

*Ring the Bells
of Christmas!*



River City Chorale

December 2017

Richard Morrissey, Director
Dean Mora, Accompanist

Featuring
River City Chamber Choir
River City Orchestra



Director's Notes

Welcome to, "Ring the Bells of Christmas," River City Chorale's 2017 Christmas Concert. We're glad you are here and we hope you enjoy the performance.



We have a mixture of fine music for your listening pleasure, some old and some new, sacred music about the birth of Christ and secular holiday songs that celebrate the festive season.

After our processional music we begin with a contemporary setting of the, "Gloria" portion of the Catholic mass written in 1990 by the American composer Randol Alan Bass. Hundreds of composers have used this text; we think this is one of the nicest versions.

We continue with several songs in different styles, both sacred and secular, including a cute song about Christ's birth in a manger told from the point of view of the animals in the stable that night. The first half of the program ends with a medley of Christmas songs we would like you to join us in singing.

After our intermission, the Golden State Brass will entertain with two selections. The program then continues with our Chamber Choir performing a short cantata by the famous German composer and organist, Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707.) The work, "Das Neugeborne Kindelein" (The Little Newborn Child) was, of course, originally written in German, but we are using an English translation. After the Buxtehude, the Chamber Choir shows us an entirely different way to tell about Christ's birth with the spiritual, "Mary had a Baby."

The program continues with music in various styles and ends with a delightful setting of the famous poem by Clark Moore, "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Thank you for joining us.
Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Richard Morrissey

Jerilyn Paik

Attorney

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Dean Mora, Accompanist
Vera Refnes, Assistant Director

Soprano

Pam Adcock
Judy Andersen
Patty Budding
Meg Burnett
Rosemarie Felver
Pat Junod
Elaine Kaul
Lynn Lively
Beth Messina
Pam Mitchell
Cheri Nelson
Cathy Nickeson
Marty Peterson
Michelle Telles
Sara Zeigler

Bass

Joe Cavness
Joe de Illy
Jim Eckerman
Myron Jantzen
Paul Johnson
Jerrold Jones
Clyde Kidd
John Krilanovich
Chuck Maxson
Greg Meyer
Paul Peterson
Jerry Powell
R. Wayne Stacks
Byron Tucker

Alto

Anne Adrian
Carol Ann Baltzell
Christina Chappell
Beth DePuy
Pat Edmonds
Brenda Drumm Kidd
Susan Kim
Kelley Lints
Kathy Midgley
Cheryl Podesta
Dorothy Ritter
Sharlene St. Clair
Trisha Uhrhammer
Barbara Washington
Lois Wright
Noel Zimmermann

Tenor

Marilee Keene
Doug Leggett
Frank Montez
Stan Muther
Pat Pedersen
Vera Refnes
Diane Salter
Gary Varney

Section Leaders

Pat Junod, Soprano
Sharlene St. Clair, Alto
Vera Refnes, Tenor
Paul Peterson, Bass

Come Sing With Us!

Our members come from as far as Yuba City and Elk Grove, and we have a good time! Auditions for experienced choir singers are held regularly. **Call 916-489-7248.**

The River City Chorale

The Chorale, consisting of approximately 60 members, has been performing in the Sacramento area since 1977, singing a wide variety of music from the classics to the contemporary. Richard Morrissey has been the director since 2001 following the earlier leadership of Jack Carey, Walter Kerfoot and Mel Olson.

Season Performances begin in December with gala Christmas Concerts by chorale and orchestra to usher in the holidays. This will be followed by a fun Pops Concert in March, and the Spring Concert in May always provides a variety of wonderful music. The Chorale has performed in ten international concert tours, and has produced three CDs.

Special Performances are available. The Chorale and Chamber Choir welcome invitations to perform at various events, from special galas to private celebrations. **Call 916-967-9221.**

Finances come from member's dues, ticket sales, advertisers, special performances, fund-raising activities and the generosity of donors. The chorale is a non-profit organization.

Advertise or Donate To place an ad in our programs and website, or to make a tax-deductible donation, **Call 916-427-0684.**

For Tickets and Information

www.rivercitychorale.org **916-331-5810**

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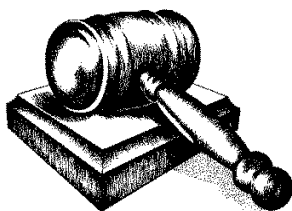
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River City Orchestra

Violin I

Ellen Cochran
Susan Denny

Violin II

Sue Dings
Bob Woodward

Viola

Michel Frost
Kathy Wright

Cello

Alan Clark

Bass

David Rees

Flute

Vicki Schaevitz

Oboe

Laura Harrington



Clarinet

John Doolittle

Bassoon

Cathleen Williams

Trumpet

Victor Pietrzak
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River City Chamber Choir

Soprano

Pat Junod
Beth Messina
Pam Mitchell
Marty Peterson

Tenor

Stan Muther
Vera Refnes
Diane Salter
Gary Varney



Alto

Christina Chappell
Susan Kim
Sharlene St. Clair
Trisha Uhrhammer

Bass

Joe de Illy
Jim Eckerman
Myron Jantzen
Jerrold Jones
Greg Meyer
Paul Peterson

River City Octet

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Pat Junod
Beth Messina
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Ring The Bells of Christmas!



Richard Morrissey, Director
Dean Mora, Accompanist

River City Chorale

Sing We Now of Christmas

arr. Jay Althouse

Gloria

Randol Alan Bass

Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson

The Sopranos & Altos of the choir

A Maiden Most Gentle

arr. Andrew Carter

Jingle Bells

James Pierpont

The Tenors & Basses of the Choir

The Friendly Beasts

arr. Richard Morrissey

Happy Holidays Medley

arr. Don Marsh

Happy Holidays

There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays

I'll Be Home for Christmas

Audience Carols

arr. Richard Morrissey

O Come All Ye Faithful

Away in a Manger

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Intermission

Golden State Brass

Joy to the World

**George Frideric Handel
arr. Frank Denson**

We Three Kings

**John H. Hopkins
arr. Gary Slechta**

River City Chamber Choir

The Little Newborn Jesus Child

Dietrich Buxtehude

Mary Had a Baby

arr. Malcolm Sargent

The Christmas Song

arr. Mark Hayes

River City Chorale

Raise Your Glad Voices

Willmington and Wade

Go Tell it on the Mountain

arr. Maurice Gardner

A Renaissance Christmas

arr. Kirby Shaw

River City Octet

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

arr. Harry Simeone



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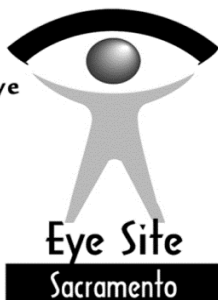
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Richard Morrissey, Director

Richard was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University Chico and has completed graduate level courses at Chico State, CSU Sacramento, University of Portland and CSU Humboldt. He has also studied at Occidental College in Los Angeles under Dr. Howard Swan.



He served as conductor and musical director of the Yuba-Sutter oratorio Society Chorus and the Yuba-Sutter Symphony Orchestra for 25 years. He taught band, orchestra and theatre arts at Yuba City High School and served as District Supervisor of Performing Arts for the Yuba City Unified School District for 36 years. He has conducted choral concerts with the River City Chorale in many of the larger cities of Europe, in Canada and Brazil.

Richard has composed and arranged over 150 works for choir, orchestra and brass quintet. He has been a member of the River City Chorale since 1996. He served as interim director during the chorale's 2001 European tour and was elected permanent director in November of that year. His hobbies include raising bonsai trees and playing in two brass quintets; Gold Country Brass in Nevada City and Sutter Buttes Brass in Yuba City.



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Dean Mora, Accompanist

Dean is a native of Los Angeles and is a recent transplant to the Sacramento area. He has been enjoying a career as a professional pianist and organist for the past 25 years, playing in many gigs involving a wide range of music genres including jazz, rock, classical, musical theatre and Latin.



For the Disney organization, Dean's ragtime ensemble recorded the background music tracks for Main Street USA, which has been heard by millions over the past five years. He is also a staff organist at the famed El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood, a position he has held since 2013.

Currently, Dean is the organist/choir director for St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Woodland, and on top of all this, he and his wife Adrian (who has sung with the River City Chorale) are the parents of year old Hamilton!



Timothy J. Vas Dias

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O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL, JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT.
O COME YE, O COME YE TO BETHLEHEM.
COME AND BEHOLD HIM, BORN THE KING OF ANGELS.
O COME, LET US ADORE HIM,
O COME, LET US ADORE HIM,
O COME, LET US ADORE HIM,
CHRIST THE LORD

AWAY IN A MANGER

AWAY IN A MANGER NO CRIB FOR HIS BED,
THE LITTLE LORD JESUS LAY DOWN HIS SWEET HEAD.
THE STARS IN THE SKY, LOOKED DOWN WHERE HE LAY,
THE LITTLE LORD JESUS ASLEEP ON THE HAY.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM,
HOW STILL WE SEE THEE LIE
ABOVE THY DEEP AND DREAMLESS SLEEP
THE SILENT STARS GO BY.

YET IN THY DARK STREETS SHINETH
THE EVERLASTING LIGHT.
THE HOPES AND FEARS OF ALL THE YEARS
ARE MET IN THEE TONIGHT.





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GOD AND SINNERS RECONCILED".**

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JOIN THE TRIUMPH OF THE SKIES,
WITH ANGELIC HOST PROCLAIM,
"CHRIST IS BORN IN BETHLEHEM".**

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"GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING".**



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