



A STORY FOR THE SEASON

THE **BALLERINA**  
& THE **CLOWN**

A WINTER TALE INSPIRED BY HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022, 3:00 PM**  
**MCCONNELL THEATER AT SIMON'S ROCK**

 **Bard Academy**  
at **SIMON'S ROCK**

 **Bard College at**  
**SIMON'S ROCK**

  
**BERKSHIRE**  
**CHILDREN'S**  
**chorus**

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## A WELCOME

from Board President Alice Maggio

Last year, as we emerged from the pandemic, we were hatching a new version of Berkshire Children's Chorus. We welcomed Ryan LaBoy as Artistic Director, reengaged singers and families, and, among many other things, adopted a new motto: *Giving Flight to a Life in Song!*

This year, we are taking flight, rediscovering what we can really do. Today's concert, A Story for the Season: *The Ballerina and the Clown*, is a multidimensional collaboration with Simon's Rock Chorus and Dance departments. This collaboration allows our young singers to sing with and be inspired by college students, introduces them to the college campus in their own backyard, and features their voices alongside harpists, multimedia projections, and new choreography.

We recently held our first open rehearsal, where parents and guardians could observe the magic that happens "behind the curtain." Afterward, Jennie Jadow, whose daughter has been singing with us since last winter, shared this reflection:

"The Berkshire Children's Chorus has been a gift to our daughter, both musically and socially. The artistry she is being introduced to is both age appropriate and deeply compelling, for her and for us! Simultaneously, she is wrapped into a community where she feels seen, heard, and welcomed. We are eternally grateful for this experience."

Won't you help us keep this meaningful experience alive? Please consider including Berkshire Children's Chorus in your end-of-year giving. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to us at P.O. Box 18 Sheffield, MA 01257. You can also donate online at [berkshirechildrenschorus.org/donate](http://berkshirechildrenschorus.org/donate). We can't do it without you!

Sincerely,



Alice Maggio

President, Berkshire Children's Chorus Board of Trustees

A STORY FOR THE SEASON

# THE BALLERINA & THE CLOWN

A WINTER TALE INSPIRED BY HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN

**Saturday, December 10, 2022, 3:00 pm**  
**McConnell Theater at Bard College At Simon's Rock**

### **Berkshire Children's Chorus**

Hine Ma Tov, arr. James DesJardins  
This Shall Be for Music, Mark Patterson  
Various Themes on "Fa-La-La", Chuck Bridwell

### **Simon's Rock Chorus**

Silent Night, arr. Pinkzebra  
Blackbird, arr. Audrey Snyder  
Kin, Timothy Takach  
Gaudeamus Hodie, Earlene Rentz

### **Simon's Rock Madrigal Ensemble**

O Occhi Manza Mia, arr. Russell Robinson  
One Blue Sky, Dale Trumbore  
Weep O Mine Eyes, arr. Robinson  
Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming, arr. Nancy Grundahl

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*10-Minute Intermission*

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### **The Ballerina and the Clown, Libby Larsen**

I. The Clown  
II. The Clown Goes to Visit the Ballerina  
III. The Clown Arrives at the Theater  
IV. The Sandman Sends Him a Dream  
V. A Message from the Storks  
VI. The Clown Finds His Way South  
VII. Sunflower Man Shows Off the Ballerina

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Please refrain from taking photographs or video during the concert. Thank you!

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# ROSTERS

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## Simon's Rock Chorus

April Zingher, piano  
Agnes Allman  
Ashlyn Bagocius  
Jingmi Chen  
Liam Forest  
Ruby Giunta  
Travis Henry  
Sinead Ly  
Fiona O'Halloran  
Maya Saraya  
Avery Sundborg  
Theodore Walker  
Sarah Wang  
Claire Zehner

## Simon's Rock Madrigal Ensemble

Ashlyn Bagocius  
Reign Fakh  
Ruby Giunta  
Maya Saraya

## Simon's Rock Dancers

Kati Garcia-Renart, choreographer & director  
Dusty Ammann - Doorkeeper and Sandman  
Liam Coote - Swan and Sunflower Man  
Zoe Coote - The Ballerina  
Lydia Helmstadter - The Clown

## McConnell Theater Staff

Jean Kalin, Projections and Stage Manager  
John Musall, Lighting and Set Design

## Berkshire Children's Chorus

Sarah Ehrich  
Ryleigh Fillio  
Ellie Grebin  
Adelaide Grella  
Sophie Jadow  
Anika Libetti  
Kate Lippert  
Veda Mahaney  
Irving Meoni Markoff  
Eden Plotkin  
Naiya Plotkin  
Colaine (Lainey) Rosier  
Shea Ryan  
Scarlett Winch  
Rose Winch

## Berkshire Children's Chorus Staff & Board

Ryan LaBoy, Artistic Director  
Christina Freund, Office Manager  
Alice Maggio, Board President  
Luan Fisher, Board Treasurer  
Dani Dillon, Board Secretary  
Jennie Jadow, Parent Board Member

## Guest Artists

Manon Hutton-DeWys, piano  
Elizabeth Morse, harp  
Malachi Cherubini Purcell, harp

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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Berkshire Children's Chorus could not exist without contributions from community members who recognize the importance of our work. We are so grateful to our donors for supporting us year after year. The following people contributed between 5/25/2022 and 11/8/2022. Thank you!

### Troubadors \$10-49

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Elayna Zucker

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## Berkshire Children's Chorus Family Volunteers

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### Rehearsal Managers

Nate Ehrich  
Mark Ryan  
Melody Salomone

### Snack Team

Julia Anidjar  
Jessica Mahaney  
Jennifer Plotkin

### Production Team

Matt Fillio  
Gary Grella  
Jennie Jadow

### Uniform Team

Julie Anidjar  
Gary Grella  
Ellen Maggio

# TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

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## Hine Ma Tov .....arr. James DesJardins

*Sung in Hebrew:*

Behold, how good and pleasing  
for people to dwell together in peace.

## This Shall Be for Music..... Mark Patterson

I will make you brooches and toys for your delight,  
Of birdsong at morning and starshine at night.  
I will make a palace fit for you and me,  
Of green days in forests and blue days at sea.

And this shall be for music, when no one else is near,  
The fine song for singing, the rare song to hear,  
That only I remember, that only you admire,  
Of the broad road before us and the roadside fire.

I will bring you gifts of gold with the autumn leaves,  
Precious gems and treasure troves with the bud of spring.

And this shall be for music, when no one else is near,  
The fine song for singing, the rare song to hear,  
That only I remember, that only you admire,  
Of the broad road before us and the roadside fire.

This shall be for music.

*— Adapted from Robert Louis Stevenson*

## Various Themes on “Fa-La-La” ..... Chuck Bridwell

Deck the hall with boughs of holly, fa-la-la...  
‘Tis the season to be jolly, fa-la-la...  
Don we now our gay apparel, fa-la-la...  
Troll the ancient yuletide carol, fa-la-la...  
See the blazing yule before us, fa-la-la...  
Strike the harp and join the chorus, fa-la-la...  
Sing we joyous all together, fa-la-la...  
Heedless of the wind and weather, fa-la-la...

## Silent Night ..... arr. Pinkzebra

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon virgin mother and child,  
Holy infant so tender and mild.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

## Blackbird ..... arr. Audrey Snyder

Blackbird singing in the dead of night,  
Take these broken wings and learn to fly.  
All your life, you were only waiting for this moment to arise.

Blackbird singing in the dead of night,  
Take these sunken eyes and learn to see.  
All your life, you were only waiting for this moment to be free.

Blackbird, fly into the light of the dark black night.

## Kin ..... Timothy Takach

you are all my kin

in the small hours  
I claim you

set out in your shadow boats  
let us meet

arriving  
by sail, by paddle, by oar

on a vastness of water  
however wild it may be

all of you my kin  
and I claim you

*— Michael Dennis Browne*



**Gaudeamus Hodie**.....Earlene Rentz

*Sung in Latin:*

Let us rejoice today!

**O Occhi Manza Mia, Orlando di Lasso** .....arr. Russell Robinson

*Sung in Italian:*

Oh my beloved's eyes, set in gold-blond lashes,  
oh face more luminous than the moon,  
Keep me in mind,  
my lovely treasure,  
Look upon me for a little while, and keep me happy.

Oh mouth like sugarloaf,  
oh throat, that brings crowds in to suckle,

Keep me...

Oh heart, my beloved, most perfidious of hearts,  
you are my treasure, you are my love!  
Keep me...

**One Blue Sky**.....Dale Trumbore

One blue sky, fragile as a robin's egg,  
covers us all. When we sleep, grass  
is our last blanket. Maybe the stars  
spell different stories to you, to me,  
but in the darkness of the night,  
they are light enough to see by.

— Excerpt from *After "September 11"*, by Barbara Crooker

**Weep O Mine Eyes**.....John Benett, arr. Russell Robinson

Weep, O mine eyes and cease not,  
alas, these your spring tides methinks increase not.  
O when begin you  
to swell so high that I may drown me in you?

**Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming**.....arr. Nancy Grundahl

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
As men of old have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to men a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

**The Ballerina and the Clown** .....Libby Larsen

**I. The Clown**

Upon a time a dancing girl,  
girl a twirl, once loved a clown.  
She loved him up, she loved him down.  
She loved his sad and silly face,  
his lanky neck, his awkward grace.  
And he loved her: oh what a girl  
to keep him in a happy whirl!

**II. The Clown Goes to Visit the Ballerina**

“Swan, swan, get out of my way,  
I'm off to visit my love today.  
I'll take her my garland of flowers sweet,  
and I won't let you nibble my flowers or feet.

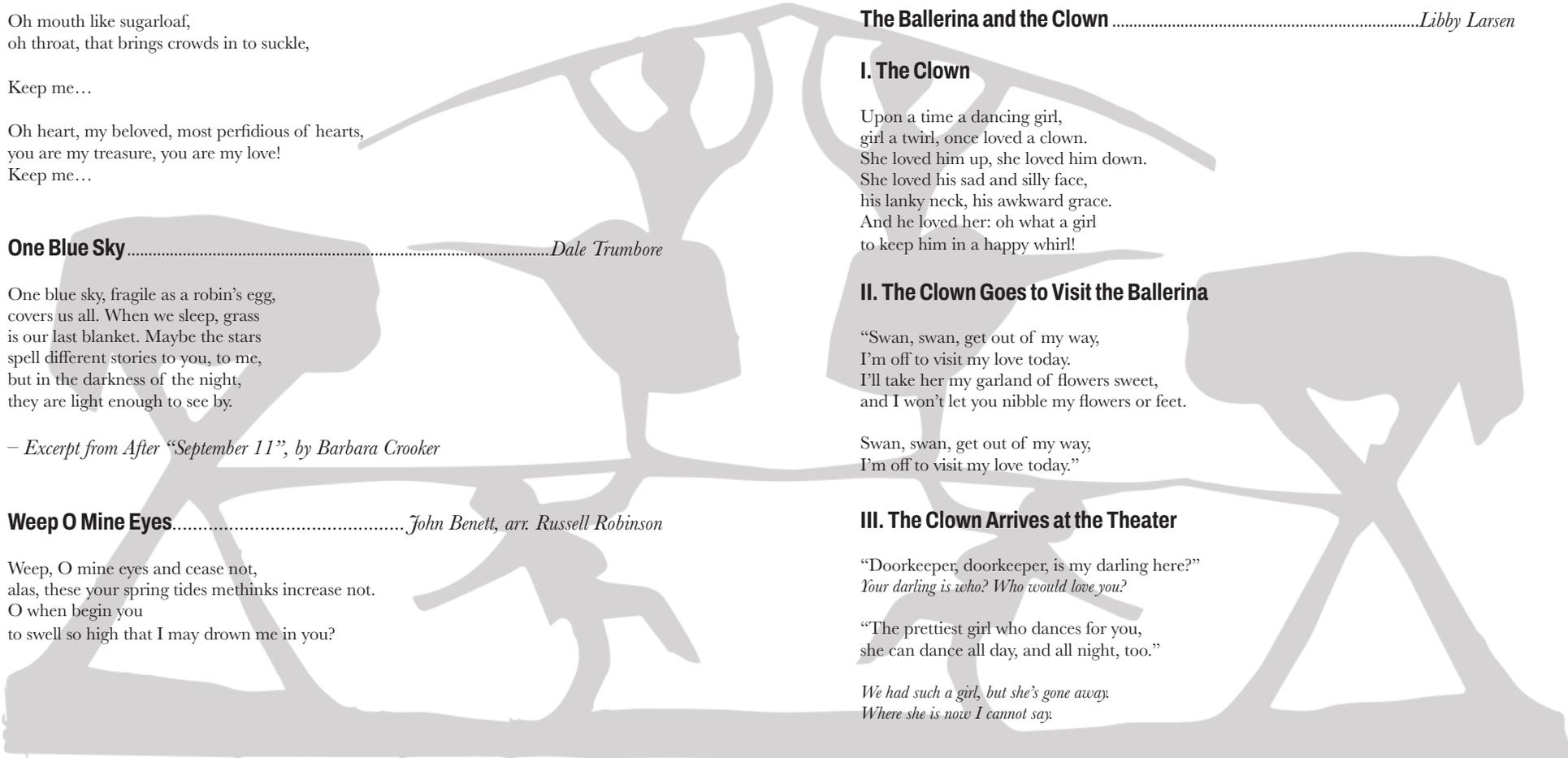
Swan, swan, get out of my way,  
I'm off to visit my love today.”

**III. The Clown Arrives at the Theater**

“Doorkeeper, doorkeeper, is my darling here?”  
*Your darling is who? Who would love you?*

“The prettiest girl who dances for you,  
she can dance all day, and all night, too.”

*We had such a girl, but she's gone away.  
Where she is now I cannot say.*



#### IV. The Sandman Sends Him a Dream

The clown searched high,  
the clown searched low.  
“Where or where did my darling go?”  
Poor clown, poor clown.

He asked whomever he did meet,  
“Where is my girl with the dancing feet?”  
Poor clown, poor clown.

Winter came and bitter cold.  
Each night he prayed, “God keep her warm.”  
Poor clown, poor clown.

One night as he lay asleep,  
the sandman sent him a dream to keep.

He thought he walked in a lovely place,  
soft breezes blowing against his face.

The sky and sea were bright and blue,  
and flowers blossomed in every hue.

There up high in a slim palm tree,  
His girl was dancing happily.  
Poor clown, poor clown.  
“Oh blessed dream: for by the sea,  
know my darling waits for me,  
will search most patiently,  
and bring her home by skate and ski.”  
Poor clown, poor clown.

#### V. A Message from the Storks

“Beware of Sunflower Man, we say,  
he steals hearts both night and day!”

#### VI. The Clown Finds His Way South

The clown walked south through ice and snow,  
his warm heart told him where to go.

He came to a kind and pleasant land,  
by a bright-blue sea with golden sand.

Here scarlet pomegranates and laurel trees  
rustled their leaves in the gentle breeze.

Young boys and girls danced hand in hand,  
oranges and lemons smelled so grand.

He followed a crowd to the marketplace,  
what he saw then, made his poor heart race.

Up on the stage was his dancing girl,  
and Sunflower Man was making her whirl.

#### VII. Sunflower Man Shows Off the Ballerina

“Friends, friends, come gather round,  
look at the dancing toy I found.

She can dance and twirl upon her toes,  
and the faster I clap, the faster she goes.

Faster, girl, turn into a blur,  
or I'll goad you with my golden spur.

Faster, girl, dance, hop, and skip,  
or with my whip I'll make you trip.”

Then the clown called his darling's name aloud  
and somersaulted right through the crowd.

He flew upon the stage with a backward flip  
and ran with his girl to a little ship.

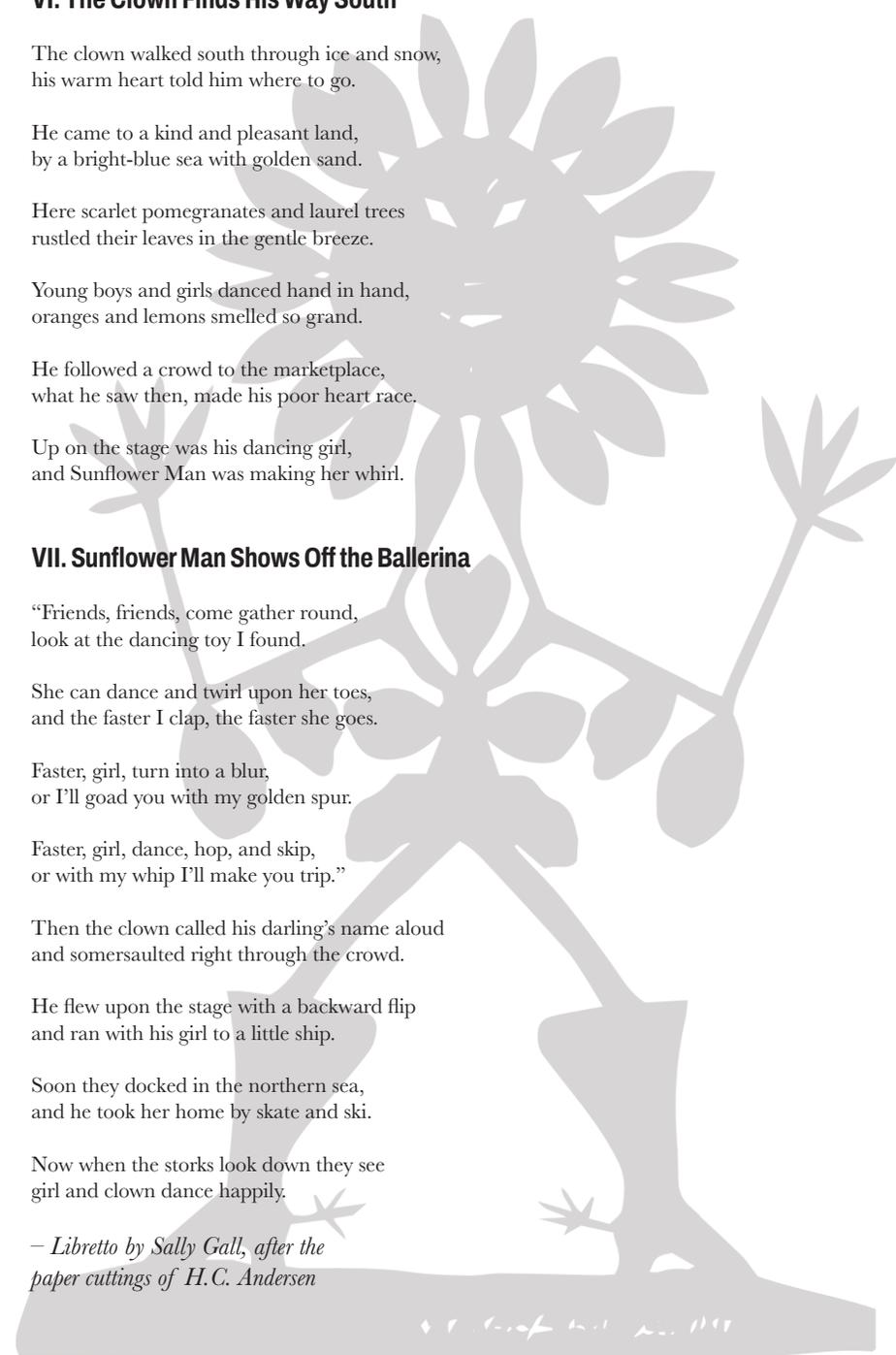
Soon they docked in the northern sea,  
and he took her home by skate and ski.

Now when the storks look down they see  
girl and clown dance happily.

— *Libretto by Sally Gall, after the  
paper cuttings of H.C. Andersen*



This concert has been underwritten by  
a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



## ABOUT

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### **Berkshire Children’s Chorus**

Berkshire Children’s Chorus explores the globe and travels through time by singing music from various cultures and eras. With a mission to, “create a place of belonging where young people grow and find their voices by singing together,” the Chorus uses music to spark new friendships between singers from across the Berkshire region. Weekly rehearsals feature the development of individual self-confidence and teamwork skills, as well as music reading, ear training, and vocal technique.

The Chorus was founded in 1990 by Nancy Loder and is currently led by Artistic Director Ryan LaBoy. Recent accomplishments include a co-commission and world-premiere performance with Stockbridge Sinfonia, the introduction of ukulele study through a partnership with Berkshire Music School, and a 20-minute video performance inspired by Eileen Spinelli’s children’s book, *Three Pebbles and a Song*, in collaboration with Silo Media. Previously, Berkshire Children’s Chorus has had the honor of performing at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York City, completed two European concert tours, and has collaborated with local artistic partners including Berkshire Bach Society, Berkshire Choral International, Cantilena Chamber Choir, Chorus Angelicus, Crescendo, Berkshire Lyric, and the Norman Rockwell Museum.

Berkshire Children’s Chorus is a non-profit community organization with a renewed vision to transform and connect our community in the Berkshires through choral music education, opening up a world of experiences, confidence, and collaboration for all children.

### **Bard College at Simon’s Rock & Bard Academy**

Bard College at Simon’s Rock is the only college in the country specifically designed for students ready to enter college after the 10th or 11th grade. Simon’s Rock offers a curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences, taught by supportive, highly trained faculty, who are leading scholars in their field. The College grants degrees in more than 35 majors. Simon’s Rock is ranked No. 4 for Most Innovative School and No. 5 for Best Undergraduate Teaching by U.S. News and World Report and The Princeton Review ranked Simon’s Rock among the Best Regional Colleges in the Northeast.

Bard Academy is the nation’s first two-year boarding and day program designed to prepare 9th and 10th graders to start college early. Within six years of entering Bard Academy as a high school freshman, a student who matriculates into the College will earn a Bachelor of Arts degree. The Academy curriculum is designed and taught by college professors.

## ARTIST BIOS

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### **Ryan LaBoy, conductor**

Praised for his collaborative spirit and eclectic music programming, Ryan LaBoy is a singer, conductor, and educator, currently serving as Artistic Director of Berkshire Children’s Chorus and Choir Director at Bard College at Simon’s Rock. He also sings with Twin Cities-based chamber ensemble, Border CrosSing, which recently released their debut album “Un Milagro de Fe” to critical acclaim, and is the 411 Youth & Education Advisor for GALA Choruses—an organization dedicated to empowering LGBTQ+ choruses.

Before moving to the Berkshires, Ryan spent three years as Director of Choirs & Voice at North Hennepin Community College (Brooklyn Park, Minnesota) where he conducted Concert Choir and Chamber Singers and led the Voice Studio, and served as Founding Music Director of ComMUSICation—an El Sistema-inspired choral youth-development program in St. Paul, Minnesota—leading them to performances with Grammy Award-winners like the Minnesota Orchestra and Leslie Odom, Jr. (Super Bowl LII).

Ryan holds degrees in Choral Conducting and Music Education from the University of Minnesota and Westminster Choir College, respectively, and lives in Pittsfield with his husband, Joel, and their pets, Ruby and Dash.

### **Manon Hutton-DeWys, piano**

Classical pianist Dr. Manon Hutton-DeWys has performed in some of classical music’s best-known venues, including Carnegie Hall and the Salle Cortot at the École Normale de Musique in Paris. She has also appeared at Symphony Space, Bargemusic, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Steinway Hall, among others. She holds degrees from The Graduate Center (City U. of NY), Mannes College, Bard College, and Bard College at Simon’s Rock.  
[www.manonhuttondewys.com](http://www.manonhuttondewys.com)

### **Elizabeth Morse, harp**

Elizabeth Morse, principal harpist of the Berkshire Symphony and Artist Associate in Harp at Williams College, has been active throughout the Northeast as a soloist, recitalist, chamber musician and pedagogue. She was formerly principal harpist with the Rhode Island Philharmonic and assistant director of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Harp Seminar. An advocate of contemporary music, she has premiered and commissioned works of dozens of composers.

### **Kati Garcia-Renart, choreography**

Choreographer and dancer, Kati Garcia-Renart, trained in Madrid, where she pursued research studies in flamenco dance and pedagogy. She has performed in various venues in Spain and throughout the United States. She was the director of the Kaatsbaan Academy of Dance in Tivoli, NY, and was a long time faculty member of Kaatsbaan’s Extreme Ballet (summer intensive course). Kati currently serves as professor of dance at Bard College at Simon’s Rock.



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your songs!  
Love,  
Mom and Dad!*



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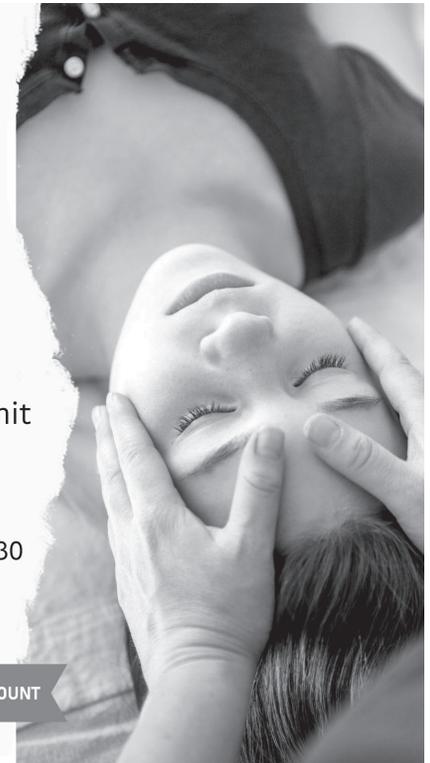
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Berkshire Children's Chorus is now enrolling singers in grades 3-8 for rehearsals starting in January.



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[ryan@berkshirechildrenschorus.org](mailto:ryan@berkshirechildrenschorus.org)

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