



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

2025/26 SEASON

Odes to Love

Case Concert Choir

Dr. Christopher Clark, Conductor & Director of Choirs

Dr. Ying-Ho Huang, Accompanist

Noah Whitaker, Graduate Assistant

Bay Middle School Chamber Choir

Mr. Andrew J. Novak, Director

Mrs. Bernadette Hisey, Accompanist

Celebrating Graduating Students

Josh Eagle, Adam Hutchings, Cristiana Miele, Sam Qin,
Milana Sacco, Emilia Sanz-Rios, Jada Squires, and Milo Vetter

7:30 PM

Monday, April 20, 2026

Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel

11200 Bellflower Road Cleveland, OH

CWRU  **1826**
Celebrating 200 years **2026**

Department of Music
case.edu/artsci/music

WELCOME

Welcome to the **CWRU Spring Concert Choir Concert**, titled **Odes to Love**. This concert features the Case Western Reserve University Concert Choir, with special guest, the Bay Middle School Chamber Choir, under the direction of Andrew J. Novak, from Bay Village, Ohio. Mr. Novak will be graduating with his Master's in Music Education from CWRU this spring, and we are delighted to feature the Chamber Choir he directs on this concert.

This concert also features the premier of 3 pieces from a trio of international composers: Giulio De Carlo from Italy, Julian Bryson from the United States, and Santiago Veros from Argentina. You may remember that we performed Veros' *Galaxias* at the Choral Spectrum concert in 2025 (the piece with the water glasses). The three pieces are combined together under the larger title *Odes of Love*, but each of the three pieces explores love from a different angle: *Twice in a Lifetime* is a rather straightforward and sentimental love song; *Fire Flowers* explores how pain or scars can help the find love through empathy; and *Odes to Love* uses the feelings at a beautiful beach with firends to demonstrate a larger love of life.

We will also be honoring our graduating seniors today. We deeply appreciate their hard work and dedication over the years to the choir program, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours. Enjoy the concert!

Shine on,
Dr. Christopher L. Clark

CWRU Music 2025–26 Concert Season






The Case Western Reserve University Department of Music presents a wide range of concerts, recitals, and special events that showcase the talents of students, faculty, and guest artists. From classical masterworks to contemporary compositions, these performances highlight the creativity and excellence within CWRU's vibrant music community. Open to the public, the season offers opportunities for audiences of all ages to experience inspiring live music and support the next generation of musicians and scholars.

Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel (est. 1902)

Located on the Mather Quad, this neo-Gothic landmark commemorates the brief life of Florence Harkness Severance and reflects Cleveland's rich cultural and philanthropic history. Designed by architect Charles F. Schweinfurth, the chapel is renowned for its soaring arches, exquisite woodwork, and luminous Tiffany stained-glass windows. Together, these elements create a warm, intimate, and acoustically resonant setting where music unfolds with clarity, depth, and presence—an exceptional venue for performances and special events.

Accessibility

We are committed to providing accessible facilities for all audience members. Please inform our staff if you require assistance or special accommodations.

-  Silence phones & devices
-  No flash photos or recording
-  Restrooms located on each level
-  No food or beverages
-  **Emergencies:** follow staff/call 216-368-3333

CWRU 200 1826
2026
case.edu/bicentennial

PROGRAM

Bay Middle School Chamber Choir

Virtue Through Time and Space

Veni, Veni Emmanuel (ERO CRAS)

Michael John Trotta (b. 1978)

Umoja Tunaimba (United We Sing)

Victor C. Johnson (b. 1978)

Ellie Cook, Caden Gess, and James Goodman, percussion

How Can I Keep From Singing?

Rev. Robert Lowry (1826-1869)
arr. Russell Robinson

Defying Gravity
from *Wicked*

Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)
arr. Roger Emerson

Anne Singler, soloist

Concert Choir

Rise

Tyler Busick

Silentium

Chris Maunu

Odes of Love - World Premiere

1. Twice in a Lifetime

Giulio De Carlo (b. 1981)

2. Fire Flowers

Julian David Bryson (b. 1980)

3. Odes to Love

Santiago Veros (b. 1990)

Hold On Just a Little While Longer

Remel Derrick (b. 1981)

Combined Ensembles

Oba Se Je

Nigerian Song
arr. Christopher Aspaas

Caden Gess, Will Griffin, Adam Hutchings, Chris Tipton, and Eric Yarnot, vocal soloists
Daphne Brown, James Goodman, Arin Wang, and Natalia Stojkovic, percussion

PERSONNEL

CASE CONCERT CHOIR

Soprano

Mahlen Becker
Samaria Benochi
Daphne Brown
Deirdre Chan
Stephanie Contreras
Lizzy Darrin
Elissa Frankel
Vivian Go
Cristiana Miele
Milana Sacco
Emilia Sanz-Rios
Ai Scarlett
Mia Tessler
Victoria Wakefield
Yikun Wang

Major

Anthropology
Biomedical Engineering
Music Education
Biology, Music
Music Education
Music Education
CWRU '26, Neuroscience
Biology, Dance
Psychology, Spanish
MBA
Biology, Sociology
Nutritional Biochemistry
Nursing
Computer Science
Physics (PhD)

Hometown

Marietta, OH
Vestavia Hills, AL
Junction City, KS
Great Neck, NY
Upper Saddle River, NJ
Warren, OH
Woodbury, MN
Rockville, MD
Dallas, TX
Monessen, PA
Andover, MA
Singapore
New York City, NY
Houston, Texas
Shaanxi, China

Alto

Makaila Burnham
Sameera Chiruvolu
Charlotte Cotroneo
Varsha Iyengar
Sophie Kwiatkowski
Alicia Mathew
Emily Park
Chrissie Rollinson
Jada Grace Squires
Natalia Stojkovic

Civil Engineering
Biochemistry
International Studies
Neuroscience
Law (J.D.)
Neuroscience
Neuroscience
Biophysics, Music
Cognitive Science
Music Education

Cincinnati, OH
Dallas, TX
Westfield, NJ
Philadelphia, PA
Mentor, OH
Aurora, IL
Wheeling, IL
Chicago, IL
Piscataway, NJ
Buffalo, NY

Tenor

Morgan Ernst
Adam Hutchings
Henry Senra
Adam Shupe
Milo Vetter
Arin Wang
Noah Whitaker

Materials Science & Engineering
Computer Science, Mathematics
Astronomy, Mathematics
Biochemistry (Pre-Med)
Civil Engineering
Psychology, Cognitive Science
Music Education (MAL)

Wethersfield, CT
Davis, CA
Gates Mills, OH
Cleveland, OH
Oakland, CA
Scottsdale, AZ
Moultrie, GA

Bass

Liam Becker
Caden Cummings
Josh Eagle
Andrew Kapferer
Andrew Maskoff
Arda Oral
Sam Qin
Rohan Rajappan
Dhruv Raman
Chris Tipton
Eric Yarnot

Biology
Biomedical Engineering, Music
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Biochemistry
Piano Performance
Physics
Mathematics, Computer Science
Engineering Physics, Mathematics
Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering
Music Education
Computer Engineering, Physics

Sharon, MA
Midland, MI
Durham, NC
West Orange, NJ
Westport, CT
Tenafly, NJ
Greer, SC
Simsbury, CT
Campbell, CA
Cleveland, OH
Snohomish, WA

PERSONNEL

BAY MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAMBER CHOIR

Soprano

Nikita Butler
Judy Charif
Ellie Cook
Maddie Estridge
Emily Lehman
Clementine Toole
Poppy Scott
Amelia Venditti

Alto

Meredith Block
Charlotte Colman
Lena Coppola
Gigi Joslin
Evelyn Kelly
Emi Lynn
Anne Singler
Amelia Vasil

Tenor

Lucas Chupa
Soren Combe
Thomas Marotta
Ethan Pattison

Bass

Sam Fanter
Caden Gess
Will Griffin
Noah Treadway

Percussion

James Goodman

DIRECTOR

Andrew J. Novak serves as a vocal music educator for Bay Village City Schools, where he directs the middle school choral program and music directs the annual high school musical. Under his leadership, the Bay Middle School choirs have consistently earned "Superior" ratings at OMEA adjudicated events and regional festivals. Mr. Novak is a dedicated advocate for experiential learning, frequently facilitating performances for his students at venues such as the Ohio Statehouse, Ohio State University, Baldwin Wallace University, the Maltz Performing Arts Center, Rocket Arena, and Progressive Field.

Currently in his final year of the MA in Music Education program at Case Western Reserve University, Mr. Novak's graduate work includes presentations for the CWRU Music Colloquium series and his recent paper, "You Sound Forest Green: Exploring the Connection Between Colors and Sound in Choral Music," presented at the 29th Annual Graduate Students in Music Conference in New York City. At CWRU, he has performed with the Concert Choir and Early Music Singers, while pursuing private studies with Todd Wilson (organ) and Dr. Cynthia Skelley-Wohlschlagel (voice).

Mr. Novak holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Music Education from Capital University and has been teaching professionally since 2016. He frequently works as a music director and accompanist for various local schools, theatres, and churches. He also works as an active adjudicator for OMEA. He extends his deepest gratitude to Dr. Clark, his family, and the Bay Village community for their steadfast support of his musical and pedagogical endeavors.

TEXTS

TRANSLATIONS

Veni veni Emmanuel (ERO CRAS)

Veni, Veni Emmanuel!
Captivum solve Israel!
Qui gemit in exilio,
Privatus Dei Filio.

Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel
Nascetur pro te, Israel.

Veni, veni, Rex Gentium,
veni, Redemptor omnium,
ut salvas tuos famulos
peccati sibi conscios

Veni, veni O Oriens,
solare nos adveniens,
noctis depelle nebulas,
dirasque mortis tenebras.

*O come, o come, the "I am" that is with us
Break the bond of the captive people!
Who mourn in exile
Deprived of the incarnation of the father.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! The great "I am"
Will be born for you.*

*O come, gatherer of all nations,
Come to make all whole,
To save your servants
From their separateness,*

*O come thou light of life (MorningStar)
To shine on us by your coming,
Dispel the clouds of night,
Drive away the shadows of death.*

Umoja Tunaimba (United We Sing)

Text by Victor C. Johnson

Umoja tunaimba!
United we sing!
Umoja tunaimba!
We stand as one in unity!

We lift our voices and we join our hearts
Singing songs of justice and peace.
We stand together as the children of God
Bringing hope to humanity!

Imbakwa amani! Imbakwa furaha!
Imakwa upendo! Imba!
We will sing for peace! We will sing for joy!
We will sing for love! We will sing!

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Text by Rev. Robert Lowry

My life goes on in endless song,
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul,
how can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

Defying Gravity from Wicked

Text by Stephen Schwartz

Something has changed within me
Something is not the same.
I'm through with playing by the rules
Of someone else's game.
Too late for second-guessing,
Too late to go back to sleep.
It's time to trust my instincts,
Close my eyes and leap!

It's time to try defying gravity
I think I'll try defying gravity,
And you can't pull me down.

I'm through accepting limits
'Cuz someone says they're so.
Some things I cannot change
But till I try, I'll never know.
Too long I've been afraid of
Losing love, I guess, I've lost.
Well, if that's love,
It comes at much too high a cost.

I'd sooner try defying gravity.
Kiss me goodbye; I'm defying gravity,
And you can't pull me down.

Unlimited.
My future is unlimited.
And I've just had a vision
almost like a prophecy.
I know it sounds truly crazy,
and true, the vision's hazy.
But I swear someday
I'll be up in the sky, defying gravity.
Flying so high, defying gravity.
They'll never pull me down.

So if you care to find me,
Look to the western sky!
As someone told me lately:
Everyone deserves the chance to fly!
And if I'm flying solo,
At least I'm flying free.
To those who'd ground me,
Take a message back from me.
Tell them how I am defying gravity
I'm flying high, defying gravity.
And soon I'll match them in renown.
And nobody in all of Oz,
No Wizard that there is or was
Is ever gonna bring me down.

TEXTS

TRANSLATIONS

Rise

Text by Charles Anthony Silvestri

Lúcis filii, scándite!
Ígnis filiae, súrgite!
Hóstis antiquus surréxit
Fulgóre armátus saevítia.
De lúcis ténebras pédite,
De véro perfídias púgite!
Múndum de málo sérvite!
Liberáte futúrum spe!

*Sons of light, rise up!
Daughters of fire, arise!
The ancient enemy returns,
Armed with cruel lightning.
Fill the darkness with your light,
Case out the lies with truth!
Protect the world from evil!
Save the Future with hope!*

Silentium

Text by Fyodor Ivanovich Tyutchev

Speak not, lie hidden, and conceal
the way you dream, the things you feel.
Deep in your spirit let them rise
akin to stars in crystal skies
that set before the night is blurred:
delight in them and speak no word.
How can a heart expression find?
How should another know your mind?
Will he discern what quickens you?
A thought once uttered is untrue.
Dimmed is the fountainhead when stirred:
drink at the source and speak no word.
Live in your inner self alone
within your soul a world has grown,
the magic of veiled thoughts that might
be blinded by the outer light,
drowned in the noise of day, unheard...
take in their song and speak no word.

Twice in a Lifetime

Text by Marianna De Carlo

When I was little
A little yellow bird
My truest friend I called him
Would sit on the roof tiles
And just for a while
Would sing through all my restless sighs
With his voice of light.

Now that I am old
Whenever I must away
You see off my every flight
With your lightest voice
And that is why I call you
My deepest love

Fire Flowers

Text by Emily Paulin Johnson

And only where the forest fires have sped,
Scorching relentlessly the cool north lands,
A sweet wild flower lifts its purple head,
And, like some gentle spirit sorrow-fed,
It hides the scars with almost human hands.

And only to the heart that knows of grief,
Of desolating fire, of human pain,
There comes some purifying sweet belief,
Some fellow-feeling beautiful, if brief.
And life revives, and blossoms once again.

Odes of Love

Text by Santiago Veros

Odes of love
When you close your eyes and hear the ocean's
roar,
When the sand breathes softly under your feet,
When your hope makes the air bloom.

Odes of love
When you breathe the skies and feel the soul
restore,
When your friends are truly there by your side,
When their light breaks past the gloom.

Oh, sweet life. Let me remain here forever.
In this morning, in this life,
Forever.

Hold On Just a Little While Longer Text from Traditional Spiritual

Hold on, brother, just a little while longer.
Hold on, sister, just a little while longer.
Hold, brother, just a little while longer.
Everything will be all right.

When I was a moaner just like you
(Everything will be all right.)
I called and called 'til I came through.
(Everything will be all right.)

Heard the voice of Jesus say,
(Everything will be all right.)
"Come to me, oh yes, for I'm the way."
(Everything will be all right.)

Sing on! Pray on!
Everything is gonna be all right!

Hold on, brother, don't get weary.
Hold on, sister, don't get weary.
Hold on, children, don't get weary.
Don't get weary!

Oba Se Je
Oba se je

Here comes the King!

UPCOMING EVENTS

7:30 PM • Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Case/University Circle Symponhy Orchestra & Case Camerata Orchestra
Maltz Performing Arts Center

7:30 PM • Thursday, April 23, 2026

Klezmer Music Ensemble
Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel

7:30 PM • Sunday, April 26, 2026

String/Piano Chamber Music
Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel

7:30 PM • Monday, April 27, 2026

Case Glee Club & University Chorale
Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel

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