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Eastern Michigan
University
CHOIRS

**WE CAN BUILD
A BEAUTIFUL CITY**

The EMU Choir



The Eastern Michigan University Choir is a 52 voice auditioned mixed ensemble whose membership embodies EMU's diversity with all majors invited to audition. Whether performing a renaissance mass setting, a baroque motet or an African American spiritual, the choir delights in well-crafted choral music. We provide concerts filled with the diversity of the choral repertoire, both smaller genres and often the major master-works of the choral orchestral repertoire. With a commitment to community engagement and performance beyond the boundaries of campus, the EMU Choir regularly travels. The choir has toured throughout its long history, with performance tours across Europe, Mexico and the United States. From Carnegie Hall to high school classrooms, the EMU Choir commits itself to the highest level of artistry.

Our Mission



The choral program at Eastern Michigan University proudly commits to an unwavering pursuit of artistry and excellence in choral music. We foster an environment of care for each musician and we value commitment, consistency and perseverance; all of which lead to artistic achievement. Beyond technical facility, we believe that transformative musical experiences require a connection of the poetry and the composer's expression to 21st century musicians and audiences. The below factors significantly contribute to our mission.

- We commit to the performance of a diverse body of engaging choral literature.
- We are compelled to performance tours beyond the boundaries of our campus to engage the broader artistic community and to encourage collaborative artistry in our students.
- We acknowledge that excellence for ensembles requires personal sacrifice to focus to achieve corporate goals.

2019 Tour Program

WE CAN BUILD A BEAUTIFUL CITY

I. Healing & Hope

Lux Aeterna	Tomás Luis de Victoria (1547-1611)
Hurt	Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)
Beautiful City	Andrew Lloyd Webber (b. 1948)
Soon I Will Be Done	Stacey Gibbs (b. 1962)
Please Stay	Jake Runestad (b. 1986)
This House of Peace	Ralph Johnson (b. 1951)

II. We Will Seek Peace

Ave Maria	Franz Biebl (1906-2001)
Laetatus Sum	Grzegorz Gorczycki (1665-1734)
Regina Coeli	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
Laudate	René Clausen (b.1953)
Make Our Garden Grow	Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Intermission

III. Joy & Celebration

The Lake Isle	Ola Gjeilo (b. 1986)
*White Moon	Luke Flynn (b. 1971)
Jauchzet dem Herrn	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Ehre sei Gott	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

IV. Music for Living

The Music of Living	Daniel Forrest (b. 1978)
We Can Mend the Sky	Jake Runestad
Sweet Rivers	Shawn Kirchner (b.1970)
Wait 'til I Get on My Robe	Brandon Waddles (b.1988)
I'll Be on My Way	Shawn Kirchner

* Winner of the 2019 EMU Choral Composition Competition

Text Translations

Lux Aeterna-Tomás Luis de Victoria (1547-1611)

May light eternal shine upon them,
O Lord, in the company of thy saints forever and ever;
for thou art merciful.
Rest eternal grant to them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Ave Maria- Franz Biebl (1906-2001)

The Angel of the Lord announced unto Mary and
she conceived by the Holy Ghost.
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed
is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Mary said: Behold the handmaiden of the Lord,
let it be according to Thy word.
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

And the word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners.
Holy Mary, pray for us, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Laetatus Sum- Grzegorz Gorczycki (1665-1734)

I was glad in this, when it was said to me:
Let us go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet will stand within your entrance, Jerusalem;
Jerusalem, which is built like a city which is compact together.
For there the tribes will ascend,
The tribes of the Lord, of the testimony of Israel,
To give thanks to the name of the Lord.

For there will be placed thrones of judgment,
The thrones over the house of David.
Pray that Jerusalem be at peace,
And that there be abundance for those who love you.

May there be peace in your strength,
And abundance in your towers.

For my brothers and my neighbors' sake
I will ask for peace for you.
For the sake of the house of the Lord my God
I have sought good things for you.

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, now,
And forever, in the age to come. Amen.

Regina Coeli- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Queen of heaven rejoice,
For He whom you were worthy to bear,
He has risen, as He said,
Pray for us to God

Laudate- René Clausen (b.1953)

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.
For his merciful kindness is great toward us:
and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.
Praise ye the Lord as the wind blows.
The small flower falls asleep
caressed by the dew.



Jauchzet dem Herrn- J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Exult in the Lord, entire world;
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before his presence
with rejoicing.
Know that the Lord is God.
He has made us and not we ourselves;
To be his people and the sheep
of his pasture.
Go into his gates with thanksgiving,
And into his courts with praise,
give thanks to him, praise his name.
For the Lord is gracious,
And his mercy lasts eternally,
and his truth for ever and ever.

Ehre sei Gott - Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Glory to God in the highest,
And peace on earth,
and goodwill to mankind.
We praise You, we bless You,
We worship You, we glorify You.
We give You thanks for Your great glory.
Lord God, King of Heaven,
God the Father Almighty.
Lord only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You who take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.
You who take away the sin of the world,
Hear our prayer.
You who sit at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

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The Conductor

Brandon Johnson is the Director of Choral Activities at Eastern Michigan University and the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Detroit Concert Choir. Previously, he founded and was the Artistic Director of the emerging professional vocal ensemble Vox Lumine based in New York. Johnson has conducted professional musicians across the United States while maintaining his extensive work with students of all ages. He has performed in venues across the country including Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, the Kennedy Center, and the renowned Carnegie Hall with the National Sacred Honor Choir.

Choirs under his direction have been invited to perform, and he has been selected to present for state and regional American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and the National Association for Music Education (NAFME) conferences. As a conducting pedagogue, his students have been invited to participate in the ACDA National Conducting Competition in both the undergraduate and graduate divisions.



An award-winning teacher and academic, Johnson has received the 2018 Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Creative Activity Award, the 2013 Houghton College Excellence in Teaching Award, and 2014 was the recipient of the first fully endowed chair of Houghton College, the Horne-Blanchard.

He studied with German conductor Helmuth Rilling and was selected to conduct the Grammy-winning Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and Orchestra.

In recent years, he has received invitations to conduct the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus, Buffalo Choral Artists, Michigan Sinfonietta, Rochester Oratorio Society, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Syracuse Symphony, Cordancia, and The Southern Tier Symphony. In addition to working with musicians from across the United States, he has conducted singers from Austria, China, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Romania, Russia, South Korea, Spain, and Ukraine.

In service to the profession, Johnson has served the American Choral Directors Association in many capacities, including as New York State President. He works tirelessly as a guest conductor, lecturer, and clinician for singers of all ages and seeks to raise the level of choral music across America. His recent engagements include, among others, being named the conductor of the 2018 Michigan State Vocal Music Association Honor Choir Mixed Ensemble.

Meet the Choir

Why did you choose EMU?

Before I got to EMU, Michigan had already felt like a second home. The musicians I met from my many visits were examples of the musical environment and education that Eastern offered. I believed Eastern would give me the opportunities I needed to develop my professional musicianship.

Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

Before I was a student at EMU, I visited a choir rehearsal where the singers welcomed me and started friendly conversations. Every choir I've sung in has felt like a second family and before I even decided to go to school, EMU Choir made me feel like I had a home ready to come to.

What do you love most about the School of Music and Dance at Eastern Michigan University?

The dedication of the music faculty and students to their music and leadership roles. There's a shared sense of responsibility throughout the music programs. When the school's students and professors are faced with difficulty, they band together and find ways to support one another.

GUNTER MCCOURT



Why did you choose EMU?

I chose EMU because from the first moment I was on campus, I felt a sense of community. A few months after my audition, I saw the EMU Choir perform in my hometown while on one of their tours. Dr. Johnson as well as other students I had met at my audition recognized me and made me feel like I was a part of their story even though I wasn't at their school yet. It opened my eyes to the type of music program I wanted to attend..

Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

Singing with the EMU Choir provides me with the opportunity to push myself creatively in a group setting while making incredible music and friendships. I am constantly learning and growing within the choir. Dr. Johnson and the EMU Choir provide a perfect mix of an intensive choral department and a supportive group of like-minded individuals wanting to create meaningful music with each other.

What are your plans after graduation?

After receiving my Bachelor of Music Therapy, I'm deciding between working either in a nursing home with older adults and their families during end of life care or in a children's hospital helping children feel comfortable while working towards healing and quality of life.

OLIVIA BARNACLO



ERIN JACOBS



Why did you choose EMU?

I chose EMU because of how welcoming the environment is. I've always felt such a feeling of community and support on this campus.

What do you love about singing in the EMU Choir?

The EMU choir has become my second family. Everyone is so supportive and accepting of each other. My times on tour with the choir are some of the best memories I have, and I will cherish them forever.

Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

I love the fantastic opportunities for outreach that the EMU choir provides. Because the choir is a renowned and talented ensemble, we are invited to different conferences, collaborations, and spaces that other choirs wouldn't. One of the reasons I love singing in a choir is because I then have the opportunity to share music that I love with anyone and everyone. "Where words fail, music speaks" is a quote that perfectly describes the experience of sharing not only messages but emotions and feelings and the EMU choir provides multiple, diverse opportunities to do so!

What do you love most about the School of Music and Dance at Eastern Michigan University?

The thing I love most is the community feeling we have here. You will never meet everyone because there are a lot of students, but you meet enough people that you feel connected even with the instrumentalists. And if situations arise where you need to lean on people, we pull together like a family, and I think for a public institution, that's unique and very special.

EMILY WHEELER



Why did you choose EMU?

I chose EMU because of its size. The campus is small enough to walk anywhere, and the smaller population means that social connections are easier to develop. Fewer students means that I get more attention from my professors. All of the music students know each other really well and support each other.

Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

EMU Choir is a great environment for students to enjoy the art of choral music. Students from a variety of majors join to make music together. There are abundant significant choral performance opportunities locally, nationally, and internationally.

TREVOR MINER



SOPRANO

Shalini Augenstein
Salma Bawardi
Kathleen Cicero
Karen Cook
Megan Denti
Rebecca DePumpo
Amber Hoffman
Sara Mattson
*Sienna Ottenbreit
Em Tennie
*Emily Wheeler
Hayley Yarbrough
Zoe Zdrojewski

Traverse City, MI- Music Therapy
Ann Arbor, MI- Music Performance
Villa Park, IL- Music Therapy
Ypsilanti, MI- MM Music Performance
Columbus, OH- Music Therapy
Baroda, MI- Music Therapy
Waterford, MI- Music Education
Ann Arbor, MI- Education
Romulus, MI- Music Education
Mason, OH- Music Therapy
Ann Arbor, MI- Education
Brighton, MI- Music Therapy
Farmington Hills, MI- Music Therapy

ALTO

*Olivia Barnaclo
Shae Crowder
Aydrianne Hofschild
*Erin Jacobs
Julia Kastelan
Kayla Kendall
Jieun Kim
Maddie Nemecek
Autumn Simons
Michelle Smith
Sydney Timmer

Cincinnati, OH- Music Therapy
Battle Creek, MI- Music Therapy
Cincinnati, OH- Music Therapy
Fraser, MI- Apparel, Textiles & Merchandising
Warren, MI- Music Therapy
Manchester, MI- Music Therapy
Seoul, South Korea- Music Education
Petoskey, MI- Electronic Media/ Film
Grand Rapids, MI- Music Education
Berkley, MI- Music Education
South Lyon, MI- Music Education

TENOR

*Ryan Bodary
Jacob Carroll
Matthew Cook
Joshua Danielson
Wenkai Jiang
Theodore Kazmierski
Geoffrey Kelm
*Aaron Kempa
Stephen LaPalm
^Gunter McCourt
Harold Schaus IV
Nicholas Weston

Ann Arbor, MI- Music Education
Warren, MI- Music
Ypsilanti, MI- Historic Preservation Faculty
Midland, MI- Music Education
China- Undecided
Plymouth, MI- Music
Canton, MI- Music Education
Hillsdale, MI- Arts/Entertainment Management
Escanaba, MI- Music Therapy
Southaven, MS- MM Music Education
Dowagiac, MI- Accounting
Plymouth, MI- Electronic Media/ Film

BASS

Jonathan Brant
Tyler Capra
Samuel Curran
*Ryan Downing
Armand Garnett
^Austin Hadwick
Dominic Kryst
Christopher Milbourne
John Milhorn
Trevor Miner
Charlie Moynihan
Jack Porath
Joseph Pryor
*Simon Suboski

Dundee, MI- Elementary Education
Milford, MI- Music
Ypsilanti, MI- Undecided
Ann Arbor, MI- Music Education
Ypsilanti, MI- Music
Ann Arbor, MI- Music Education
Jackson, MI- Music Performance
Ypsilanti, MI- Music Education
Piney Flats, TN- Music Education
Ann Arbor, MI- Music Education
Ottawa Hills, OH- Music Education
Howell, MI- MM Music Performance
Saline, MI- Music Education
Ann Arbor, MI- Music Education

Yaroslav Hnezdilov, Piano



*The true measure of any society can
be found in how it treats its most
vulnerable members
-Mahatma Gandhi*

EMU Choir Tour Austria, Germany Poland



The Eastern Michigan University Choir will once again continue its long tradition of sharing choral music with the world. This April and May the EMU Choir will depart on a two-week tour to Europe hoping to delight audiences with its music and broaden the music students perspectives.

As a part of its mission, the EMU Choir seeks to reach outside its borders and connect to communities near and far through music. The top-performing ensemble at EMU annually sings all across America and abroad. We believe that the music cycle is not fully complete until we've shared it with others.

In addition to what the EMU musicians give to others, a European tour can be a remarkable and perspective-changing life event. The world feels less scary and less distant. To travel and connect with musicians and audiences abroad will change the way students approach their music making in tangible ways. All musicians perform the works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Mozart, and the other great masters, but few can recall from personal experience the acoustical properties of St. Thomaskirche, the church where Bach worked and is buried. It makes real the experience for young performers and provides a personal connection for the music education students.



The 2019 tour is the second international tour under the direction of Dr. Brandon Johnson. The first was in the spring of 2014 with a tour of England, Scotland and Wales. This tour will include performances in the most prominent musical destinations in the world.

Our tour begins with a short exploration of the city of Berlin before heading to Leipzig, home of renowned composer Johann Sebastian Bach. The EMU Choir will join forces with the choral students from the University of Leipzig for a collaboration of culture and music. It is critical to take the opportunity to connect to students of other cultural backgrounds as we travel; and this will be a remarkable opportunity for us all.

We will then travel to Dresden for a short informal performance at the Frauenkirche followed by a tour of Dresden. After we

complete our brief journey through Dresden, we are excited to spend time exploring the birthplace of Mozart and plan to hold a recording session in one of the city's most acoustically pleasing churches.

After Salzburg, the choir will explore the quaint village of Hallstatt, Austria. Enroute to Vienna, Hallstatt is a strikingly beautiful town well known for its salt mines and alpine homes. It is possibly Austria's oldest and most photographed village. When traveling through so many cities, it will be a delight to spend some time in the Austrian countryside.

In Vienna, the EMU Choir will perform at the Peterskirche, one of Europe's most important cathedrals. With time to explore, the EMU Choir students will enjoy one of the musical homes of W. A. Mozart, Johann Strauss, Franz Schubert and Franz Joseph Haydn.

The centerpiece on the 2019 EMU Choir Tour is our invitation to perform at the Universitas Cantat. This music festival in Poznan, Poland features some of the most sophisticated college and university choirs and orchestras from around Europe. Ensembles will meet for this fabulous five-day musical celebration. Grounded in collaboration and connection, EMU students will undoubtedly benefit greatly from this event. The EMU Choir will be featured with a solo performance, and the festival will culminate with another concert with famed tenor Andrea Bocelli. This will be the second performance with this world-class artist in two years for our ensemble.

Musical expressions will be deepened, cultural ties will be developed and friendships and artistic connections will be strengthened all while fulfilling one of the primary missions of the ensemble: to bring our music outside the walls of our university to increase the beauty in the world.



Music Education & Conducting



We hold the unique distinction of being the first Michigan institution to offer an undergraduate teaching degree. The Music Education Program in the EMU School of Music & Dance holds a special status for our school and continues to shine brightly for the future. EMU graduates are known throughout the region, and beyond, as exceptional professional educators and are well-equipped to meet the needs of school districts in the 21st century. Alumni from the EMU School of Music & Dance are leaders in the profession and are highly sought after by administrators. Our Bachelor of Music Education program is backed by nearly 160 years of music teaching excellence. Rely on our record of expertise to build your career as a music teacher.

Join Us

Eastern Michigan University Music Education students have an impeccable job placement rate. Our program, with a focus on instrumental or vocal music education, leads to certification for teaching music in grades K-12 at public schools, in Michigan and many other states. Our supportive professors and staff blend foundational study with hands-on field-based learning. Small class sizes and an excellent student-to-teacher ratio allow our faculty time to focus on individual students. A local, full-time student teaching placement in your senior year will cap your studies, preparing you for subject matter testing and teaching certification.

VIBRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Ypsilanti, Michigan is an ideal place for music education students. While maintaining its own identity, our campus is only a short drive from some of the world's greatest artists and performances. Our students have attended performances by the Berlin Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, King's Singers, San Francisco Symphony, Wynton Marsalis, and Yo Yo Ma. Our student-musicians are overwhelmed with opportunities to enjoy world-class musical experiences close to campus.

GRADUATE STUDIES

Master's Study in Music Education and Conducting are incredibly flexible here at EMU. The degree can be accomplished in a number of ways; if you are a current teacher and want to keep your position, or if you would like to come to campus and study full-time, EMU is well equipped to meet your needs. Regardless of your area of interest, we have the faculty and support to help you realize the next level of your teaching and artistry.

EMU Vocal Music

Large Ensembles

Here at Eastern Michigan University, we believe it is critical that all parts of your vocal training work cohesively together. The vocal arts faculty work together to provide a consistent approach to our student's vocal development. Healthy vocal production, musicianship, artistry, musician wellness and pedagogy are consistently discussed in lessons, ensembles and in weekly studio master-class settings. At EMU you will learn to be well-rounded, fully developed musicians.

EMU CHOIR

The EMU Choir has performed across the country and abroad, thrilling audiences with its diversity and flexibility. From Carnegie Hall to the cathedrals of Europe this ensemble seeks the highest possible artistic achievement.

MEN'S CHOIR & WOMEN'S CHOIR

These ensembles are a place for exploration and musical growth for singers of all majors.

Chamber Ensembles

EMU EXPRESS

If you love vocal jazz, choral pop, folk, and other contemporary vocal forms, this ensemble is for you. Students gain a strong appreciation for contemporary choral repertoire.

OPERA WORKSHOP

The opera workshop experience trains students as singing actors and provides performance opportunities through scene work and full productions.

CONDUCTOR'S CHOIR

This ensemble provides students the opportunity to gain conducting experience. Receiving opportunities to conduct is critical for all future teachers.

ENSEMBLE CONDUCTORS

Brandon Johnson, DMA
University of Arizona

Liza Calisesi Maidens, MM
Westminster Choir College

Jolene Green, MM
Eastern Michigan University

MUSIC EDUCATION FACULTY

Brandon Johnson, DMA
University of Arizona

Heather Shouldice, PhD
Michigan State University

Mary Schneider, DMA
University of Texas

Derek Shapiro, DMA
University of Missouri-Kansas City

VOICE FACULTY

Emily Benner, MM
University of Michigan

Matthew Daniels, DMA
Louisiana State University

Yongmin Kim, DMA
University of Michigan

MeeAe Nam, DMA
University of Colorado Boulder

Robert Peavler, DMA
Florida State University

Monica Swartout-Bebow, MM
University of Michigan

EMU CHOIR PERFORMANCES

February 8, 2019

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church
In collaboration with
Franklin High School Choirs
7:30 PM

February 10, 2019

Chippewa Valley High School
In collaboration with
Chippewa Valley High School Choirs
Clinton Twp., MI
7:30 PM

February 16, 2019

Zion Lutheran Church
Dr. Bruce Chamberlain,
Guest Conductor
Ann Arbor, MI
7:30 PM

February 18, 2019

A Celebration of African American
Composers and Poets
In collaboration with
EMU Voice Area
Honors College Auditorium
7:30 PM

March 7, 2019

Saline High School
In collaboration with Saline
High School Choirs
Saline, MI
7:00 PM

March 8, 2019

EMU Choral Concert
In collaboration with
EMU Men's & Women's Choirs
Pease Auditorium
Ypsilanti, MI
7:30 PM

March 19, 2019

EMU at the Capitol
Capitol Rotunda
Lansing, MI
12:00 PM

April 13, 2019

EMU Choral Invitational
Jake Runestad, Guest Artist
In collaboration with
EMU Men's & Women's Choirs
and choral ensembles from
Skyline High School
Pioneer High School
Saline High School
PCEP High School
Walled Lake Central High School
Pease Auditorium
Ypsilanti, MI
7:30 PM

That's true

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