

BERKSHIRE CHILDREN'S CHORUS

PRESENTS

PRESENTAN



CANTAME UN CUENTO

SING ME A STORY

A CONCERT
ADAPTATION OF

UNA ADAPTACIÓN EN
CONCIERTO DE

"MANGO, ABUELA, AND ME"
BY MEG MEDINA

SUNDAY DOMINGO, 10
DECEMBER 10 DE DICIEMBRE

4:00 PM
THE DUFFIN THEATER
LENOX MEMORIAL MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

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CONCERT PROGRAM | PROGRAMA DE CONCIERTOS

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND/AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL.....arr. Roger Emerson

MANGO, ABUELA, AND ME

WRITTEN BY MEG MEDINA | ILLUSTRATED BY ANGELA DOMÍNGUEZ

FAMILY/FAMÍLIA (ENGLISH)..... Mark Burrows

"DOS ORUGUITAS." FROM ENCANTOLin-Manuel Miranda

FAMILY/FAMÍLIA (ESPAÑOL)..... Mark Burrows

OYE Jim Papoulis

LOS POLLITOS DICEN..... Latin-American Folksong, arr. Ken Berg

FAMILY/FAMÍLIA (COMBINED)..... Mark Burrows

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TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM TO STAY UP TO DATE!

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS OR VIDEO
 DURING THE CONCERT.
 THANK YOU!



Berkshire Taconic
 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

WELCOME | BIENVENIDO

Good afternoon and welcome to our concert!

Today, we present a very special program, *Cántame un Cuento | Sing Me a Story*, featuring a musical retelling of Meg Medina's illustrated children's book, *Mango, Abuela, and Me*. Through our performance, we celebrate Latine culture and Spanish-language singing and storytelling. This programming is inspired by our vision to make the Chorus a place where all young voices belong! This means connecting with diverse families and paying attention to what music we sing and whose story it tells.

We are honored to welcome Tania Riaño and Jeanne Lemlin from Literacy Network to narrate our concert -- presenting us with a unique opportunity to celebrate Tania's English language learning! We also welcome Tarcisio Ramos on percussion, providing our music with the *sabor* it requires. Lastly, one of our very own grandparents, Noel Staples Freeman, has developed fabulous choreography to be performed during *Oye*, helping us to feel the music in our bodies!

Beyond our concert, Berkshire Children's Chorus has been walking our talk this fall: offering a new sliding-scale tuition model to make participation affordable for all families, hosting two retreat days for our Sheffield- and Pittsfield-based singers to get to know each other, tabling at Festival Latino in September, and singing at Berkshire Immigrant Center's Naturalization Ceremony in October. We were honored to use our voices to welcome 19 new Americans into our Berkshire community at the Naturalization Ceremony, and we are thrilled to showcase several beautiful solo voices today.

The work of Berkshire Children's Chorus is made possible by the generosity of our community, both individuals and organizations. We are so grateful to Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's Arts Build Community program and the Mass Cultural Council for their support for this innovative concert. We also thank Lee Bank Foundation for their pioneering support for our new sliding-scale tuition model, which has allowed us to more fully live up to our core value of inclusivity, ensuring that every child who wants to sing with us feels welcome and able to participate.

As the year comes to a close, we ask you to show your support for our work. We are aiming to raise \$15,000 from individual donations this year so that we can continue to offer the innovative musical education and community building that has defined us since 1990. We can't do it without your help!

Please make a tax deductible donation online by scanning the code below, or visiting www.berkshirechildrenschorus.org/donate. You may also donate by sending a check to Berkshire Children's Chorus at P.O. Box 18, Sheffield, MA 01257.



Thank you and enjoy! — ¡Gracias y disfruta! —



Ryan LaBoy
Artistic Director



Alice Maggio
President of the Board of Trustees

FAMILY/FAMÍLIA | MARK BURROWS

In your eyes I see peace,
In your voice I hear hope,
In your heart I feel love.
We are more than neighbors,
We are family.

En tus ojos, paz,
En tu voz, esperanza,
En tu corazón, amor.
Somos más que vecinos,
Somos familia.

"DOS ORUGUITAS." FROM ENCANTO | LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

Dos oruguitas enamoradas,
Pasan sus noches y madrugadas,
Llenas de hambre siguen andando,
Y navegando un mundo,
Que cambia y sigue cambiando.

Two caterpillars in love,
Spend every evening and morning,
Full of hunger they keep walking,
And navigate a world,
That changes and continues changing.

Two oruguitas against the weather,
The wind grows colder,
But they're together,
They hold each other
No way of knowing,
They're all they have for shelter,
And something inside them
is growing.
They long to stay together,
But something inside them
is growing.

Dos oruguitas contra el clima,
el viento se vuelve más frío,
Pero ellos están juntos,
Ellos se abrazan,
No tenían forma de saber,
Es todo lo que tienen para refugiarse,
Y algo dentro de ellos
está creciendo.
Ellos anhelan permanecer juntos,
Pero algo dentro de ellos
está creciendo.

Ay, oruguitas,
No se aguanten más.
Hay que crecer a parte y volver,
Hacia adelante seguirás.
Vienen milagros,
Vienen crisálidas.
Hay que partir y construir
su propio futuro.

Oh, caterpillar,
Don't hold on too tight.
You have to grow separately and return,
You will continue forward.
Miracles come,
Chrysalises come.
You have to part and build
your own future.

Two oruguitas cocooned and waiting,
Each in their own world anticipating
what happens after: the rearranging
And so afraid of change,
In a world that never stops changing.
So let the walls come down,
The world will never stop changing.

Dos oruguitas envuelto y esperando,
Cada en su propio mundo anticipando
Qué pasa después: la reorganización.
Y muy asustado del cambio,
En el mundo que sigue cambiando.
así que deja que las paredes caigan,
El mundo siempre sigue cambiando.

Ay, mariposas,
No se aguanten más.
Hay que crecer a parte y volver,
Hacia adelante seguirás.
Ya son milagros
rompiendo crisálidas
Hay que volar hay que encontrar
su propio futuro.

Oh, butterflies,
Don't hold on too tight.
You have to grow separately and return,
You will continue forward.
They are already miracles
Breaking chrysalises.
You have to fly and find
your own future.

OYE | JIM PAPOULIS

VERSO:

Está solo,
Llorando en silencio,
En la oscuridad.
Está soñando,
Deseando con esperanza,
Por l'oportunidad.

¡Escúchalos!
¡Escúchalos!
Ellos te llaman.

CORO:

¡Oye!
Are you listening?
¡Oye!
Can you hear them calling?
We are calling to you

¡Oye!
Are you listening?
¡Oye!
Can you hear them calling?
Can you hear us?

VERSO:

Escúcalos,
Míralos,
Escucha lo que tratan de decir.
Están en búsqueda,
Del camino,
Little voices,
Calling you.

Escúchalos!
Escúchalos!
Ellos te llaman.

CORO

PUENTE:

¡Oye!
Are you listening?
¡Oye!
Can you hear us?
I can hear you calling!
¡Oye!

CORO

VERSE:

They are alone,
Crying in silence,
In the dark.
They are ringing,
Wishing, full of hope
For the opportunity.

Listen to them!
Listen to them!
They are calling you.

CHORUS:

Hey!
Escuchando?
Hey!
¿Puedes escucharlos llamar?
Te estamos llamando

Hey!
Escuchando?
Hey!
¿Puedes escucharlos llamar?
¿Puedes oírnos?

VERSE:

Listen to them,
Look at them,
Listen to what they are trying to say.
They are searching,
Pequeños voces,
Llamándote.

Listen to them!
Listen to them!
They are calling you.

CHORUS

BRIDGE:

Hey!
Escuchando?
Hey!
¿Puedes oírnos?
¡Puedo escucharte llamando!
Hey!

CHORUS

LOS POLLITOS DICEN | ARR. KEN BERG

Los pollitos dicen,
"Pío, pío, pío!"
Cuando tienen hambre,
Cuando tienen frío.

La gallina busca,
El maíz y el trigo,
Les da la comida,
Y les presta abrigo.

Bajo sus dos alas,
Acurrucaditos,
Hasta el otro día,
Duermen los pollitos.

O, cuando se levantan,
Dicen, "Mamacita,
Tengo mucha hambre,
Da me lombricitas."

The chicks say,
"Chirp, chirp, chirp!"
When they are hungry,
When they are cold.

The hen looks,
For corn and wheat,
To give them to eat,
And gives them shelter.

Under her two wings,
Snuggled up,
Until another day,
The chicks sleep.

Oh, when they wake,
They say, "Mommy
I am very hungry,
Give me worms."

PERMISSIONS

Berkshire Children's Chorus's

Cántame un Cuento | Sing Me a Story features a concertized version of "Mango, Abuela, and Me" used with explicit permission from the author and illustrator.

Mango, Abuela, and Me

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PEOPLE | LA GENTE

Berkshire Children's Chorus

Magleydi Anaya
Sabeena Cudal
Julia Darman
Mia Desnoyer
Alaisia DiSola-Staples
Sarah Ehrich
Ryleigh Fillio
Braxton Gladu
Montanna Inesta
Sophie Jadow
Cornelia Lalle
Anika Libetti
Tiffany Mejia Lopez
Veda Mahaney
Valentina Mendoza
Natalia Morales
Joeselle Ocran
Jynelle Ocran
Diana Isabella Rosales
Colaine (Lainey) Rosier
Shea Ryan
Sophia Seme
Arianna Stalker
Malini Stoecker
Amelia VanTassel
Lilyana Yuknis

Narrators

Tania Riaño
Jeanne Lemlin

Percussion

Tarcisio Ramos

Lighting & Technical Support

Ryan Bannen

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Nate Ehrich, member

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Nate Ehrich
Kate Gladu
Mark Ryan
Melody Salamone
Caitland Stalker

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Jessica Mahaney
Magaly Lopez
María Menaca

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Jennie Jadow
Shannon O'Brien

Production

Jennie Jadow
Matt Fillio
Noel Staples Freeman
Diana Lotero

Rehearsal Venues

Old Parish Church (Sheffield) | Jill Graham, pastor
Zion Lutheran Church (Pittsfield) | Joel Bergeland, pastor
Church in the Hill (Lenox) | Liz Goodman, pastor

Performance Venue

The Duffin Theater
Lenox Memorial Middle & High School
Ryan Bannen, theater manager

Community Partners

Berkshire Immigrant Center
The Literacy Network
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Grant & Foundation Support

The local cultural councils of Alford/Egremont, Mt.
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ABOUT THE CHORUS | SOBRE EL CORO

Artist Bios | Biografías de Artistas

Ryan LaBoy, Artistic Director | Director Artístico

Praised for his collaborative spirit and eclectic programming, Ryan LaBoy is an active singer, conductor, and educator currently serving as Music Director of Berkshire Concert Choir, Artistic Director of Berkshire Children's Chorus, and Choir Director at Bard College at Simon's Rock. Celebrating the power of singing in community across the lifespan, Ryan has extensive experience teaching and conducting ensembles from elementary school through college and university and beyond.

Prior to living in the Berkshires, Ryan served as Director of Choirs & Voice at North Hennepin Community College where he conducted Concert Choir and Chamber Singers and led the Voice Studio. He also served as Founding Music Director of ComMUSICation in St. Paul, Minnesota—an after-school music program with a focus on social justice and youth empowerment. Such opportunities have led him to work with several Grammy Award-winning musicians, including the Minnesota Orchestra and Leslie Odom, Jr (Super Bowl LII).

Ryan is also a professional singer, having recently presented several recitals throughout Berkshire County with collaborator Manon Hutton-DeWys (piano) and singing with ensembles such as Border CrossSing, MPLS (imPulse), VocalEssence Ensemble Singers, and Ember Choral Artists. He has also served as an American delegate at various music programs abroad in Estonia, Iceland, and Ghana.

Ryan is a doctoral student at Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City, and holds degrees in Choral Conducting and Music Education from the University of Minnesota and Westminster Choir College. He moved to the Berkshires from the Twin Cities in May 2021, with his husband, Joel, who serves as pastor at Zion Lutheran Church of Pittsfield.

Aaron Likness, Accompanist | Acompañante

Aaron Likness is a pianist based in upstate New York, hailed for "superb clarity" and "effortless elegance" in performances of a wide variety of classical, avant-garde, and contemporary music. Recent seasons have included appearances across the US and Europe with Boston Musica Viva, Callithumpian Consort, International Contemporary Ensemble, Sound Icon, PROTOTYPE Opera Festival, and violinist Diamanda Dramm. A graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of North Carolina, Likness serves on the music faculty of Bard College at Simon's Rock.

Guest Artists | Artistas Invitados

Tania Riaño & Jeanne Lemlin, Narrators | Narradoras

Tania Riaño moved with her family to the U.S. from Colombia. She has developed a passion for learning English and has made progress at an unusual speed. She is very grateful to Literacy Network and calls her tutor, Jeanne, her angel.

Jeanne Lemlin is the James Beard award-winning author of five cookbooks and began a second career in midlife as a high school English teacher. Her love of teaching led her to continue upon retirement as a tutor of English language learners. Meeting and working with Tania is something she now cherishes.

Special thanks to Literacy Network and Leigh Dougherty for connecting Tania & Jeanne to Berkshire Children's Chorus!

Taz Ramos, Percussionist | Percusionista

Taz is a music educator proficient in Brazilian instruments like the Cavaco (cousin of the Ukulele) and diverse percussive instruments like the Brazilian frame drum, pandeiro, and the Peruvian instrument called Cajon. Taz fosters cultural connections through music, enriching schools and universities with his "Performative Lecture on Brazilian Musical Instruments" where he shares his culture through music. Fun fact: Taz showcased survival skills on the show "Alone," highlighting the resilience, creativity, and adaptability that is also reflected in his musicality.



ABOUT BERKSHIRE CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Berkshire Children's Chorus uses music to spark new friendships between singers from across the region. Weekly rehearsals feature the development of individual self-confidence and teamwork skills, as well as music reading, ear training, and vocal technique. With a renewed mission to "create a place of belonging where young people grow and find their voices by singing together," Berkshire Children's Chorus is broadening its reach this season with the introduction of a new rehearsal location in Pittsfield in addition to its historic home in Sheffield. The Chorus was founded in 1990 by Nancy Loder and is currently led by Artistic Director, Ryan LaBoy.

Recent accomplishments include: performing as part of Berkshire Immigrant Center's Naturalization Ceremony for new Americans; *Circles*, a concert featuring mandalas by local artist Elizabeth Nelson; an interdisciplinary performance of *The Ballerina and the Clown* with Bard College at Simon's Rock Chorus and Dance programs; a first-ever Valentine's Day Teddy Bear Drive to benefit Berkshire Medical Center; a performance with Wanda Houston at The Egremont Barn; a co-commission and world-premiere performance with Stockbridge Sinfonia; and the introduction of ukulele study through a partnership with Berkshire Music School and the Magic Fluke.

Previously, Berkshire Children's Chorus was honored to perform 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.



OUR VALUES:
M-U-S-I-C

Music is a lens through which we experience the world and ourselves. It teaches us new cultures, languages, and skills.

Understanding.

We know it's ok to make mistakes because that's how we grow, learn, and become good leaders.

Spirit.

We are playful and joyful at Chorus because making music is fun!

Inclusivity.

We create a safe, caring, and open-hearted community where everyone belongs.

Connection.

We come together from across the Berkshires to sing and create something bigger than ourselves.



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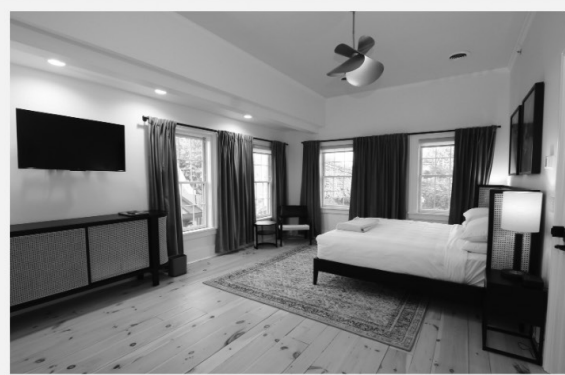
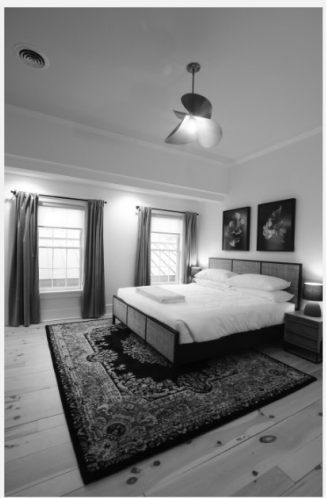
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LOVE,
MOM AND DAD**

**Great Job Braxton! We love you
-Pep and Mem**

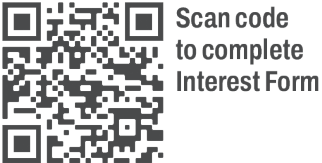
**We are so proud of you Braxton!
What time is it? Show Time Woo!**

**Love,
Mom, Dad, Wyatt, and Knox**

SING WITH US!

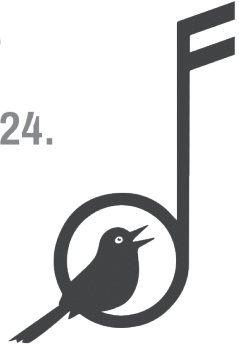
**Berkshire Children's Chorus
is now enrolling singers
in grades 3-8 for January 2024.**

**Choose your rehearsal location:
Pittsfield or Sheffield**



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**BERKSHIRE
CHILDREN'S
chorus**



*Congratulations
Julia Darman
and the Berkshire Children's Choir!*

*We are so proud of you!
Love, Kiki, Mom and Dad*



NATALIA MORALES

**Congratulations Natalia on
your wonderful experience
with the Berkshire Children
Chorus! We are excited to see
how you are creating
unforgettable memories with
your friends as you learn and
improve your singing skills.
Keep up the great work!**

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We are so proud of you, Sabeena! ❤️
Your hardwork will bring you to where you
always wanted to be. ❤️❤️

WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH, SAB!

LOVE,
DADDY, MOM, SELENA, AND SANTI



DONORS | DONANTES Thank you for your support!

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 11/9/2022 and 11/16/2023. Asterisks denote Board members.

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