

SYRACUSE GAY & LESBIAN CHORUS  
WINTER 2023 CONCERT

Winter  
Lights

Friday, December 15 at 7 pm  
Saturday, December 16 at 2 pm

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## A Word from the Chairperson

Winter Solstice for the northern hemisphere is December 21st this year at 10:47 pm. This is the moment when the north pole is tilted furthest away from the sun, which brings us our shortest day and longest night of the year. From that moment until the summer solstice in June, the days will get longer and the nights shorter.

Built into this dance of light and dark is the promise of renewal. Each year brings us a whole cycle... dark to light and everything in between. We are reminded that nothing lasts forever, and that endings lead to beginnings. We are at the time of the year where endings seem to be what nature wants us to focus on, but as soon as the solstice arrives, we are given a little glimmer of the light to come and the potential for new growth.

The music of this season reflects this cycle of birth and death to birth again. There are songs written in a minor key that seem to highlight the winding down of patterns and cycles, while there are songs written in a major key that remind us that there is hope for new beginnings. It is a little mix of sadness and joy, of melancholy and playfulness.

In the end, I find this time of year to be hopeful. It's a time to re-imagine how we go about our days, and to plan for a better tomorrow. I hope that the music that we share with you today will inspire you to see that even in this time of darkness, there is a promise of a return to light. To quote the French philosopher, author, dramatist, journalist, and political activist Albert Camus, "In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer."

Happy holidays and enjoy the show!

Mark Miller  
SGLC Chairperson





## **Upcoming Events**

Monday, March 11, 2024

Rehearsals begin for the Spring Concert season and new members can join.

6:30pm, Memorial Hall, Plymouth Congregational Church,  
232 East Onondaga Street, Syracuse, NY 13202

Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 6:30pm

National Anthem at the Syracuse Mets Pride Night  
NBT Bank Stadium

1 Tex Simone Dr, Syracuse, NY 13208

Friday, June 21, 2024, at 7:00pm

Saturday, June 22, 2024, at 2:00pm

SGLC presents our Spring Concert

May Memorial Universalist Unitarian Society

3800 East Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY. 13214



## **SGLC Board of Directors**

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## **Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus**

### **Singing Members**

#### **Sopranos**

Denise Cody  
Beth Dungey  
Deborah Hardy  
Kate Kearney  
Ali Loomis  
Sarah Schroeder  
Therese Tallman  
Mary Tiedemann

#### **Altos**

Regina Cuddeback  
Jenny Gluck  
Lauren Lammers  
Birdy Leigh  
Teagan Peacock  
Emily Rocheleau  
Stacy Sceiford  
Nancy Sheehe  
Jean Swanger

#### **Tenors**

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Suze Clemons  
Dani Cross  
Jamie Garrow  
Heidi Hart-Gorman  
Cathy Nelson  
Angela Thor  
Alex Toole  
Les Wright  
Benjamin Wrisley

#### **Basses**

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Marvin Calderon  
Christian Jones  
Arthur Lum  
Ky Mangulis  
Dan McMaster  
Mark Miller  
Bill Pitcher  
Kris Sceiford

### **Non-Singing Member**

Jody Brown



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Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus  
Winter 2023 Concert

**Winter Lights**

- Wintertime Cheer.....Jay Althouse
- S’Vivon .....Traditional Hebrew Song  
arr. by Betty Bertaux
- Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind .....John Rutter
- Solstice .....John Purifoy  
Sponsored by Kate Kearney
- I’ll Be Home for Christmas.....Gannon & Kent  
Ali Loomis, soloist arr. by Steve Zegree
- Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow!.....Cah & Styne  
arr. by Kirby Shaw

**Cabaret Songs**

- Winter Song ..... Sarah Bareilles & Ingrid Michaelson  
Sarah Schroeder and Emily Rocheleau, soloists
- ’Til the Season Comes ‘Round Again .....Randy Goodman & John Jarvis  
Fred Belcher
- You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch.....Albert Hague  
from “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”

**Intermission**



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Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus  
Winter 2023 Concert

**Winter Lights**

Bidi Bom .....David Eddleman

The Snow Begins to Fall.....Andy Beck

Sleigh Bells..... Ukrainian Folk Tune  
arr. by Earlene Rentz

Coventry Carol.....Traditional Carol  
arr. by Tim Harrison

Deck the Halls.....Traditional Welsh Melody  
arr. by Parker & Shaw

Audience Sing-Along Songs

Jingle Bells (Words in program)

Angels We Have Heard on High (Music in program)

We Wish You a Merry Christmas (Words in program)

We Need a Little Christmas.....Jerry Herman  
arr. by Anita Kerr

SGLC is pleased to announce and thank our corporate sponsor  
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Alzheimer's Association - Central New York Chapter





## Jingle Bells

### Verse 1

Dashing through the snow, in a one-horse open sleigh  
O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way  
Bells on bobtails ring, making spirits bright  
What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight

### Chorus

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh, hey  
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh

### Verse 2

A day or two ago, I thought I'd take a ride  
And soon, Miss Fanny Bright, was seated by my side  
The horse was lean and lank misfortune seemed his lot  
He got into a drifted bank and then we got upsot

### Verse 3

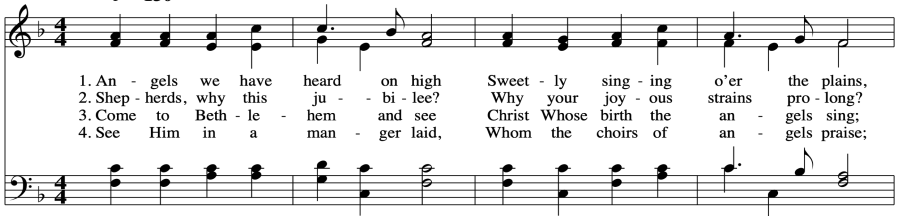
Now the ground is white. Go it while you're young  
Take the girls tonight, and sing this sleighing song  
Just get a bob tailed bay two-forty as his speed  
Hitch him to an open sleigh and crack! You'll take the lead

## Angels We Have Heard On High

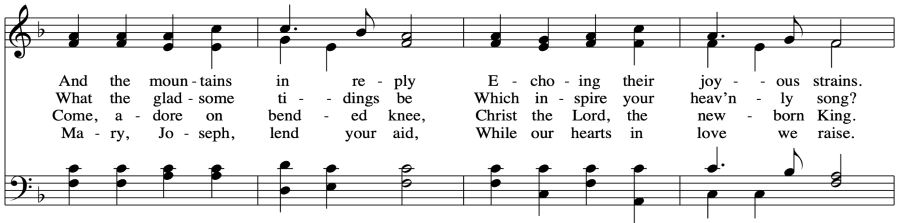
CHRISTMAS

*Words: French Carol; Translated by James Chadwick, 1862.  
Music: 'Gloria' French carol melody. Setting: Edward (or Edwin) S. Barnes, before 1916.  
copyright: public domain. This score is a part of the Open Hymnal Project, 2005 Revision.*

$\text{♩} = 130$



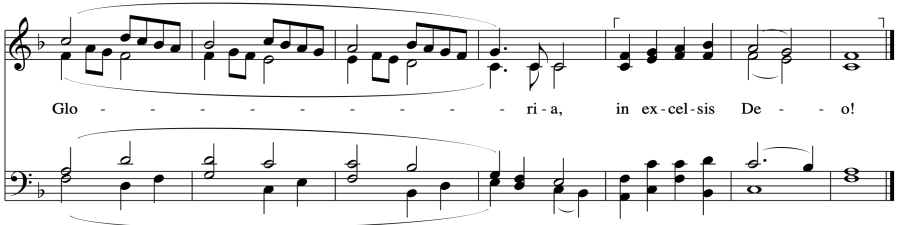
1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ Whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4. See Him in a man - ger laid, Whom the choirs of an - gels praise;



And the moun - tains in re - ply E - cho - ing their joy - - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some ti - - dings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new - born King.  
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.



Glo - - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - - - o!



## We Wish You a Merry Christmas

### Verse 1

We wish you a merry Christmas.

We wish you a merry Christmas.

We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### Verse 2

Oh, bring us some figgy pudding.

Oh, bring us some figgy pudding.

Oh, bring us some figgy pudding and bring it right here.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### Verse 3

We won't go until we get some.

We won't go until we get some.

We won't go until we get some so bring it right here.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



## Acknowledgements

The membership and Board of Directors of the Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus extend our sincere appreciation to:

- The LGBTQ+ Community, for their continual support of our efforts to promote harmony through song;
- Our advertisers and donors, for their patronage of the chorus;
- Our non-singing members and volunteers, for jumping in and helping whenever an extra hand is needed;
- Our spouses, partners, family, and friends, for putting up with our long hours of rehearsal;
- Brian Ackles, for his patience, expertise, and enthusiasm in directing us and for enhancing our musicality;
- Ali Loomis, for her work directing us in rehearsals and in the wilds of Syracuse and beyond;
- Barbara Mushock, for accompanying us both as a chorus and as individual cabaret performers, and for running our sectional rehearsals at the same time;
- Jean Swanger and Christian Jones for assembling our concert program;
- Charles Pike and Associates, for being our trusted accounting firm;
- Plymouth Congregational Church, for providing us a home for so many years; and
- May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society for providing us this beautiful space in which to perform and for being such an amazing ally.

## **Brian O. Ackles** **SGLC Choral Director**



Mr. Ackles is a veteran music educator and conductor with over thirty-seven years of experience teaching, performing, and sharing music with others. He is currently the vocal music teacher for Marcellus High School in Marcellus, New York, where his ensembles consistently receive top rankings at regional competitions and music festivals. Mr. Ackles graduated from Westminster Choir College and

holds a Master of Music in Music Education from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

As a conductor and educator, Mr. Ackles has taught a variety of vocal ensembles and general music classes at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. In addition to directing the Syracuse Gay and Lesbian Chorus, Mr. Ackles is also the choir director at the First Presbyterian Church of Skaneateles, and guest conducts community choirs and local Junior and Senior High Music Festivals in the Central New York area.

In addition to his conducting duties, Mr. Ackles has been a clinician for regional in-services and state music conferences for New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. His research interests include supporting and implementing student-to-student collaboration in the classroom and musical independence in the rehearsal setting. In 2018, Mr. Ackles published an article in the *Choral Journal* presenting his new strategy for student-centered music education called *The Agile Development Instructional Framework*. With his monthly music education blog, *Leading Voices*, Mr. Ackles shared this new paradigm and other instructional strategies for the American Choral Directors



Association on [Choralnet.org](http://Choralnet.org).

As an active educator, conductor, and vocalist, Mr. Ackles is dedicated to promoting music's intrinsic nature and transforming power. His goal is to provide a safe and supportive space where all ensemble members are welcomed and are excited to create a shared passion and understanding through musical excellence. Through these experiences, individual musicians become aware of their musical and personal gifts and share these insights with the ensemble and their audiences.

Mr. Ackles lives in Marcellus with his wife Cynthia, and is the owner of FingerLakes Caning; a company specializing in chair caning and weaving. His summers are spent on Skaneateles Lake as a captain for the Mid-Lakes Navigation's mail boat and dinner cruises.

## **Alicia Loomis** **SGLC Assistant Choral Director**



Alicia Loomis (she/her) is pleased to join SGLC as Assistant Choral Director and still be able to perform as a singing member! Ali brings to the chorus over twenty years of varied musical experiences singing, conducting, and directing. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Vocal Performance from the Eastman School of Music and a Master of Music in

Music Education from Ithaca College.



## **Alicia Loomis (cont.)**

Ali taught junior and senior high vocal music and directed musicals in Central New York for 10 years before starting the Musical Theater department at Utica Dance, Inc. There, she taught voice and theater classes and continued her love of directing musicals for students in the Utica area. Ali has performed with numerous groups throughout New York State singing jazz standards, opera, musical theater, and more!

She is thrilled to be making music again after a turn on her career path led her to law school seven years ago. Ali is now a personal injury attorney at MVC Law in Syracuse. She lives in Manlius with her spouse, Jerra, their three daughters, two sons, (plus one on the way!), and four dogs.

## **Barb Mushock Accompanist**

Barb Mushock taught music education in the Auburn City School District for over thirty years before retiring in 2015. She is currently the accompanist for the Marcellus School District, Union Springs and Moravia high schools, the Syracuse Gay and Lesbian Chorus, the Masterworks Chorale of Skaneateles, and organist at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Barb has also accompanied many high school and middle school music productions, Auburn Players Merry Go Round, and Auburn Public Theater productions as well as Onondaga and Cayuga County All County concerts.

## **Betsy Easson, Percussion**

## **Dan O'Herien, Bass**

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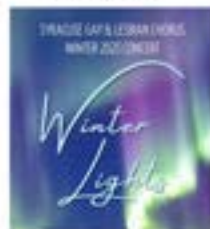
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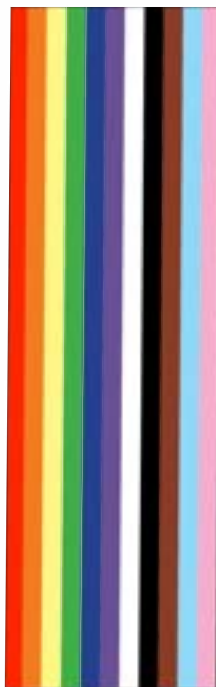
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