



CWRU

2026–27 CONCERT SERIES

It All Starts with a Spark

A Fall Choral Concert

Case Concert Choir

Dr. Christopher Clark, Conductor

Dr. Ying-Ho Huang, Accompanist

Noah Whitaker, Graduate Assistant

University Chorale

Ms. Samantha Webber, Conductor

Junrong Liu, Accompanist

Brianna Bell, Graduate Assistant

7:00 PM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026

FLORENCE HARKNESS MEMORIAL CHAPEL

11200 BELLFLOWER ROAD | CLEVELAND, OH 44106



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY**

Department of Music

case.edu/artsci/music

WELCOME

Welcome to our first choral concert of the 2026-27 academic year! We are delighted to share an evening of music with you and celebrate the talents of our student musicians.

At CWRU, we take pride in creating opportunities for students to grow as musicians while building meaningful connections with the surrounding community. On October 28, the **CWRU Concert Choir** will join choral students from **Northwest High School in Massillon, Ohio**, for a performance as part of the school's *Living Composers* series. In preparation for this collaboration, the high school students visited CWRU for a campus tour and joint rehearsal with the Concert Choir, and I had the opportunity to work with them on a combined selection at their school. This partnership is one example of how our students engage with and contribute to the broader musical community.

We are also especially pleased to feature the **University Chorale**, now under the direction of **CWRU alumnus Sam Webber**. We look forward to an exciting year of music-making with both ensembles.

Thank you for joining us and supporting our students. Enjoy the concert!

Dr. Christopher Clark
Director of Choirs

Music has the power to connect, inspire, challenge, and create change. At **Case Western Reserve University**, we encourage our students to discover how their talents, creativity, and experiences can **be a force** in the world.

Here, music thrives at the intersection of a leading research university and the vibrant cultural landscape of **University Circle**. The **Department of Music** combines performance, scholarship, music education, and creative exploration, giving students opportunities to pursue their musical interests alongside academic studies across the university.

Our students follow many paths. Some are preparing for careers in music and music education; others study engineering, the sciences, humanities, business, and more. What brings them together is a commitment to making music through orchestras, bands, choirs, jazz and popular music groups, chamber ensembles, recitals, and other artistic endeavors.

OUR CONCERT SEASON

Each year, our concert season features students, faculty, alumni, and guest artists in programs ranging from classical repertoire to contemporary works and new collaborations. Together, these events reflect the artistry, curiosity, and spirit of exploration that shape our musical community.

Concerts take place in venues across campus, including **Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel** and the **Maltz Performing Arts Center**. Our ensembles also represent CWRU beyond Cleveland through festivals, conferences, tours, and special appearances.

Most events are **free and open to the public**. We hope today's performance is just one of many you'll enjoy with us this season.

-
-  Silence phones & devices
 -  No flash photos or recording
 -  Restrooms located in foyer
 -  No food or beverages
 -  **Emergencies: 216-368-3333**

CWRU Music is committed to an accessible and welcoming experience for all guests. Please see a staff member if you need assistance or accommodations.

CWRU 200  **1826**
2026

PROGRAM

University Chorale

Ms. Samantha Webber, Director

Bring Me Little Water, Silvy

Huddie W. Ledbetter (1889–1949)
arr. Moira Smiley (b. 1979)

What is this Feeling?
From Wicked

Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)
arr. Roger Emerson (b. 1950)

Warrior

Kim Baryluk (b. 1959)
Chant by Stacey Howse
arr. Natasha Blackwood

Case Concert Choir

Dr. Christopher Clark, Director

With a Spark

Katerina Gimon (b. 1993)

Stephanie Contreras, Lizzy Darrin, Morgan Ernst, Caelyn Holbert,
Chrissie Rollinson, and Natalia Stojkovic, small ensemble

A Prayer of Compassion

Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

Daphne Brown, conductor

Songs for the People

Jacob Narverud (b. 1986)

Natalia Stojkovic and Christopher Tipton, soloists
Stephanie Contreras, conductor

The Road Home

Stephen Paulus (1949–2014)

Daphne Brown, soloist
Christopher Tipton, conductor

Music of Stillness

Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979)

Mama Said

Ruthie Foster (b. 1964)
arr. Paul Rardin

PERFORMERS

University Chorale

Dr. Samantha Webber, Director

Soprano 1

Katherine Greer, *Music Education*
Sophie Kramer, *Community Member*
Gyovanna Sundaresan, *Undeclared/Pre-med*

Alto

Ava Bee, *Theater Arts*
Megan He, *Chemical Engineering*
Leslie Bell, *Community Member*

Soprano 2

Brianna Bell, *Music Education (MAL)*
Aaliyah Mack, *Undeclared/Pre-med*
Genevieve Fritz, *Music Education*
Srinidhi Rameshbabu, *Biochemistry & Biology*

Concert Choir

Dr. Christopher Clark, Director

Soprano

Mahlen Becker
Daphne Brown
Deirdre Chan
Stephanie Contreras
Lizzy Darrin
Caelyn Holbert
Samira Koduri
Cristiana Miele
Katerina Morin

Major

Anthropology
Music Education
Biology & Music
Music Education
Music Education
Music Education
Biology
Master of Social Work (MSW)
Mechanical Engineering & Music

Hometown

Marietta, OH
Junction City, KS
Great Neck, NY
Upper Saddle River, NJ
Warren, OH
Cleveland, OH
Chicago, IL
Dallas, TX
Miami, FL

Alto

Sameera Chiruvolu
Claire Cho
Morgan Ernst
Sophie Kwiatkowski
Audrey Metcalf
Emily Park
Chrissie Rollinson
Srikrithi Sivasubramanian
Natalia Stojkovic

Biochemistry
Nursing
Materials Science & Engineering
Law (JD)
Nursing
Neuroscience & Psychology
Biophysics & Music
Neuroscience
Music Education

Dallas, TX
Colorado Springs, CO
Wethersfield, CT
Mentor, OH
Seattle, WA
Chicago, IL
Barrington, IL
Irvine, CA
Buffalo, NY

Tenor

Felipe Maya
Jerry Qiu
Zachary Rogers
Henry Senra
Adam Shupe
Noah Whitaker
Chris Wu

Biomedical Engineering
Aerospace Engineering
Computer Science & Mechanical Engineering
Astronomy & Mathematics
Biochemistry
Music Education (MAL)
Mathematics

Naperville, IL
New York, NY
Brookline, MA
Gates Mills, OH
Cleveland, OH
Moultrie, GA
Wayne, NJ

Bass

Joshua Dantus
Skylor Ford
Ángel Méndez Mejía
Arda Oral
Rohan Rajappan
Dhruv Raman
Christopher Tipton
Timothy Van de North
Eric Yarnot

Applied Anatomy (MS)
Computer Engineering
Mathematics & Physics
Physics & Astronomy
Physics & Mathematics
Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering
Music Education
Computer Science
Computer Engineering & Physics

Coral Springs, FL
Ithaca, NY
San Salvador, El Salvador
Tenafly, NJ
Simsbury, CT
Campbell, CA
Cleveland, OH
Maplewood, NJ
Snohomish, WA

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

University Chorale- Songs of Sisterhood

The theme of our program tonight is “Songs of Sisterhood”. Each of our selections involve sisterhood in different ways. Through Huddie Ledbetter’s “Bring Me Little Water Silvy”, we showcase how sisters are always there for each other in times of need. We then continue our performance with “What is This Feeling?” from the musical *Wicked*, which describes how sisters sometimes fight despite their love for one another. Our third and final selection, “Warrior”, is a powerful representation of how we can come together to fight for a better future both for ourselves and our sisters.

Concert Choir - With a Spark

Tonight’s concert features 3 undergraduate conductors: Daphne Brown, Stephanie Contreras, and Christopher Tipton. These students are in their penultimate semester as music education majors. They will be student teaching next semester. CWRU is committed to giving music education undergraduates more hands-on teaching experience than other programs, and few programs in the country allow upper-level undergraduates to conduct the auditioned mixed ensemble. These students choose each piece they are conducting, rehearse it (with feedback), and do not perform it. Please congratulate them on a job well done!

The other pieces on this program highlight the ideas of tension and release. “With a Spark” brings the immediate tension, “Music of Stillness” builds and decays, and “Mama Said” is full of points of immediacy and relaxation.

TEXTS

Bring Me Little Water, Silvy

Text by Huddie W. Ledbetter

Bring me little water, Silvy
Bring me little water now
Bring me little water, Silvy
Every little once in a while

Bring it in a bucket, Silvy
Bring it in a bucket now
Bring it in a bucket, Silvy
Every little once in a while

Silvy come a-runnin’
Bucket in my hand
I will bring a little water
Fast as I can

Can’t you see me coming?
Can’t you see me now?
I will bring a little water
Every little once in a while

What is this Feeling?

Text by Stephen Schwartz

What is this feeling, so sudden and new?
I felt the moment I laid eyes on you
My pulse is rushing
My head is reeling
My face is flushing
What is this feeling, fervid as a flame
Does it have a name

Loathing! Unadulterated loathing
For your face, your voice, your clothing
Let’s just say, I loathe it all!
Ev’ry little trait however small,
makes my very flesh begin to crawl
with simple utter loathing!
There’s a strange exhilaration
in such total detestation.
It’s so pure! So strong!
Though I do admit it came on fast,
Still I do believe that it can last
And I will be loathing, loathing you my whole
life

Dear Galinda, you are just too good.
How do you stand it? I don’t think I could
She’s a terror, she’s a tarter,
we don’t mean to show a bias
but Galinda you’re a martyr.
These things are sent to try us.

Poor Galinda, forced to reside with someone so
disgustified.
We just want to tell you, we’re all on your side!
We share your loathing.

Loathing, unadulterated loathing
(What is this feeling, so sudden and new)
For your face, your voice, your clothing
(I felt the moment I laid eyes on you.)
Let's just say we loathe it all
(My pulse is rushing, my head is reeling
Oh What is this feeling?)
Ev'ry little trait however small,
makes my very flesh begin to crawl!
(Does it have a name?)
Yes...

Loathing! There's a strange exhilaration
in such total detestation.
So pure! So strong!
Though I do admit it came on fast,
Still I do believe that it can last
And I will be loathing, for forever loathing, truly,
deeply loathing you my whole life long
Loathing, unadulterated loathing.

Warrior

Text by Kim Baryluk

I was a shy and lonely girl – with the heavens in
my eyes
and as I walked along the lane – I heard the
echoes of her cries

I cannot fight, I cannot a warrior be;
It's not my nature nor my duty.
It is the womanhood in me.

I was a lost and angry youth – there were no tears
in my eyes.
I saw no justice in my world – only the echoes of
her cries.

I cannot fight, I cannot a warrior be;
It is my nature – not my duty.
It is the womanhood in me.

I am an older woman now – and I will heed my
own cries
and I will a fierce warrior be – 'til not another
woman dies

an and will fight, I can and will a warrior be;
It is my nature and my teaching.
It is the sister-hood in me.

I can and will fight, I can and will a warrior be;
It is my teaching and my duty – it is the sisterhood
in me.

With a Spark

Text by Katerina Gimon

It all starts with a spark, a flicker, a flame.
It all starts with a fire that ignites a change and
grows.
Born in a world of boundless skies where sea and
sun collide,
we're made to burn bright to spin dreams from
light and rise.

'Til we find a fire that is our own,
'til we know the heart that guides us on.
Born from a spark, flicker, flame.
Our spark, flicker, flame will guide the way.

Just listen. Stoke the flame.
Feel your embers burn within.
And soon you'll know the power of a fleeting
moment.
And soon you'll know the power of an
outstretched hand.

Can you feel it grow? A flicker can shape a
lifetime.
All it takes is a spark to set the tides of change.
Can you feel the wave? Can you hear it now?
Feel it ripple and flow. Well, now we know our fire.

It all starts with a spark, a flicker, a flame
to set the world ablaze!

A Prayer of Compassion

*Text from Psalms 4:8, Psalms 5:8, and by John
Greenleaf Whittier*

Lead me, Lord, in the paths of peace.
Make Your way plain before my eyes.
For it is You, Lord, You, and You, alone,
who can make me to dwell in safety.

Lead me always to listen.
Teach me to live with compassion,
that when I come to a place of rest
only by your grace, not by my merit,
no praise be mine,
but let me keep a heart that still can feel,
and eyes that still can weep.

Oh, my brother, oh, my sister,
all who live in peril, for you,
let me keep a heart that still can feel,
and eyes that still can weep.

Songs for the People

Text by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

Let me make the songs for the people,
Songs for the old and young;
Songs to stir like a battle-cry
Wherever they are sung.

Not for the clashing of sabres,
For carnage nor for strife;
But songs to thrill the hearts of men
With more abundant life.

Let me make the songs for the weary,
Amid life's fever and fret,
Till hearts shall relax their tension,
And careworn brows forget.

Let me sing for little children,
Before their footsteps stray,
Sweet anthems of love and duty,
To float o'er life's highway.

I would sing for the poor and aged,
When shadows dim their sight;
Of the bright and restful mansions,
Where there shall be no night.

Our world, so worn and weary,
Needs music, pure and strong,
To hush the jangle and discords
Of sorrow, pain, and wrong.

Music to soothe all its sorrow,
Till war and crime shall cease;
And the hearts of men grown tender
Embrace the world with peace.

The Road Home

Text by Michael Dennis Browne

Tell me, where is the road
I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost,
So long ago?
All these years I have wandered,
Oh, when will I know
There's a way, there's a road
That will lead me home?

After wind, after rain,
When the dark is done.
As I wake from a dream
In the gold of day,
Through the air there's a calling
From far away,
There's a voice I can hear
That will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me,
Come away, is the call,
With the love in your heart
As the only song;
There is no such beauty
As where you belong:
Rise up, follow me,
I will lead you home.

The Music of Stillness

Text by Sara Teasdale

There will be rest, and sure stars shining
Over the roof-tops crowned with snow,
A reign of rest, serene forgetting,
The music of stillness holy and low.

I will make this world of my devising
Out of a dream in my lonely mind.
I shall find the crystal of peace, –
above me
Stars I shall find.

Mama Said

Text by Ruthie Foster

Whoa, Mama said,
"Girl, you better learn how to pray.
Oh, you've got a soul to save.
Girl, you've been lookin' for an education.
Child, you better fall on your knees
before you fall in the wrong direction."

Through many a trial I have known,
tryin' to give my children a happy home.
Through times of trouble and tears from worry
tryin' to keep my head held high;
teach my feet not to be in such a hurry.

Oh, it was a cold February morn,
East Texas Bay, that girl was born.
I pray for her soul
to sing a righteous song.
Whoa, and when my head grows cold, Lord,
Keep her in a light that's strong."

Whoa, Mama said,
"Girl, you better learn how to pray.
Oh, you've got a soul to save.
Girl, you've been lookin' for an education."

Thank you for joining us.

Your support helps our students experience, create, and share music that inspires.

Scan the QR CODE to MAKE A GIFT today. Please designate your gift in the “Notes” field

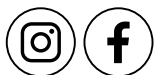
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**CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY**

7:00 PM • Tuesday, October 13, 2026
Case Glee Club & Saint Ignatius Chorus
St. Peter Catholic Church (Cleveland, OH)

7:00 PM • Wednesday, October 14, 2026
Pop Music Ensembles
The Spot | Lower Level Leutner Commons

7:30 PM • Friday, October 16, 2026
Historical Performance Ensembles
La Fête de Vénus
Honoring Georgia J. Cowart
Harkness Chapel

4:00 PM • Sunday, October 25, 2026
Joan Terr Ronis Memorial Recital
Erin Huang, flute
Harkness Chapel

4:00 PM • Saturday, November 7, 2026
Percussion Ensemble
Harkness Chapel

7:00 PM • Sunday, November 8, 2026
Mixed Chamber Ensemble
Harkness Chapel

7:00 PM • Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Case/University Circle Symphony Orchestra
Case Concert Choir
Maltz Performing Arts Center

