

**Harmonia
Choir
of
Ottawa**



with The Kanata Wind Ensemble



Requiem

Mozart

Programme

Harmonia Choir of Ottawa
Ottawa Choral Workshops Choir
Members of the Kanata Wind Ensemble & strings
June 1st, 2025

In Memory of Marilyn Ala-Kantti

Prayer of Aidan of Lindisfarne.....Mark Sirett*

Requiem in D Minor, K. 626 (completed by R. Levin)

Emili Lozier–Soprano, Katie Gratton–Alto, Harold Swaffield–Tenor, Victor Toma–Bass

- 1 Introit: Requiem aeternam (Chorus)
- 2 Kyrie eleison (Chorus)
- 3 Sequence No. 1: Dies irae (Chorus)
- 4 Sequence No. 2: Tuba miram (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass)
- 5 Sequence No. 3: Rex tremendae majestatis (Chorus)
- 6 SequenceNo. 4: Recordare, Jesu pie (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass)
- 7 Sequence No. 5: Confutatis maledictis (Chorus)
- 8 Sequence No. 6: Lacrimosa dies illa (Chorus)
- 9 Sequence No. 7: Amen (Chorus)
- 10 Offertory No. 1: Domine Jesu Christe (Chorus)
- 11 Offertory No. 2: Hostias et preces (Chorus)
- 12 Sanctus (Chorus)
- 13 Benedictus (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass)
- 14 Agnus Dei (Chorus)
- 15 Communion: Lux aeterna (Soprano, Chorus)
- 16 Communion: Cum sanctis tuis (Chorus)

* Canadian Composer



Honoured to collaborate for the first time with Harmonia Choir of Ottawa and director Kurt Ala-Kantti, Ottawa Choral Workshops (OCW) began

a decade ago as a summer training programme for novice singers. Since then, it has grown into a celebrated community initiative offering an inclusive and transformative approach to choral music-making. OCW welcomes singers of all levels, offering varied workshop formats that challenge and inspire each participant at their own pace. Singers engage deeply with great choral repertoire in a supportive environment focused on learning, growth, and collective artistry—culminating in public performances that celebrate their shared achievements. More than rehearsals and concerts, OCW builds community, confidence, and a profound connection to music. Upcoming offerings include a summer Evensong workshop with performances here at St. Thomas Alta Vista (July 27) and Holy Trinity Lascelles (Wakefield) this August, fall workshops featuring major choral works, and a choral retreat in Nicaragua in February 2026. Founded on the belief that singing is a human birthright, OCW continues to awaken and empower voices across the National Capital Region and beyond. Discover a community where singers grow, connect, and refine their most vital instrument: their voice.

www.OttawaChoralWorkshops.ca



Roland Graham, Conductor and Organist. Hailed as “an excellent conductor and inspiring educator,” Roland Graham combines his rare gift for teaching with natural ease at the podium to draw remarkable performances from the singers he leads. Beginning his musical journey in childhood, he builds on exceptional

mentorship to shape a teaching style that is both original and refreshing, grounded in the conviction that amateur singers are capable of more than they know. By framing music-making as an organic process built on simple, accessible foundations, Roland has empowered countless individuals to experience choral music in transformative ways—both during rehearsals and in performances that bring joy to participants and the community. He founded Ottawa Choral Workshops in 2015 as a summer singing program, which has since grown into a vibrant teaching movement that has presented concerts and retreats in Ottawa, Europe, and Central America. Roland holds degrees in

music from the Universities of Ottawa and Montréal. From 2010 to 2012, he served as Director of Music at Southminster United Church, where he founded the Doors Open for Music at Southminster (DOMS) concert series, the Master Piano Recital Series, and Rideau Chorale. In 2020, he also led a successful campaign to secure a permanent home for the 9' Steinway D606 — now Ottawa's premier, most accessible world-class concert piano

Ottawa Choral Workshops Choir

Roland Graham, Conductor

Soprano

Celia Fantacci

Lisa Poushinsky

Jill Watkins

Alto

Gillian Cooper
Lorna Clark

Felicity Davies

Jenny Jones

Tenor

Kevin Bowie

Eleanor Glor

Michael Norman

Bass

Richard Borsos
Steve Potter

Mike Newman

Etienne Grall

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Deux pianos, percussions et 150 choristes

LORENZO DI BELLA, GIANLUCA LUISI Piano
ANIA HEJNAR Soprano | JEFFREY CARL Tenor/Ténor
ALEXANDRE SYLVESTRE Bass/Basse

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Thursday, June 12
Jeudi, 12 juin
8 pm / 20h

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355, rue Cooper Street, Ottawa

Tickets/Billets : spnm.ca/concerts
Produced by / produit par CPNM-Ottawa

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du Nouveau Monde
chœurs et orchestre

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Harmonia Choir of Ottawa was formed in 2003 to provide an opportunity to perform choral music from Canada and around the world. While the choir has performed music from the choral canon, they also perform a broad range of repertoire with a focus on promoting local, and Canadian composers and

compositions. The choir has performed in concert with various musicians over the years, including Julie Nesrallah, Kenny Rogers, the Maple Leaf Brass, Divertimento Orchestra, Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, Regimental Band of the Governor General's Foot Guards, the Ottawa Wind Ensemble, and was invited to sing Brahms's German Requiem in Carnegie Hall with John Rutter directing, and at Lincoln Centre with composer Ola Gjeilo. This year the choir returns to Carnegie Hall, with an invitation from Alberta conductor Laurier Fagnan, to join his and other choirs in a performance of the Levin edition of the Mozart Requiem. In addition to regularly premiering new works, and arrangements, including commissions from Canadian composers Mark Sirett, Stephen Hatfield and Matthew Emery, the choir has taken on various projects including Harmonia's MosaiK Choral Festival, bringing top-notch Canadian choral conductors and composers together with local choirs to celebrate Canada's mosaic through music.

www.HarmoniaChoir.com



Kurt Ala-Kantti, Artistic Director and founder of Harmonia Choir of Ottawa and the new Ottawa Boys Choir has been directing community adult and children's choirs for over twenty years. He is presently also Director of Music for St. Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church, Music Director for the Cumberland Community Singers, as well as conductor of the Ottawa Children's Choir "Viva Choir" Orleans, having served as Concert Choir and Boys Choir director there previously. Kurt served as Artistic Director

for the national choral festival "Unison Festival Unison" in 2014. With a keen interest in choral performance and excellence, Kurt is a frequent paid chorister in local choirs, and has been a member of several local choirs, including being a founding member of the Ottawa Regional Youth Choir, singing professionally with the Juno Award winning Ottawa Bach Choir, and the Dicken's Carollers of Ottawa, and currently singing with the Ewashko Singers.



Tom Sear, Collaborative Accompanist, is also the Accompanist for Musica Viva Singers, Cumberland Community Singers, Choir of St Thomas the Apostle, the Ottawa Boys Choir and the Orleans Viva Choir of the Ottawa Children's Choir. In addition to working with choirs, he

also accompanies instrumental and vocal soloists and students, and enjoys teaching piano and music theory privately from his studio in Orleans. He studied at the University of Ottawa under Andrew Tunis and Jean Paul Sevilla. In 2007 he completed his studies and earned a Masters degree in music with a focus in piano performance. He also has some background as a percussionist (and indeed is a member of the orchestra today, playing timpani).

Harmonia Choir of Ottawa

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Director, Tom Sear, Collaborative Accompanist

Soprano

Natasha Beedie
Chloe Davies
Robin Dunbar
Sarah Gauld
Linda Last
Cristella Pari

Jimena Bordes
Janet Davies
Diana Farnand
Megan Jesmer
Aurelia Overtveld
Danielle Presentey

Allison Cassie
Alexa de Grandmont
Maureen Favretto
Jean Jordan
Joy Overtveld
Eunice Racicot

Alto

Ilona Bain
Alison Harding-Hlady
Teresa MacArthur
Elizabeth Moore
Jeanette Rive

Claude Bibeau
Alison Kennedy
Meiping MacIsaac
Molly Olshefsky
Ursula Scott

Joanna Crilly
Sharon Kuder
Aven McMaster
Helen Pace
Pirahashini Thayanithy

Tenor

David Lafranchise
Mark Sundaram

George Marshall
Harold Swaffield

Peter Simonyi

Bass

Alexandre Charest
Gianluca Ragazzini

Seán Kelly
David Salisbury

Michael Parkes
Victor Toma



experiences of its members and audience.

Gerry Stephenson, conductor, began his music career as a Clarinetist, studying in his hometown of Toronto at the Royal Conservatory. He attended Western University for both Music and Education degrees. Six years ago, he and his partner Susan decided to each pursue the bassoon.

David Yensen, conductor, is a graduate of Western University and taught music for the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board for over 28 years. He plays horn with the Kanata Symphony, Parkdale Orchestra, Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, Ottawa Pops Orchestra and the Ottawa Community Concert Band, and still finds time to indulge in home construction and renovation.

Mozart Requiem Orchestra

Violin 1

Brigitte Amyot - Stéphanie Belzil

Violin 2

Galina Rezaeipour - Micheline Kinsella

Viola

Kevin James – Gunnar Foerstel

Cello

Aidan Fleet

Bass

Vicente Garcia

Timpani

Tom Sear

Continuo

Roland Graham

Clarinet 1

John Hong

Winds from the Kanata Wind Ensemble

C5 Choir and Ottawa Boys Choir



Present:



Vive la compagnie!

June 8th, 2025

7pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church

2345 Alta Vista Drive

Tickets \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door

Students \$5; Children 12 and under Free



Prayer of Aidan of Lisdisfarne

We open our programme with the *Prayer of Aidan of Lindisfarne*, a beautiful new work for choir and piano by Kingston composer Mark Sirett, written in memory of Marilyn Ala-Kantti. Marilyn was a founding member of Harmonia Choir and sang for many years with the Ottawa Choral Society. She is fondly remembered by many in the Ottawa choral community as a passionate advocate for choral music and youth education, serving as Manager of the Ottawa Regional Youth Choir for over two decades. Aidan of Lindisfarne's prayer emphasizes a balance between solitude with God and service to the world. This message, and the quiet strength it embodies, is a fitting tribute to Marilyn's legacy of dedication and care.

Leave me alone with God as much as may be. As the tide draws the waters close in upon the shore, Make me an island, set apart, Alone with you, God, holy to you.	Then with the turning of the tide Prepare me to carry your presence to the busy world beyond, The world that rushes in on me, Till the waters come again and fold me back to you.
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Join us next season

Alta Vista Carol Sing
with Divertimento Orchestra
December 7th

Christmas Winds
with Ottawa Wind Ensemble
December 14th

MosaiK Choral Festival
with Guest Director Catherine Robbins
February 21st

Spring Concert
May 31st
TBC

Keep informed: <https://mailchi.mp/3bf29f68040a/harmonia-choir-mosaik>



HarmoniaChoir.com

info@HarmoniaChoir.com

Requiem in D Minor, K. 626 (completed by R. Levin)

The Requiem in D minor, K. 626, is a Requiem Mass by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791). Mozart composed part of the Requiem in Vienna in late 1791, but it was unfinished at his death on 5 December the same year. A completed version dated 1792 by Franz Xaver Süssmayr was delivered to Count Franz von Walsegg, who had commissioned the piece for a requiem service on 14 February 1792 to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of his wife Anna at the age of 20 on 14 February 1791.

At the urging of conductor Helmuth Rilling composer Robert Levin went back to the source materiel, including original sketches and scores and produced a new, hopefully more accurate, completion, including the Amen fugue left out of the earlier version, just in time for the 1991 Mozart bicentennial.

<p>INTROITUS</p> <p>1. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem. Exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis care veniet. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.</p> <p>2. Kyrie, eleison. Christe, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.</p> <p>SEQUENZ</p> <p>3. Dies irae, dies illa Solvat saeculum in favilla, teste David cum Sibylla. Quantus tremor est futurus, quando iudex est venturus, cuncta stricte discussurus!</p> <p>4. Tuba mirum spargens sonum per sepulcra regionum, coget omnes ante thronum. Mors stupebit et natura, cum resurget creatura, judicanti responsura. Liber scriptus proferetur, in quo totum continetur,</p>	<p>ENTRANCE</p> <p>1. Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them. You are praised, God, in Zion, and homage will be paid to You in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer, to You all flesh will come. Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them.</p> <p>2. Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.</p> <p>SEQUENCE</p> <p>3. Day of wrath, that dreadful day shall the world in ashes lay, as David and the Sibyl say. What horror must invade the mind, when the Judge shall come to examine all things closely!</p> <p>4. The trumpet's wondrous tone shall rend each tomb's sepulchral stone, and summon all before the throne. Death and nature with surprise, behold the trembling sinners rise, to meet the Judge's searching eyes. Then with universal dread, the book of consciences be read,</p>
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unde mundus judicetur.
 Judex ergo cum sedebit,
 quidquid latet, apparebit,
 nil inultum remanebit.
 Quid sum miser tunc dicturus?
 quem patronum rogaturus,
 cum vix justus sit securus?

5. Rex tremendae majestatis,
 qui salvandos savas gratis,
 salve me, fons pietatis.

6. Recordare, Jesu pie,
 quod sum causa tuae viae;
 ne me perdas illa die.
 Quaerens me, sedisti lassus,
 redemisti crucem passus;
 tantus labor non sit cassus.
 Juste judex ultionis,
 donum fac remissionis
 ante diem rationis.
 Ingemisco, tamquam reus:
 culpa rubet vultus meus;
 supplicanti parce, Deus.
 Qui Mariam absolvisti,
 et latronem exaudisti,
 mihi quoque spem dedisti.
 Preces meae non sunt dignae,
 sed tu, bonus, fac benigne,
 ne perenni cremer igne.
 Inter oves locum praesta,
 Et ab haedis me sequestra,
 Statuens in parte dextra.

7. Confutatis maledictis,
 flammis acribus addictis,
 voca me cum benedictus.

Oro supplex et acclinis,
 Cor contritum quasi cinis:
 gere curam mei finis.

8. Lacrimosa dies illa,
 qua resurget ex favilla
 judicandus homo reus.
 Huic ergo parce, Deus,
 pie Jesu Domine,
 dona eis requiem. Amen.

OFFERTORIUM

to judge the lives of all the dead.
 For now before the Judge severe,
 all hidden things must plain appear,
 no crime can pass unpunished.
 So what shall I so guilty plead?
 and who for me will intercede,
 when even saints shall comfort need?

5. King of tremendous majesty,
 who freely saves those worthy ones,
 save me, source of mercy.

6. Remember, kind Jesus,
 my salvation caused your suffering;
 do not forsake me on that day.
 Faint and weary you have sought me,
 redeemed me, suffering on the cross;
 may such great effort not be in vain.
 Judge of justice
 for pity take my sins away
 before the dreadful reckoning day.
 I moan as one who is guilty:
 owning my shame with a red face;
 suppliant before you, Lord.
 You, who absolved Mary,
 and mercy for the robber find,
 give me hope also.
 My prayers are unworthy,
 but good Lord, have mercy
 and rescue me from eternal fire.
 Provide me a place among the sheep,
 and separate me from the goats,
 guiding me to Your right hand.

7. When the accused are confounded,
 and doomed to flames of woe,
 call me among the blessed.
 Before you humbled, Lord, I lie,
 my heart like ashes crushed and dry,
 assist me when I die.

8. That day of tears and mourning,
 when from the ashes shall arise,
 my heart like ashes,
 crushed and dry.
 gentle Lord Jesus,
 grant them eternal rest. Amen.

OFFERTORY

<p>9. Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas omnium fidelium defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu. Libera eas de ore leonis, ne absorbeat eas tartarus, ne cadant in obscurum. Sed signifer sanctus Michael repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam. Quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.</p> <p>10. Hostias et preces tibi, Domine, laudis offerimus. Tu sucipe pro animabus illis, quaram hodie memoriam facimus. Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam, Quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.</p> <p>SANCTUS</p> <p>11. Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua Hosanna in excelsis.</p> <p>12. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.</p> <p>AGNUS DEI</p> <p>13. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam.</p> <p>COMMUNIO</p> <p>14. Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine, cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis, quia pius es.</p>	<p>9. Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, liberate the souls of the faithful, from the punishments of hell and from the deep abyss. Deliver them from the jaws of the lion, lest hell swallow them up, that they shall not fall into darkness. But may St. Michael, the standard bearer lead them to the holy light. Which was promised to Abraham and his descendants.</p> <p>10. Sacrifices and prayers of praise, Lord, we offer to You. Receive them on behalf of those souls we commemorate today. And let them, Lord, pass from death to life, which was promised to Abraham and his descendants.</p> <p>HOLY</p> <p>11. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.</p> <p>12. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</p> <p>LAMB OF GOD</p> <p>13. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, Grant them eternal rest. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them eternal rest forever.</p> <p>COMMUNION</p> <p>14. May eternal light shine on them, Lord, with your saints for ever, for you are good. Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them, for you are good.</p>
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