Serve the Lord with gladness! Come before His presence with singing.

PSALM 100:2

These words are inscribed above the Princeton University Chapel arch under which all Westminster students pass in the Commencement procession.



Rider University Statement of Community Values

In our endeavor to make Rider University a just community, we commit ourselves, as caring individuals, to the following principles:

So that our rigorous intellectual life nourishes our minds and spirits;

- ∽ that no person travels these halls as a stranger;
- ∽ that integrity of word and deed forms the foundation of all relationships;
- ∽ that we recognize that real leadership is derived from service to others;
- ∽ that we celebrate our differences for they are our strength;
- Show that we are proud of this special place, entrusted to us by past generations, nurtured by us for future ones;
- Shat we share not one Truth, but respect our common pursuit for understanding;
- ∽ and through the time we spend here, we are forever joined to each other and to Rider University.

Adopted on University Day, April 12, 2001



Rider University wishes to express appreciation to President Christopher L. Eisgruber and Princeton University for the use of the Chapel for this ceremony.

Rider University Board of Trustees

Chair: MICHAEL B. KENNEDY '72, '75 Vice Chair: JOHN GUARINO '82 Secretary: CHRISTOPHER NIKOLICH '92 President: GREGORY G. DELL'OMO

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Westminster Choir College Student Government Association Executive Board

President: Katelyn Hemling Vice President: Benjamin Norkus Treasurer: Lydia Stepanoff Secretary: Gillian Erlenborn

Senior Class Officers

President: Samantha Goldberg Vice President: William Brown Treasurer: Jesse Borrower Secretary: Michelle Palladino

Westminster Leadership Council

The Westminster Leadership Council is a community of Westminster College of the Arts friends and alumni/ae who are committed to taking an active, leadership role that will have an extraordinary collective impact on Rider University's Westminster College of the Arts, its students, and the community.

MATTHEW SHAFTEL - COUNCIL HEAD

Emeritus

Louise Hall Beard Joseph G. Beck '59 JIM BUSTERUD Jeffrey M. Cornelius '70 MARK A. DAVIS SUSAN L. DAVIS Micaela de Lignerolles JAIMIE GILHOOLEY FLACK '77 Molly O. Frank AARON E. GAST ERNESTINE LAZENBY GAST '68 CHARLES GOLDBERG **Robert Hedlund** P. R.ANDOLPH HILL John F. Kelsey HAROLD LEVENSON **RICHARD J. LEVINE** Ira Lomench Joseph J. Maggio HOWARD MCMORRIS Thomas M. Mulhare '70 JAMES D. PETERS Donna J. Plasket '71, '83 INGRID W. REED MARVIN R. REED Christopher B. Samuel '80, '82 JANE SHAULIS '66 Christine Wainwright

Josalee Morrell Birchfield '55, '78 Janice Silcox Bonge '55 Fred N. Buch '59

Westminster Choir College Alumni Council

President: Constance M. Fee '71 Vice President: James Busby '85, '92 Alumni Trustee/Past President: Jaimie Gilhooley Flack '77 Alumni Trustee: Mark DeMareo '78

Anthony C. Baron '11 Elizabeth M. Bewie '02 Laurie Eisenbrown Bischof '90 Anthony M. Celentano '78, '80 Justin Cook '11 Darren Dailey '89 Thomas E. Faracco '71, '79 Robert Ivey '58, '59 Robert A. McCormick '01 Betsy Cook Weber '82 Glenn Osborne '94 Jonathan Slawson '09 Christopher Samuel '80, '82 Jody Doktor Velloso '97 Kristin Ditlow-Yuan '05



Program

PLEASE HOLD ALL APPLAUSE UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF COMMENCEMENT

BRASS: Fanfare pour précéder La Péri

Joe Miller, conductor

ORGAN: Paean for Organ Duet

Thomas Heidenreich м.м. '17, organ Joel Trekell в.м. '17, organ

HANDBELLS: *The Gift of Love*

Westminster Concert Bell Choir Kathleen Ebling Shaw '85, *conductor*

Matthew Smith M.M. '17, organ

ORGAN: Symphonie No. 1, Op. 36 IV. Toccata

BRASS AND ORGAN: Feierlicher Einzug

James Jordan, conductor

INTROIT: Let My Love Be Heard

Westminster Chapel Choir Amanda Quist, *conductor*

FANFARE: Fanfare for the Common Man

Solid Brass Ensemble Joe Miller, *conductor*

PROCESSION: Processional

Daryl Robinson, organ

INTRODUCTION

INVOCATION

Paul Dukas (1891-1975)

Stephen Paulus (1949-2014)

O WALY, WALY arr. John Franek '18 (b. 1996)

> Rachel Laurin (b. 1961)

Richard Strauss (1864–1949) arr. Daniel Beckwith '77, мм'79

> Jake Runestad (b. 1986)

Aaron Copland (1900–1990)

Warren Martin '36, мм'38 (1916–1982)

DonnaJean Fredeen Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

> Erika Takacs '98 Associate Rector Saint Mark's Church, Philadelphia

HYMN: Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices *

James Jordan, conductor

WELCOME

ANTHEM: Let the People Praise Thee, O God

James Jordan, conductor

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

ANTHEM OF THE GRADUATING CLASSES: For I Know the Plans I Have for You

Victor Abednego B.M. '17, conductor

For I know the plans I have for you, plans for peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. -based on Jeremiah 29:11

CHARGE TO THE DEGREE CANDIDATES

ANTHEM: Anthem of Dedication

Joe Miller, conductor

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES

CONFERRING OF DEGREES IN COURSE

DonnaJean Fredeen Matthew Shaftel Dean of the College Marshall Onofrio Associate Dean of the College

Gregory G. Dell'Omo

Bachelor of Music/Master of Arts in Teaching Bachelor of Music Bachelor of Arts in Music

Associate Professor of Sacred Music and Director of Chapel

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

> ENGELBERG arr. David Schelat (b. 1955)

Amanda Quist, conductor

Amanda Quist, conductor

HYMN: When in our Music God is Glorified *

Master of Music Master of Music Education Master of Voice Pedagogy

ANTHEM: Borgoroditse Devo/Rejoice

Martin

(1934-1992)

Joseph Flummerfelt

O Dass Ich Tausend Zungen Hatte

Gregory G. Dell'Omo President of the University

William Mathias

Emeritus Director of Choral Activities

Caeleb Tee '17 (b. 1991)

Steven Pilkington

arr. John Ferguson

(b. 1941)



CLOSING WORDS: Go in Peace

Elizabeth M. Bewie '02

Lauralyn Bellamy

BENEDICTION: The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Joe Miller, *conductor*

RETIRING PROCESSION: *Pictures at an Exhibition* The Great Gate of Kiev Peter Christian Lutkin (1858–1931)

Modest Mussorgsky (1839–1881) adapted from Ravel's orchestration for brass, organ and percussion by Douglas Haislip

Joe Miller, *conductor*

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Grand-Choeur

Daryl Robinson, organ





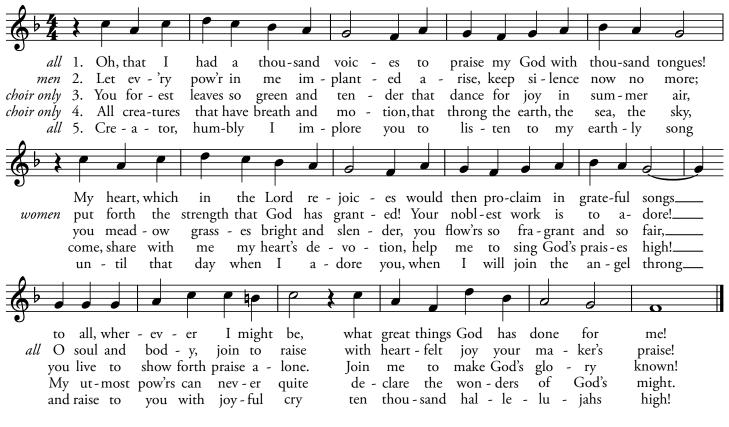
Participants in the Ceremony

Solid Brass Ensemble

Patsy-Jo Johnson '72, Mace Bearer Tom T. Shelton, Jr., Chief Marshal Marshall Onofrio, President's Party Marshal Scott Hoerl, Administration Marshal Margaret Cusack, Faculty Marshal Glenn Miller '77, Alumni Marshal Matthew Marinelli '19, Gonfalonier

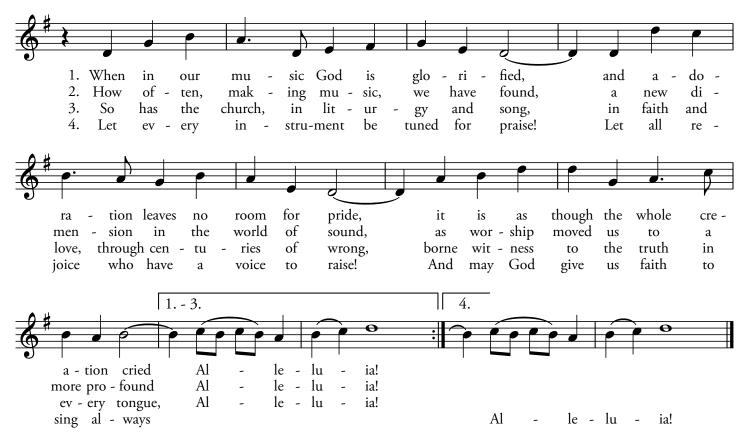


Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices



WORDS: Johann Mentzer MUSIC: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE ARR: John Ferguson All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-713820

When in Our Music God is Glorified



WORDS: Fred Pratt Green MUSIC: Charles V. Stanford (1852-1924) ENGELBERG All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-713820

Commencement Address

Joseph Flummerfelt

Musical America's 2004 Conductor of the Year, Joseph Flummerfelt has been acclaimed for his artistry, which has been heard in many of the world's concert halls for over 40 years. He is Founder and Musical Director of the New York Choral Artists, and for 33 years he served as Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of Westminster Choir College. For 37 years he served as Director of Choral Activities for the Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, S.C., from which he retired in 2013, and for 23 years was the Maestro del Coro for the Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy. In 2016 he retired from 44 years of choral preparation for the New York Philharmonic.

As an orchestral conductor, Dr. Flummerfelt made his debut with the New York Philharmonic, conducting Haydn's *Creation*, in 1988. In 2001, he conducted the world premiere of Stephen Paulus' *Voices of Light* with the Philharmonic and the Westminster Choir. He has also appeared as guest conductor with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's, the Juilliard Symphony Orchestra, and the San Antonio and Phoenix symphonies. He has also conducted more than 60 choral/orchestral performances with the Spoleto Festival Orchestra in the United States and Italy.

For more than four decades Joseph Flummerfelt has collaborated in the preparation of hundreds of choral/orchestral performances and recordings with some of our era's leading conductors, such as Abbado, Bernstein, Barenboim, Ozawa, Shaw, and Steinberg. In addition to the New York Philharmonic and The Philadelphia Orchestra, his choirs have performed with European orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic, Vienna Philharmonic, Gewandhaus Orchestra and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra.

Joseph Flummerfelt's Westminster Symphonic Choir and New York Choral Artists have been featured in 45 recordings, including Britten's *War Requiem* and Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* and *Schicksalslied* with Kurt Masur and the New York Philharmonic; Mahler's Symphony No. 2 and a Grammy Award-winning Mahler's Symphony No. 3 with Leonard Bernstein; and Messiaen's *Le Transfiguration de Notre Seigneur Jesus Christ* with the National Symphony. His collaborations with Samuel Barber includes the Grammy Award-winning recording of the composer's opera *Anthony and Cleopatra*. In 2004 he was awarded a Grammy for the New York Choral Artists' recording of John Adams' *On the Transmigration of Souls*. He was also nominated for the Westminster Choir's recording of Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* with Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic, and Berlioz's *Romeo et Juliette* with Riccardo Muti and The Philadelphia Orchestra. Among the many recordings he has made with the Westminster Choir, his Delos recording of Brahms' choral works (*Singing for Pleasure*) was chosen by *The New York Times* as a favorite among all existing Brahms recordings.

Since retiring from Westminster in 2004, Dr. Flummerfelt has held visiting professorships and conducted performances at a number of universities, including Eastman School of Music, University of Texas, New England Conservatory, University of Illinois, Kansas City Conservatory of Music and DePauw University.

In addition to his Grammy awards and nominations, his many honors include Le Prix du President de la Republique from L'Academie du Disque Francais. He holds honorary doctorates from Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Purdue University, Vincennes University, Ursinus College, and DePauw University. He has received DePauw's two highest alumni awards: the Old Gold Goblet and the DePauw Gold Medal.

Charge to the Degree Candidates STEVEN PILKINGTON

Steven Pilkington is an outstanding educator and producer of sacred music in the American Protestant tradition. Associate Professor of Sacred Music and Director of Chapel at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Dr. Pilkington has taught every aspect of the church music curriculum for 25 years. His teaching is known for its breadth, depth and creative attention to the complexities of making sacred music in postmodern times. His lecturing has taken him from Korea to Oxford University where he lectures annually for Westminster's Choral Institute at Oxford.

As an active church musician, he has been Director of Music and Organist at Christ Church, United Methodist at 60th and Park in the heart of New York City for more than two decades. During his tenure, he has built a fully graded choral and handbell program crowned by an exceptional mixed choir of volunteers and professionals singing a rich variety of sacred literature ranging from gospel to chant and contemporary commissions to hundreds of works from the classical canon. Many of his organ scholars have gone on to leading positions in some of America's finest churches, including Harvard Memorial Chapel and Fifth Avenue Presbyterian in New York City. Additionally, Dr. Pilkington is a published author and composer of organ and choral music including an arrangement of *I Wonder As I Wander*, which is featured in Westminster's annual Evening of Readings and Carols concert and has been performed around the world hundreds of times.



Degree Candidates

The following is a list of candidates for degrees. Indication of graduation honors is based upon the cumulative grade point average after the conclusion of the fall semester. The official roster of degree recipients and the final calculation of graduation honors are recorded in the Office of the Registrar of the University.

^ Degree candidates with this symbol completed their degree requirements in August 2016.

+ Degree candidates with this symbol completed their degree requirements in December 2016.

Degree candidates with this symbol completed their degree requirements in January 2017.

* Degree candidates with this symbol are expected to complete their degree requirements by August 2017.



REBECCA JACKS ACHTENBERG Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

ALEXA LOUISE AGOURIDES Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

JESSICA LYNN ARNOLD Piano Accompanying and Coaching *With distinction*

ABIGAIL VIRGINIA BENKE Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

LUCAS CUYLER BROWN Organ Performance *With distinction*

ALICIA NICHOLE BROZOVICH Choral Conducting With distinction

SAMANTHA LOUISE BURDICK Voice Pedagogy and Performance

ELIZABETH CLAIRE CALABRO Sacred Music *With distinction*

ASHERAH J. CAPELLARO Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

PETER ANDREW CARTER + Organ Performance

SARAH JOYCE COOPER Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

KATHRYN ROSE ELLIOTT Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

CHLOE SOPHIA ELZEY Voice Pedagogy and Performance

CHRISTOPHER EUGENE ENGEL Organ Performance

GRETCHEN M. ERLICHMAN * Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

GRANT LEWIS FARMER Choral Conducting *With distinction*

PHILIP JOSEPH FILLION * Sacred Music

Master of Music

CONNOR SCOTT FLUHARTY Organ Performance *With distinction*

PAUL ANTHONY GEORGESON Sacred Music

MOLLY GETSINGER Choral Conducting *With distinction*

GRACE ELLEN GILDAY Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

RAELEE N. GOLD Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

OLFARY GUTIERREZ # Voice Pedagogy and Performance

DAEGEUN HA Sacred Music

THOMAS CHARLES HEIDENREICH * Organ Performance *With distinction*

CHRISTOPHER RICHARD HOCHSTUHL Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

CLAIRE HUGHES * Choral Conducting

ROSETTA NICOLE ISNARDI * Piano Pedagogy and Performance

LISKA HELEN HILBORN JETCHICK * Choral Conducting

JOSEPH SAUL KELLER Composition

LAURA C. KOSAR Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

HANNAH LANESE Piano Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

RAYMOND LAU * Piano Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

XIAOSHA LIN * Choral Conducting

KATHERINE H. LIPOW Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction* COLTON JAMES MARTIN Sacred Music With distinction

JACOB SCOTT NELSON Sacred Music With distinction

SUNNY PARK * Sacred Music

JOY MARIE PARKER Piano Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

AVERY LANE PETERMAN Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

ERIC E. PETTERSON Piano Accompanying and Coaching *With distinction*

Alex Richard de Aguiar Reuter Voice Pedagogy and Performance

SARAH ELLEN RIDDLE Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

BRIAN VEASNA SENGDALA American and Public Musicology Sacred Music With distinction

EMILY DIANNE SKILLING Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

MATTHEW R. SMITH Organ Performance *With distinction*

EMILY MCMANUS SOLO Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

EVAN GARRET STENZEL Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction*

JOSEPH RAY STUTZMAN Composition

LIEN CHEN TEE Composition

JACOB MICHAEL TRUBY Choral Conducting With distinction MATTHEW VAN DONGEN Composition With distinction

ZILIN MA WOLFE + Voice Pedagogy and Performance LOGAN TANNER WRIGHT Voice Pedagogy and Performance *With distinction* RYAN W. ZETTLEMOYER Voice Pedagogy and Performance With distinction

MASTER OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Thomas Anthony Bateman ^

Brett David Gray

BRYCE MANSFIELD HARRISON *

MASTER OF VOICE PEDAGOGY

Amanda Beth Lee

BACHELOR OF MUSIC/MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

LAWRENCE JAY BESCH + B.M.—Summa cum laude M.A.T.—With distinction

VICTOR ABEDNEGO Sacred Music Summa cum laude

Amanda Victoria Agnew Voice Performance

CONNER WILLIAM ALLISON Voice Performance *Cum laude*

VALERIA ELORA ALTAMIRANO Voice Performance Summa cum laude

RACHEL LEIGH BEGLEITER Music Education Summa cum laude

ADAM W. BERGSTRESSER Sacred Music Organ Performance *Magna cum laude*

JOHN D. BREWER Music Education Magna cum laude LARRY DEAN MILLER B.M.—Summa cum laude M.A.T.—With distinction CHRISTOPHER DANRICH NAPPA B.M.—Magna cum laude M.A.T.—With distinction

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

JUSTIN RAY BROWN Piano *Cum laude*

WILLIAM WALKER BROWN Music Education *Cum laude*

Anthony Michael Carrella * Music Education

Tyler R. Cesario Music Education Summa cum laude

MAX JEFFREY CLAYCOMB Music Education *Summa cum laude*

MEGAN ALISSE COILEY * Sacred Music Summa cum laude

Amanishakete Cole-Felder Voice Performance

SARAH ABIGAIL COOK Music Education *Cum laude* CORINNE D. COSTELL + Voice Performance *Magna cum laude*

MATTHEW RYAN COULES + Voice Performance

VICTOR SABINO AZARCOU CRISTOBAL + Theory/Composition

MARISA LEE CURCIO Sacred Music Summa cum laude

KATHLEEN CONWAY DUNN * Music Education

KANISHA FELICIANO Voice Performance *Cum laude*

MEGAN GALLAGHER Voice Performance

SAMANTHA GOLDBERG Music Education *Summa cum laude* LAYTON S. GRAVES Sacred Music Organ Performance *Summa cum laude*

SABRINA ARIEL GUTWILIK Music Education Magna cum laude

TEMPLE A. HAMMEN Voice Performance *Magna cum laude*

ALEXA ROSE HAMPEL Music Education Magna cum laude

Ashley Elizabeth Hansell * Voice Performance *Cum laude*

EMILY MACLAIN HARDIN Voice Performance Summa cum laude

KATELYN FAITH HEMLING Music Education Magna cum laude

SKYLER PALMER KLEIN Music Education Magna cum laude

STORM ALEXANDER KOWALESKI + Voice Performance

JENNIFER FAITH KREIDER Voice Performance *Summa cum laude* BACCALAUREATE HONORS

KRISTIN A. LASSITER * Theory/Composition

TRISTAN PIERRE LAYNE + Voice Performance *Cum laude* PHILIP CHARLES LEFEVRE * Piano *Cum laude*

KELSEY OLIVIA LEWIS Voice Performance Magna cum laude

MARIGRACE MALEY Music Education Magna cum laude

JOHN JOSEPH MITCHELL Sacred Music Summa cum laude

TARIA M. MITCHELL Music Education

MALLORY E. MURPHY Music Education Summa cum laude

CAROLINE JOSEPHINE PATTON Voice Performance Magna cum laude

ALINA RABCHUK Piano *Cum laude*

Allison Renee Ritter Music Education Summa cum laude

JOHN ERIC ROPER * Music Education Magna cum laude

EMILY J. ROSOFF Voice Performance

CAITLIN ELIZABETH SCHAFER + Music Education Magna cum laude McCleary J. Searles + Voice Performance

BRAD REYNOLDS SETTLE Music Education Sacred Music *Cum laude*

AnnaLotte Smith * Piano *Summa cum laude*

MICHAEL ROBERT SMITH + Theory/Composition

ANDREW R. STACK Voice Performance *Magna cum laude*

REBECCA JOY STAHL Voice Performance Magna cum laude

GRANT PATRICK STEINER Voice Performance Summa cum laude

HUNTER PERRY THOMAS Music Education

Kathryn Elisabeth Trave Voice Performance *Summa cum laude*

JOEL C. TREKELL Organ Performance *Magna cum laude*

AUSTIN MICHAEL TURNER + Music Education Magna cum laude

MEGAN ELIZABETH URBANO Voice Performance *Magna cum laude*

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MUSIC

Christopher Anthony Aggabao

IGOR RENE CORREA WETTER + Cum laude

Robert Saverio Firkser *

Alexandria S. Griner Magna cum laude Tsarina Eileen Islam * Emily Taylor Longo Nicole Elizabeth Michel *

NEIL TIMOTHY MITCHELL Summa cum laude BACCALAUREATE HONORS Amanda Rose Osborn

BRIAN ALLEN PEMBER, JR. Cum laude

Robin Emily Schmeider William C. Woodrow

Awards

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

Rachel Anderson Delia Barrientos Christine Bechtold Alyssa Belardo Adriana Bellomo Patrick Brennan William Brown Breanna Ciberey Destiny Cooper Ruth Del Pino Courtney Earnest Alexis Esposito Najla Fermin Isana Fils-Aime Cory Fowler Kevin Grunder Emily Hardin Katelyn Hemling Ryleigh Honig Ryan Hopely Christopher Katona Isabella Lopreiato Karly Munoz Kalyn O'Brien Ariana Palmer Jacqueline Palmer Molly Podosek Steven Santos Jennifer Sweeney

Student Government Awards

Cassie D. Iacovelli Student Government Award: Kevin Grunder Ralph Materia Memorial Award: Zachary Curtis The Michelle McCormack Award: John Mozes The Linda Schmidt Memorial Award: Arielle Averilla, Anna Bissinger

SGA OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Destiny Cooper

Campus & Community Engagement Award for Outstanding Leadership & Service

Ryan Hopely

ANDREW J. RIDER SCHOLARS

Valeria Altamirano Jennifer Kreider Mallory Murphy^{**} Lydia Stepanoff^{*} Michael McCormick* Jennifer O'Brien Jeremy Sivitz Katherine Arnold Marissa DeVeau Hannah Hilling Vanessa Trauger

*Second-year scholar

** Third-year scholar

Rider University President's Award

Ruth Del Pino

Ryan Hopely

Emily Maclain Hardin

Westminster College of the Arts

Rider University's **WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF THE ARTS** inspires and empowers innovative artists and leaders to transform their communities through the arts. With world-class programs in art, dance, music, music theatre and theatre, and based in Princeton and Lawrenceville, New Jersey, the College consists of three divisions: Westminster Choir College, The School of Fine and Performing Arts, and Westminster Conservatory of Music, a music school for pre-college students.

Westminster Choir College is a college of music and graduate school located in Princeton, N.J. Renowned for its tradition of choral excellence, Westminster has become a center of excellence in solo performance as well. Its programs include music education; music theory and composition; sacred music; voice, organ, and piano performance and pedagogy; choral conducting; and piano accompanying and coaching. Westminster's graduates go on to successful careers as performers and in leadership positions in schools, churches, community organizations and businesses around the world.

The School of Fine and Performing Arts is located on Rider's Lawrenceville campus. Its programs include arts administration, dance, music studies, musical theatre, popular music culture, theatre and visual arts. The School provides many opportunities for all students to participate in the arts. Westminster Conservatory of Music serves the Central New Jersey/Eastern Pennsylvania area with on-campus and community-based music instruction. The community music school of Westminster College of the Arts, it offers a superior faculty and tailors lessons, workshops and classes to the needs of the individual student.

Rider University is a private co-educational university with campuses in Lawrenceville and Princeton, New Jersey, which emphasizes purposeful connections between academic study and education for the professions. Its five colleges – The College of Business Administration; College of Liberal Arts, and Sciences; the College of Education and Human Services; the College of Continuing Studies and Westminster College of the Arts – provide rigorous, hands-on learning that prepares students to think critically and communicate clearly to become socially responsible leaders.



Westminster Firsts A Classical Legacy

1920

Westminster Choir was established by John Finley Williamson at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dayton, Ohio.

1926

The Westminster Choir School was founded.

1928

Westminster Choir and the Cincinnati Symphony made the nation's first coast-to-coast radio broadcast, aired over Station WLW.

1929

Westminster Choir College was established and moved to Ithaca College.

1932

Westminster Choir College moved to Princeton, N.J.

1934

As the first official American guests of the Soviet Union, with whom the United States had just resumed diplomatic relations, Westminster Choir made the first broadcast from Russia to the United States.

1938

Westminster Choir, with conductor and founder Dr. John Finley Williamson, presented the first U.S. performance of Joseph Haydn's *Passion (The Seven Last Words).* The performance also featured a volunteer orchestra of Princetonians, including Albert Einstein in the violin section. • The Choir sang at the dedication of the New York World's Fair.

1939

Westminster Choir sang for the first time with the New York Philharmonic. Since then, it has set a record for the number of joint performances—more than 350—by a single choir and orchestra.

1957

Westminster Choir completed a five-month, globecircling tour under the auspices of the U.S. State Department's Cultural Exchange Program. The Choir performed in 22 countries, traveled 40,000 miles and appeared before 227,000 people.

1964

Westminster Choir sang on the Telstar World-Wide Telecast in the spring for the opening ceremonies of the New York World's Fair. This reportedly was the largest audience ever to see a television show at that time.

1965

For the first time the Choir appeared with three major orchestras in one year: the Berlin Philharmonic, the American Symphony Orchestra and The Philadelphia Orchestra.

1971

Westminster Choir performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts during the inaugural week of concerts with the Piedmont Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Nicholas Harsanyi. The work performed was *The Dawn of Glory* by Christian Latrobe.

1972

The Choir began its first summer as the chorus-inresidence for the Festival dei Due Mondi (Festival of Two Worlds) in Spoleto, Italy, at the invitation of Gian Carlo Menotti.

1977

Westminster Choir became the first chorus-in-residence at the Spoleto Festival U.S.A. in Charleston, S.C., at the invitation of Gian Carlo Menotti.

1978

Westminster Choir established its own recording label, copyrighted "Westminster Choir," and released its first recording: *Six Motets of Johann Sebastian Bach*, with guest conductor Wilhelm Ehmann.

1980

Westminster Choir was the first choir to be featured on the "Live from Lincoln Center" telecast series over National Public Television. The Choir performed Verdi's Requiem with the New York Philharmonic and Zubin Mehta.

1982

Westminster Choir was part of the 10,000th performance of the New York Philharmonic, America's oldest permanent orchestra.

1988

Westminster Choir sang Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* with the New York Philharmonic under the composer's direction in a performance at Carnegie Hall celebrating the 45th anniversary of Bernstein's conducting debut with the orchestra.

1990

Westminster Symphonic Choir sang in the Leonard Bernstein memorial concert at the invitation of the Bernstein family.

1991

Westminster Symphonic Choir performed at Carnegie Hall's 100th Anniversary Celebration.

1992

Westminster Choir College merged with Rider University. • Westminster Symphonic Choir performed in "A Tribute to Riccardo Muti" with The Philadelphia Orchestra and Maestro Muti, a performance televised nationally on the Arts & Entertainment Cable Network.

1993

Conducted by Wolfgang Sawallisch, Westminster Symphonic Choir participated in The Philadelphia Orchestra's first performance of Britten's *War Requiem*.

1996

Westminster Choir, conducted by Joseph Flummerfelt, traveled on a concert tour of Korea and Taiwan and performed in the Colmar Music Festival in Colmar, France.

1999

Westminster Symphonic Choir performed the world premiere of Kaija Saariaho's Oltra Mar, 7 Preludes for the New Millennium with the New York Philharmonic conducted by Kurt Masur.

2001

Westminster Choir and the New York Philharmonic, conducted by Joseph Flummerfelt, performed the world premiere of Stephen Paulus' *Voices of Light*, commissioned by Rider University to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of Westminster Choir College.

2002

To commemorate the events of September 11, 2001, Westminster Choir was featured in the PRI national radio broadcast of "In the Shadow of the Towers." They were joined by President George W. Bush and former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. • Westminster Symphonic Choir's performance of Verdi's Requiem with the New Jersey Symphony was broadcast nationally by PBS.

2004

Westminster Choir premiered *Arise My Love* by Stephen Paulus, a gift from the composer to celebrate Joseph Flummerfelt's extraordinary career. • Westminster's artistic director, Joseph Flummerfelt, was named Musical America's 2004 Conductor of the Year, the first choral conductor to be so honored.

2005

Westminster Symphonic Choir performed Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé* (complete) for the first time with the New York Philharmonic, conducted by Lorin Maazel.

2006

Westminster Symphonic Choir participated in the New York Philharmonic's first performance of Mozart's Mass in C Major, K. 317 "Coronation," conducted by Lorin Maazel. • Joe Miller appointed director of choral activities and conductor of the Westminster Choir and the Westminster Symphonic Choir.

2007

Rider University established Westminster College of the Arts. • Westminster Williamson Voices presented the North American premiere of James Whitbourn's *Annelies: The Anne Frank Oratorio.* • Westminster Symphonic Choir opened the Carnegie Hall season performing Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, conducted by David Robertson.

2008

Westminster Kantorei participated in the world premiere recording of John Magnussen's *Psalm*, composed for the Limón Dance Company.

2009

Westminster Choir and Joe Miller released their first recording, *Flower of Beauty*.

2010

Westminster Williamson Voices premiered James Whitbourn's *Requiem Canticorum*, and the Westminster Choir premiered Jaakko Mäntyjärvi's *To a Locomotive in Winter*.

2012

Westminster Symphonic Choir performed with Gustavo Dudamel and the Simón Bolivar Symphony Orchestra for the first time.

2014

The Westminster Williamson Voices' and James Jordan's recording of James Whitbourn's *Annelies*, the first major choral setting of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, was nominated for a GRAMMY Award for Best Choral Performance. • Westminster Symphonic Choir performed the New York premiere of Christopher Rouse's Requiem with the New York Philharmonic conducted by Alan Gilbert.

2015

Westminster Symphonic Choir performed Leonard Bernstein's *Mass: A Theater Piece for Singers, Players and Dancers* for the first time with The Philadelphia Orchestra conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin.

2016

Westminster Kantorei performed in England and France.