician*
Kathy Noia
Wayne Mitchell

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**RECONCILIATION SINGERS
VOICES OF PEACE**

Jennifer Reason, Artistic Director

P.O. Box 2053 • Fair Oaks, CA 95628

www.rsvpchoir.org

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