



**EASTERN**  
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

# FINDING LIGHT, CHOOSING JOY

**EMU CHOIR | 2020 TOUR PROGRAM**



## THE EMU CHOIR



**The Eastern Michigan University Choir** is a highly select auditioned ensemble comprising students from across the university, most of whom are music majors whose principal area is voice study. They maintain a rigorous rehearsal and performance schedule and focus predominantly on choral art music for advanced chamber choir.

With its tradition spanning back to 1854, singing at EMU has a long tradition of musical excellence. Under the direction of Dr. Johnson recent invitations have included two European Concert Tours, two performances with Grammy-nominated tenor Andrea Bocelli, 2018 Carnegie

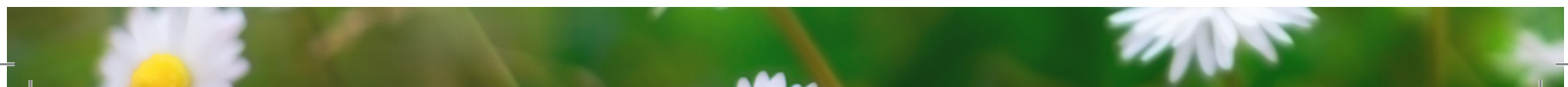
Hall Performance, 2018 Central/ North Central American Choral Directors Association Conference, 2018 Michigan Music Conference, 2017 Michigan ACDA State Conference, finalist in the American Prize & the release of four recordings in the past six artistic seasons. The members of the EMU Choir have been thrilled with these opportunities and gratefully acknowledge their former members, whose commitment to artistry helped develop this musical tradition.

## THE CONDUCTOR

**Brandon Johnson**, DMA is the Director of Choral Activities at Eastern Michigan University. He 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.

Choirs under his direction have been invited to perform 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.

He has 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, Continuo Arts Orchestra, 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, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Poland, Romania, Russia, South Korea, Spain, and Ukraine.



# Finding Light, Choosing Joy

## WHEN THE EARTH STANDS STILL

Ascendit Deus .....	Jacobus Gallus (1550-1591)
Sing, My Child.....	Sarah Quartel (b. 1982)
Song for Athene.....	John Tavener (1944-2013)
When the Earth Stands Still.....	Don Macdonald (b. 1966)

## LET MY SENSES SPREAD OUT

Dixit in Corde Suo.....	Gyongyosi Levente (b. 1975)
Selig Sind die Toten.....	Heinrich Schutz (1585-1672)
Data est Mihi Omnis Potestas.....	James MacMillan (b. 1959)
Heilig.....	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Salutation.....	Eriks Esenvalds (b. 1977)
Me NA RI.....	Hyo-Won Woo (b. 1974)

## ELEMENTS OF OUR WORLD

Fire, From Elements.....	Katerina Gimon (b. 1993)
Water, From Light to Light.....	J. Aaron McDermid (b. 1973)
Ubi Caritas.....	Chris Artley (b. 1963) <i>winner of the 2020 composition competition</i>
Lux Aurumque.....	Eric Whitacre (b. 1971)

## KINDNESS MUST WATCH FOR ME THIS SIDE THE GROUND

Simple Gifts.....	Rene Clausen (b. 1953)
Sweet Rivers.....	Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970)
The Parting Glass.....	Desmond Earley (b. 1974)
Sure on this Shining Night.....	Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)
O Magnum Mysterium.....	Morten Lauridsen
Witness.....	Stacey Gibbs (b. 1962)



## TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

### **Ascendit Deus**

*God is gone up in a joyful noise,  
Praise the lord with a trumpet, Hallelujah.*

### **Dixit in corde suo**

*The fool hath said in his heart,  
"There is no God."*

*They are corrupt, and have done  
abominable things; there is none  
that doeth good.*

*God looked down from heaven upon  
the children of men, to see if there  
were any that did understand, that  
did seek God.*

*Every one of them has turned away:  
they are corrupt; there is none  
that doeth good, no, not one.*

*They trembled in fear, where no  
fear was! Oh that salvation of Israel  
would come from Zion! When God  
salvages his people, Jacob shall  
rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.*

*Alleluia, amen.*

### **Selig Sind die Toten**

*Blessed are the dead,*

*That die in the Lord.*

*Blessed sing, the dead,*

*From now on.*

*Yes, the mind speaks:*

*They rest from their work.*

*And their work follows them.*

### **Data est mihi omnis potestas**

*Given all the power,  
In the sky and on the ground  
Go, teach all nations,  
Baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
The Son, and the Holy Spirit, Halleluja.*

### **Ubi Caritas**

*Where charity and love  
God is with you.  
We've gathered together the love of Christ.  
Let us take delight in Him.  
Let us fear, let us fear, and let us love the  
living God  
From our hearts, with love*

### **Lux Arumque**

*Light,  
Warm and heavy as pure gold,  
And angels sing softly,  
To the new born babe.*

### **Me-Na-Ri**

*Crossing over Arirang hill,  
Let me go over there*

### **O Magnum Mysterium**

*O great mystery  
And wonderful sacrament  
That beasts should see the newborn Lord  
Lying in a manger  
O blessed virgin  
Whose body was worthy to bear  
The Lord Christ  
Alleluia!*

## MEET THE CHOIR



### Cait O'Banion

#### Why did you choose EMU?

I chose EMU because it encourages students to become well-rounded individuals in a welcoming community. Having the opportunity to participate in the EMU Choir, the Greek life community through Alpha Gamma Delta, and within the hotel & restaurant major on campus, EMU is more experience and reward than I could have ever imagined. Every director, coach, advisor, and professor wants each of their students to have the most fulfilling college experience.

#### Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

I love to sing with the EMU Choir because it allows me to have a creative outlet while being able to sing in this high caliber artistic ensemble. We, as one unit, get to reach audiences and touch the minds and hearts of people that I wouldn't get the opportunity to meet otherwise. There's nothing quite like this that I have yet to experience in life.



### Gunter McCourt

#### 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.

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

I admire 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 confront difficulty, they band together and find ways to support one another.



### Olivia Barnaclo

#### 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 continually 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.

## MEET THE CHOIR



### Trevor Miner

#### Why did you choose EMU?

I chose EMU because of its size. The campus is arranged so students can walk anywhere, and the lower population means that social connections are more comfortable to develop.

Students say that I get more attention from my professors. All of the music students know each other well and support each other.

#### Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

EMU Choir is an excellent 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.



### Zoe Zdrojewski

#### Why did you choose EMU?

I chose EMU because I felt that the community was warm and welcoming. Additionally, even though I spent a year as a non-music major, I sensed a great love for the arts on campus, and

this was important to me. Once I was here, it was clear I had made the right choice.

#### Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

I love singing with the EMU Choir because it gives me a chance to sing with like-minded individuals who love choral music as much as I do. It allows me to take a break from all of the stress that comes with being a college student and spend some time with amazing people making incredible music.

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

What I love most about the School of Music and Dance at EMU is the sense of inclusion. I feel that our program's faculty support students of all kinds expressing their passions.

#### What are your plans after graduation?

My plans for graduation continue to change. However, my current hope is to work in medical music therapy, potentially out of state. I'd love to bring music to children and infants in pediatric and NICU hospitalization settings.



### Sydney Timmer

#### Why did you choose EMU?

I chose EMU because of the friendly environment that was apparent from my first time visiting the campus. The staff was very kind and inviting, and all the students were very

supportive of each other. Also, having sung with the EMU Choir before as part of their annual choir invitational, I knew I could see myself as part of that choir.

#### Why do you love to sing with the EMU Choir?

The EMU Choir is my family away from my family. They are the most hardworking and caring group of individuals I have ever met. Making music with a group of like-minded and driven people is a rewarding environment in which to make music!

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

I love how invested the professors and administration are in each student. They set the bar high for us, and help us achieve our goals. They also listen to our lives outside the academics and take the time to get to know us personally.

#### What are your plans after graduation?

I hope to become either a choir or general music teacher right after college. Eventually, I want to continue my education by getting my masters and doctorate degrees, although I'm unsure of what in yet. However, I do know that I want to help educate a fantastic generation of music lovers!

# MUSICIANS

## SOPRANO 1

**Shalini Augenstein,**  
Traverse City, MI—  
Music Therapy

**Megan Denti,**  
Columbus, OH—Music  
Therapy

**Elizabeth Gozdowski,**  
Ottawa Lake, MI—  
Music Therapy

**Clare McCloskey,**  
Pinckney, MI—Music  
Education

**Em Tennie,** Cincinnati,  
OH—Music Therapy

## SOPRANO 2

**Salma Bawardi,** Ann  
Arbor, MI—Music  
Performance

**Kathleen Cicero,**  
Villa Park, IL—Music  
Therapy

**Rebecca DePumpo,**  
Baroda, MI—Music  
Therapy

**\*Sydney Timmer,**  
South Lyon, MI—Music  
Education

**+Zoe Zdrojewski,**  
Farmington Hills, MI—  
Music Therapy

## ALTO 1

**+Olivia Barnaclo,**  
Cincinnati, OH—Music  
Therapy

**Abigail Belanger,**  
Wolverine Lake, MI—  
Music

**Jeannette Houston,**  
Saline, MI—Music

**Julie Kastelan,** Warren,  
MI—Music Therapy

**Cara Berg,** Shelby  
Township, MI—Music  
Therapy

## ALTO 2

**Dominique Cooper,**  
Novi, MI—Music  
Performance

**Kaitlyn Collins,** Novi,  
MI—Music Education

**\*Michelle Smith,**  
Berkley, MI—Music  
Education

**Brianna Timmer,**  
South Lyon, MI—Music  
Education

**Caitlin O'Banion,**  
Ypsilanti, MI—Hotel  
Management

## TENOR 1

**Matthew Cook,** PhD  
Martin, TN—Music/  
Historic Preservation  
Faculty

**+Joshua Danielson,**  
Midland, MI—Music  
Education

**Anthony Davis,**  
Milford, MI—Music  
Education

**\*Gunter McCourt,**  
Southaven, MS—MM  
Music Education

**Harold Schaus,**  
Dowagiac, MI—Supply  
Chain Management

## TENOR 2

**Matthew Kanalas,**  
Jackson, MI—Music  
Education

**Theodore Kazmierski,**  
Plymouth, MI—Digital  
Media

**Thomas Larner,** Grand  
Ledge, MI—Music  
Education

**Austin Neikirk,**  
Monroe, MI—Music  
Education

## BASS 1

**Jonathan Brant,**  
Maybee, MI—  
Elementary Education

**Christopher Milbourne,**  
Lansing, MI—Music  
Education

**\*Trevor Miner,** Ann  
Arbor, MI—Music  
Education

**David Garvey,** Canton,  
MI—Music Education

**Jacob Fagerstrom,**  
Clio, MI—Biology

## BASS 2

**\*Ryan Downing,** Ann  
Arbor, MI—Music  
Education

**Armand Garnett,**  
Ypsilanti, MI—Music

**Parker Lazar,**  
Grand Rapids, OH—  
Computer Science

**Charlie Moynihan,**  
Ottawa Hills, OH—  
Music Education

**James Wohlfert,**  
Fowler, MI—  
Communications

\*Section Leader  
+Board Member





## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Support the EMU Choral program's artistic and educational initiatives with a sponsorship package that works as an integrated part of your business development plan. We invite you to talk with Jeff Guyton, our development officer, to design a customized package with benefits that meet your objectives and budget. Sample benefits include:

- Brand visibility in EMU Choir brochures and print materials
- A welcome message from the stage by EMU Director of Choral Activities
- Complimentary tickets and event invitations
- Partnership recognition on EMU Choir's digital platforms

### PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISING

The EMU Choir Concert program provides the opportunity for your organization to demonstrate its commitment to the community. Our program books have thousands of readers and we would love to highlight your gifts and commitment to all. Logos will be printed in the program at the level of Friend support.

### PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Make EMU Choir concert-goers your own customers while supporting an important nonprofit organization in our community.

### HOW TO GIVE

To give online, please visit: [tiny.emich.edu/ChoirFund](http://tiny.emich.edu/ChoirFund)

To send a check, please mail to: Dr. Brandon Johnson, Eastern Michigan University Choral Program, N 101 Alexander Music Building, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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- \*Event Sponsor \$15,000-\$25,000 (Named concert billing)

\*Logos printed in concert programs and digital media platforms

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I would like a private meeting with Jeff Guyton, Development Officer or/ and Brandon Johnson, Director of Choral Activities to discuss the details of this gift. To set up a meeting please email [emu\\_choirs@emich.edu](mailto:emu_choirs@emich.edu)

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## EMU VOCAL MUSIC PROGRAM

### ENSEMBLE CONDUCTORS

- Brandon Johnson, DMA University of Arizona
- Liza Calisesi Maidens, MM Westminster Choir College

### MUSIC EDUCATION FACULTY

- Chad Hutchinson, DMA University of Minnesota
- Brandon Johnson, DMA University of Arizona
- Heather Shouldice, Ph.D. Michigan State University
- Mary Schneider, DMA University of Texas
- Chandler Wilson, DMA Florida State University

### VOICE FACULTY

- Emily Benner, MM University of Michigan
- MeeAe Nam, DMA University of Colorado Boulder
- Robert Peavler, DMA Florida State University
- Carol Perry, MM Colorado State University
- Curt Peters, MM University of Michigan

### 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. These ensembles are a fantastic opportunity for singers of all majors.

### 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 the modern choral repertoire.

### OPERA WORKSHOP

The opera workshop experience helps train students as singing actors and provides performance opportunities through scene work and full production.

### CONDUCTOR'S CHOIR

This ensemble provides interested students the unique opportunity to gain conducting experiences on the podium because receiving opportunities to conduct is at the heart of student development at EMU, so this ensemble is open to first-year through graduate students.

# 2020 Tour Stops

## **MIDWEST**

Concert w/ Bowling Green High School | Bowling Green, OH  
February 7

Concert w/ Franklin High School Choir | Livonia, MI  
February 14

Concert w/ Pioneer High School | Ann Arbor, MI  
February 15

## **WEST COAST**

Concert w/ Boise State University | Boise, ID  
February 21

Bellevue Presbyterian Church | Bellevue, WA  
February 22 & 23

Saratoga High School | Saratoga, CA  
February 26

## **HOME**

Concert at Pease Auditorium | Ypsilanti, MI  
March 1



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