



presents

SINGING FOR OUR LIVES

Saturday, May 21, 2022, 7:30 pm
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
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Honorary & Memorial Gifts

In Honor of Daryl & Jude
In Honor of my friend Brendan,
 who continues to triumph
In Memory of Julie Dowell
In Memory of Julie Dowell
In Memory of Julie Dowell
In Memory of Julie Dowell
In Memory of Julie Dowell
In Memory of Julie Dowell
In Memory of Julie Dowell

A special thank you to Sarah Harris for her skill and care, which allowed The Quire to provide custom-fitted masks for all of our singers for our Winter concert attire.

Please send corrections or questions to Amanda Schneider at treasurer@thequire.org

SINGING FOR OUR LIVES

PROGRAM

Singing for Our Lives

Holly Near, arr. **Nancy Grundahl**

With One Voice

Robert Seeley, **Robert Espindola**

Commentary, **Brian Kleis**

Thou, Lord, Our Refuge

Felix Mendelssohn

Where there is Light in the Soul (Chinese proverb)

Elizabeth Alexander

Commentary, **Cate Sheller**

Reading from **Walt Whitman**, **Rachel Baker**

I Celebrate Myself

James Deignan

INTERMISSION

Reading

Alex Heetland

Alex Heetland, **Amber Cummer**, *soloists*

Resilience

Abbie Betinis

Commentary, **John Crosheck**

Testimony (Inspired by the *It Gets Better Project*)

Stephen Schwartz

Derrick Clark, **Sarah Wilkins**, **John Crosheck**, **Audra M. King**,

Brian Tanner, **Rayford Harrison**, **John Froehlig**, *soloists*

Commentary, **Hailey Franzen**

Disappear (From *Dear Evan Hansen*)

Benj Pasek and **Justin Paul**

Brian Kleis, **John Crosheck**, **Rayford Harrison**, **Christopher Krebill**, **Sarah Wilkins**, **Cate Sheller**,

Trina Weiland, **Hailey Franzen**, **Elisabeth Ross**, **Kai Bouma**, **John Froehlig**, **Luke Lesnik**, *small group*

You Will Be Found (From *Dear Evan Hansen*)

Benj Pasek and **Justin Paul**, arr. **Mac Huff**

Luke Lesnik, **Elisabeth Ross**, **Kai Bouma**, *soloists*

Here's Where I Stand (From the motion picture *CAMP*)

Michael Gore, **Lynn Ahrens**, arr. **Greg Gilpin**

Jeffrey Allen Mead, *soloist*

The Quire of Eastern Iowa

Alex Heetland, artistic director – **Leslie Hyland**, accompanist

Soprano

Rachel Baker
Susan Beckett
Nancy Bell
Sara May Bellizzi
Amber Cummer
Emily Jasper
Elisabeth Ross
Cate Sheller
Trina Weiland
Sarah Wilkins

Alto

Laurie Aude
Hailey Franzen
Lily French
Elinor Levin
Lucy Marsh
Lorrie Metcalf
Donna Kaye Simonton

Tenor

Kai Bouma
Derrick Clark
John Crosheck
John Froehlig
Jacob Heid
Audra M. King
Christopher Krebill
James Miller
Jessica Westin

Bass

Rayford Harrison
Brian Kleis
Luke Lesnik
Jeffrey Allen Mead
David Roe
Brian Tanner
Nick Timmer

A N O T E F R O M T H E D I R E C T O R

This year has been a bit of a wild ride for the Quire. In December, we were excited to give our first concert since 2020. After that concert we were looking forward to starting up again strong in January for our spring season. With the surge of COVID-19 cases due to Omicron throughout January, we decided it would be best to wait for things to settle down a bit before getting back together. So, after a slightly truncated rehearsal time, we are proud to share with you our spring 2022 concert, *Singing for Our Lives*.

The first set reminds us of the importance LGBTQ choruses have had in bringing attention to the fight for LGBTQ rights. There is a little history lesson in it. Two songs (*Singing for our Lives* and *Thou, Lord, Our Refuge*) were important in the wake of Harvey Milk's assassination. *With One Voice* is a reflection on how all of us – queer and ally – can speak out against policies that discriminate against LGBTQ people. It was written to honor Steven Cozza, who led the charge to lift the ban on gay leadership in the Boy Scouts of America. Queer choirs have long given voice to those of us who didn't have one because we weren't suitable for conversation and helped us celebrate ourselves.

When I was interviewing with the Quire last summer, I told them that I wish younger Alex would have known a group like this existed. Small town Iowa wasn't a place where I saw queerness celebrated or even talked about. Some things have changed since I was growing up, and I don't claim my story to be universal, but somehow we keep having to fight the same fights. That is what this second set is about. When people are intent on taking books off library shelves because they have a queer character in them, remember that *Reading* and seeing ourselves in what we read is important. Sharing our stories is how we learn to see each other as humans. Our *Testimony* is important to help other people know that you will not *Disappear*, and *You Will Be Found*. Singing is one way the Quire stands up and says, *Here's Where I Stand*. I hope you will join us by telling your story and letting people know where you stand, too. All of us – Gay and Straight together, Trans, Bi, and Queer together, are *Singing for Our Lives*.

– Alex

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

- June 16 - **Riverside Pride**, Ft. Madison, IA
- June 18 - **Iowa City Pride**
- September 4 - **Coralville Pride**

If you're interested in singing with The Quire at Pride this summer, join us for an open rehearsal and meet-up on Sunday, June 5, at 6pm, at Zion Lutheran Church (310 N. Johnson St., Iowa City). For more information, contact us at info@thequire.org.

C R I S I S I N T E R V E N T I O N R E S O U R C E S

Some of the repertoire performed in this concert deals with difficult subjects and contains potentially-triggering lyrics. The Quire provides the following contacts for anyone who needs help.

- **Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** 1-800-273-8255
 - **Suicide Prevention Text Line:** send HOME to 741-741
 - **Mobile Crisis Dispatch:** 1-855-581-8111
 - **Trans Lifeline,** by and for trans folks: 1-877-565-8860
-

A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

The Quire wishes to thank...

- **Alex Heetland**, for musical leadership
 - **Leslie Hyland**, for accompanying us
 - **Connor Warren Smith**, for composing and arranging our 25th Anniversary set, *Songs of Our Pride*
 - **The Quire Board** (*Kai Bouma, Hailey Franzen, Emily Jasper, Brian Kleis, Beverly E. Mead, James Miller, Nolan Petersen, Amanda Schneider, Nick Timmer*), for year-round organization
 - **Jeffrey Allen Mead**, for poster and program design
 - **Zion Lutheran Church**, for rehearsal space
 - Our generous donors and sponsors, for making this all possible
 - **YOU**, for attending our performances and supporting us!
-



The Quire is a member of **Iowa Shares**, a coalition of social change, environmental, and cultural nonprofit organizations throughout the state of Iowa. Iowa Shares makes a direct impact on local communities through research, education, advocacy, and direct service.

Employees of the State of Iowa, The University of Iowa, Kirkwood Community College, Johnson County, City of North Liberty, City of Coralville, and the City of Iowa City have the opportunity each year to donate to Iowa Shares through the workplace. To donate directly, visit the Iowa Shares website.

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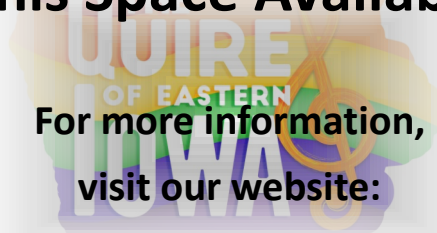
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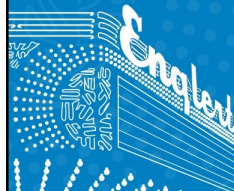
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book by **Peter Duchan**, music and lyrics by **Benj Pasek** and **Justin Paul**

adapted from the film *Dogfight* by **Nancy Savoca**

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by **Jonathan Larson**

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December 2 - 18, 2022

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

by **Christopher Durang**

directed by **Barry A. Schreier**

January 27 - February 5, 2023

The Pillowman

by **Martin McDonagh**

directed by **Brian Tanner**

March 3 - 12, 2023

Follies

book by **James Goldman**, music and lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**

directed by **Josh Sazon**

music direction by **Wes Habley**

April 28 - May 7, 2023

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