



THANK YOU TO BRAINTREE HIGH
SCHOOL FOR PROVIDING A REHEARSAL
SPACE AND TO SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL
FOR HOSTING OUR PERFORMANCE
TODAY.

THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS AT SOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FOR
HOSTING US THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.

VIDEO PRODUCTION BY SUSAN REILLEY.
ENGINEERING BY AV TECHNICIANS
FROM LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH.

THANK YOU TO BCAM FOR RECORDING
TODAY'S PERFORMANCE.

BRAINTREE CHORAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS

A 100th Anniversary Celebration

SUSAN REILLEY - MUSIC DIRECTOR
DANIEL PADGETT - ACCOMPANIST

DECEMBER 10, 2023 AT 3 PM
OLD SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL



President's Message

Dear Friends,

We are thrilled to have this wonderful opportunity to perform at South Middle School for our 100th anniversary celebration! We are excited to have Susan Reilley back as our director. She has put together a fabulous program that is sure to get you into the holiday spirit. We also are excited to welcome our new accompanist, Daniel Padgett. He has brought great enthusiasm to our group this season and we are looking forward to working with him again!

We are grateful for the support of our community and the dedication of our members; this concert could not happen without any of you. A special thank you to the Mayor's Office and all those who helped to ensure the success of this celebration!

Please sit back, relax, and enjoy the performance. A reception will follow -- we hope you'll join us!

Wishing you and your families a wonderful holiday season.

Braintree Choral Society Board Members

President - Nicole Fantasia
Vice President - Mary Rezendes
Treasurer - Jamaal Thompson

Membership - Suzanne Wasil
Publicity - Carole Zarenski
Member-at-Large - Elizabeth Milch

A heartfelt thank you to the
John F. McGee Foundation
for their generosity and support of the
Braintree Choral Society!

Thank you to our corporate sponsors!



Special thanks to Hartstone Flowers for providing us with the beautiful bouquets of flowers!



*The Braintree Knights of Columbus
Council 1462 and the
Braintree Knights 1462 Foundation
Supports
The Braintree Choral Society*

The Braintree Knights of Columbus is an organization of Catholic men, founded In 1910, to aid families who needed benefits not otherwise available. The K of C Is dedicated to the principals of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Today, the Braintree Council 1462's primary objective is to support charitable causes, to help the physically and developmentally disadvantaged and support endeavors encouraging healthy, spiritual and educational development In the community. We raise funds through various projects (such as the Tootsie Roll Drive) and have monthly meetings with speakers on timely subjects.

The Knights 1462 Foundation was established In 2019 to make more substantial charitable donations to community organizations, as well as award scholarships to the children and grandchildren of members. (Criteria and applications are available by writing to Knights, BOX 85007, Braintree MA 02185 or email knights1462foundation@gmail.com.

Braintree Council 1462 Knights of Columbus may be found at the website: www.braintreekofc.org

Braintree Choral Society Singers

Sopranos

Colleen Booker
Emily Elmore
Jennifer Fearnley
Debra Harden
Marguerite Magri
Elizabeth Milch
Lynda Lyman
Amy Pike
Jamie Reed
Mary Rezendes
Nicole Soldando

Tenors & Contraltos

Nicole Fantasia
Maria Lawler
Abbey Malangone
Jamaal Thompson
Anne Walsh

Basses

Gino Costa
Brendan McMullin

Altos

Eileen Callum
Anna De Mulder
Rose Domingo-Horne
Katherine Gilliland
Jennifer Killelea
Jillian Lee
Susan Lee
Suzanne Wasil
Carole Zarenski

Musicians

Percussion - David Clemons
String Bass - Gregory Padilla
Bass Vocalist- Robbie Allen

About the Director

Susan has been the director for Braintree Choral Society since the Winter of 2019. Prior to becoming the director, she had been the group's piano accompanist since 1996. In addition to directing the Braintree Choral Society, she was also the Music Director for the East Bridgewater Community Covenant Church until April of 2022.

During her musical career, Susan has directed and performed in hundreds of musicals throughout the South Shore, including with The Company Theater of Norwell, The Fiddlehead Theater of Westwood, Massasoit College Theater Group, and has served as Musical Director for Foxboro High School. Her love of musical theater began early when at age fourteen she started her own musical production company, C&G Productions.

An accomplished accompanist, Susan has performed with multiple choruses and orchestras in Massachusetts over the last thirty years, including Bridgewater State University Alumni Choir, Scituate Choral Arts Society, The Quincy Symphony Orchestra, and the Bel Canto Opera Company, to name a few.

Classically trained, Susan studied piano with Marlene Dubois, and Robert Brown, Conductor Emeritus of the Quincy Symphony Orchestra. Notable piano performances have included Carl Orff's Carmina Burana, Beethoven's Choral Fantasy, Poulenc's Chanson Gaillardes, Brahms' Vier Gesage Op. 70, and a childhood solo performance for the then Vice-President of the United States, George H.W. Bush.

Since 1990, Susan has taught hundreds of students in one-on-one piano instruction. In 2010 Susan retired as a piano instructor with the Braintree Public Schools in their Piano Conservatory Program.

Susan is honored to be directing this dedicated group of community singers in their historic 100th Season and is thoroughly enjoying this phase of her musical career!

Message from the Director

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to this historic 100th Anniversary Celebration Concert.

It is incredible that this group is marking it's 100th year of community performances on the South Shore, and as one of the oldest community choirs in the United States. The founder of the Braintree Choral Society, Cora Brooks, could not have imagined that the little chorus she started in her living room would be continuing in her work 100 years later.

The last four years have been difficult not only for Braintree Choral Society, but for all live performance groups. In the Spring of 2020, BCS was preparing for their Spring Concert when the Covid pandemic hit the United States and forced all live performances to cease.

When planning this concert, I wanted to ensure a celebratory atmosphere while at the same time honoring the difficulties that the world had shared through our pandemic experience, so I chose music that exemplified our recent human experience.

In Kevin Memley's Gloria in Excelsis Deo the cries of "Glory to God in the Highest" injects the celebratory atmosphere which is synonymous with our love of life, while the frequent meter changes mimic life's frequent changes, keeping us guessing where the music, and our life is taking us. In the middle section, the choir sings *qui tollis peccata mundi, deprecationem nostrum* "You who take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us – receive our prayer", shows the desperation many were feeling during the pandemic. Memley's final Amen movement assures the listener that they have been saved by the unknown and arrived home safely.

I hope the selections in this program will take you on a musical ride, striking the heart with familiar holiday songs, many played in a new and different style.

We look forward to another 100 years of great music!

Sincerely,

Susan M. Reilley
Director and Conductor

Program

Gloria in Excelsis Deo.....Kevin A. Memley

Featured performers: Colleen Booker, Jennifer Fearnley,
Elizabeth Milch, Rose Domingo-Horne, Suzanne Wasil, Anne Walsh

Season of Light.....Jacob Narverud

O Holy Night.....Arr. by Tim Harbold

Goin' To Bethlehem.....Jay Althouse

Sussex Carol.....Arr. by Elaine Hagenberg

INTERMISSION

Glad Tidings of Joy.....Mark Hayes

Holiday Road.....Lindsey Buckingham

December Through My Window....Arr. by Robert Sterling
Soloist: Jennifer Killelea

Light.....Arr. by Andy Beck

The Man with the Bag & Santa Baby...Arr.by Paul Langford

Merry Christmas.....Arr. by Ryan O'Connell

Beautiful Silent Night.....Arr. by Pinkzebra

The White World of Winter.....Arr. by Kirby Shaw

Gloria In Excelsis Deo

(Common Translation)

Glory be to God on high
And in earth peace, goodwill towards men,

We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee, for thy great glory
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Our Sponsors

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Mary Rezendes
Jamaal Thompson
Carole Zarenski

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Nancy Leeman
Katherine Malangone
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Brian & Mary McDonough...In recognition of Emily
Elmore's Longevity in BCS - 40 years!
Brendan McMullin
Erica Vinton

Our Sponsors continued

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grandchildren Isabelle & Alexander Thompson
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