

# ALABAMA

AMERICAN CHORAL  
DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

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**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

## ***Collegiate Choral Festival***

DR. SHANNON JEFFREYS  
DR. NICHOLAUS CUMMINS  
DR. BETSY COOK WEBER

GUEST CLINICIANS

Thursday, November 7, 2024

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Montgomery, Alabama

## ABOUT THE CLINICIANS

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**Dr. Shannon Jeffreys** is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at the Georgia Southern University Gretsch School of Music in Statesboro, Georgia. Her focus is the *Southern Chorale*, teaching in the undergraduate and graduate conducting and music education curriculums, along with directing *Southern Gentry* barbershop ensemble. Dr. Jeffreys maintains an active schedule as a presenter, adjudicator, lecturer, and guest conductor from secondary to collegiate institutions throughout the United States. She serves as an international choral adjudicator with *Meeting Music* and on the faculty of *Harmony University* with the Barbershop Harmony Society.

Choirs under Jeffreys' direction have been featured on multiple state, national, and international conventions, most recently performing at the National Collegiate Choral Organization's National Conference. Internationally, *Southern Chorale* has won prizes and received acclaim at prestigious competitions in Austria, Hungary, the United States and Germany, including the famous International Chamber Choir Competition in Marktoberdorf, Germany. In 2019, Dr. Jeffreys received the Conductor's Award from the *Ave Verum International Choral Competition* in Baden, Austria.

Before coming to Georgia Southern, Jeffreys served as Director of Vocal Studies at Erskine College and Theological Seminary. She holds degrees in music performance and conducting from Birmingham Southern College, the University of Mississippi, and the University of South Carolina.

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**Dr. Nicholas B. Cummins** is the Director of Choral Studies at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi, where he conducts the Mississippi State University Singers and OPUS (TTBB ensemble) and teaches conducting and vocal music education methods. He holds a Bachelor of Music from the University of Mississippi, a Master of Arts from the University of Alabama, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from Louisiana State University.

Before joining the faculty at Mississippi State University, Dr. Cummins served as Director of Choral Studies at Northwestern State University. Under his direction, the Northwestern Chamber Choir achieved notable recognition, including performances at the 2024 Southern Region ACDA Conference and the 9th National Collegiate Choral Organization National Conference at the University of Maryland. The choir also earned distinctions such as Summa Cum Laude at the Laurea Mundi Choral Competition in Budapest, Hungary, 2nd place in the Ave Verum Competition in Baden, Austria, and 2nd place in the Leonardo da Vinci Choral Competition in Florence, Italy. Dr. Cummins has collaborated on two album recordings with composers Michael Trotta (ECS Publishing) and Richard Burchard (Centaur Records) and has commissioned new choral works from composers Vytautas Miškinis and John August Pamintuan.

Dr. Cummins is actively involved in presenting at regional and state conferences throughout the US. He has also served on the regional Southern ACDA board as Collegiate Chair and continues to serve on the board of the National Collegiate Choral Organization. He was previously

honored as an ACDA International Conducting Fellow in Brazil and will be conducting the 2025 South Carolina TTBB All-State Choir.

He is a member of several professional and honor organizations including the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Teachers of Singing, the National Collegiate Choral Organization, the College Music Society, the National Association for Music Education, Pi Kappa Lambda, and the International Choral Music Federation.

**Betsy Cook Weber** is active internationally as a conductor, clinician, adjudicator, and lecturer. In the summer of 2013, Weber became the thirteenth person and first woman to receive the Texas Choral Director Association's coveted Texas Choirmaster Award. She is editor of the Betsy Cook Weber Choral Series with Alliance Music Publishing. Weber also served for eight seasons as Director of the Houston Symphony Chorus, during which time she prepared choral-orchestral masterworks for some of the world's greatest conductors, including Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Christoph Eschenbach, Juraj Valcuha, Jane Glover, and Nicholas McGegan among many others. Choirs under Weber's direction, including the Moores School Concert Chorale, have been featured at multiple state (TMEA 2002, 2005, 2008, 2013, 2017) and national conventions including the American Choral Directors Association national convention in Miami in 2007 and Minneapolis in 2017. Concert Chorale was also the featured choir at the national convention of the National Collegiate Choral Organization in the fall of 2017.

Internationally, Weber has led Chorale to top prizes and acclaim at prestigious competitions in Wales, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, and Norway. Weber has prepared singers early music orchestras Ars Lyrica and Mercury Houston and is also routinely called upon to prepare singers for touring shows, including Josh Groban, NBC's Clash of the Choirs, Telemundo's Latin Grammys, Star Wars in Concert, Andreas Bocelli, Legends of Zelda, It's a Wonderful World, Dreamworks, and Final Fantasy. Before coming to the University of Houston, Weber taught vocal music (K-12) in the public schools. She holds degrees from the University of North Texas, Westminster Choir College, and the University of Houston.

## PROGRAM

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~Morning Block~

**8:50 a.m. WELCOME**

**8:55 a.m.**

**Alabama State University Trebled Soul**

Tyrone Hayes, conductor

Meg Griffin, collaborative pianist

God Be in My Head..... Alexander L'Éstrange  
(b. 1974)

Back Home in Indiana..... Derric Johnson  
(b. 1932)  
Superstition..... arr. Paul Langford  
Self-Talk.....Louis Corder  
(b. 1994)

**9:20 a.m.**

**Huntingdon College Concert Choir**  
Dr. Kacey Kennedy, conductor

Peace..... arr. Kevin Siegfried  
TaReKiTa..... Reena Esmail  
(b. 1983)  
Pirate Song (TTBB)..... Tim Y. Jones  
Hold Me Rock Me..... Brian Tate  
(b. 1954)  
When Our Voices Rise..... Stuart Chapman Hill

**9:45 a.m.**

**Lawson State Community College Concert Choir**  
Bruce Henderson, conductor

Take My Hand, Precious Lord..... arr. Nathan Carter  
The Majesty and Glory of Your Name..... Tom Fettke  
(b. 1941)  
Old Time Religion..... Traditional Spiritual  
arr. Moses Hogan  
In Bright Mansions Above..... Roland Carter  
(b. 1942)  
All My Trials..... Norman LuBoff  
(1917 – 1987)

**10:05 a.m.**

**University of Alabama at Birmingham Concert Choir**

Dr. Brian Kittridge, conductor

Cantate Domino..... Claudio Monteverdi  
(1567-1643)

*Sing to the Lord a new song, Sing and give praise to his name, for he has done marvelous deeds.  
Sing and exult and praise in songs with the harp and the voice, for he has done marvelous deeds.*

Ave verum corpus..... William Byrd  
(1540-1623)

*Hail the true body, born of/from the Virgin Mary:  
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for the sake of man.  
From whose pierced flank flowed water and blood:  
Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death.  
O sweet, O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary.  
Have mercy on me. Amen.*

Give Me Hunger..... Jake Runestad  
(b. 1986)

Time..... Jennifer Lucy Cook

Daniel, Daniel Servant of the Lord..... Undine Smith Moore  
(1904-1989)

**10:30 a.m.**

**Alabama State University Choir**

Dr. Kristofer Sanchak, director

Rebecca Taylor, collaborative pianist

Ezekiel Saw de Wheel..... Traditional Spiritual  
arr. William Dawson

James Gipson, soloist

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name..... Tom Fettke  
(b. 1941)

Pie Jesu..... Kristofer Sanchak  
(b. 1974)

*Pious Lord Jesus,  
Give them rest,  
and everlasting [rest].*

I Wanna Be Ready..... Contemporary African-American Spiritual Setting  
arr. Brandon Boyd

Tillmon Bethea, soloist

10:55 a.m.

**Jacksonville State University A Cappella Choir**

Dr. Eliezer Yanson Jr., conductor

Jagdlied..... Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809 – 1847)

*Through swaying treetops flickers a ray of gold,  
The misty valley lies far beneath the summits,  
The call of the hunting horn rings out from the far castle,  
The horses whimmy into the air, into the air!*

*Soon lands and lakes, soon scudding clouds  
Appear shimmering far off in the dizzying flight,  
Soon darkness again veils rider and horse,  
O love, O love, let me go!*

*The sounds push on further and further,  
Through woods and over moors; where, O where are they going?  
Invigorating freshness, sweet, fearful desire!*

*The high foliage flutters, the heart beats freely.  
And further and further the sounds echo on.  
The high foliage flutters, the heart beats freely.*

We Beheld Once Again the Stars..... Z. Randall Stroope  
(b. 1953)

*But soon it will be night; [and we must rise to the stars]  
Now is the time to depart this place,  
For we have seen and experienced it all  
Keep moving!*

*The wings of hell's monarch are heard nearby!  
But soon it will be night;  
I climbed toward paradise with no thought of looking back,  
And finally saw heaven and the supreme light,  
And beheld once again the stars.*

Cum Sancto Spiritu..... Hyo-won Woo  
(b. 1974)

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of goodwill,  
We praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we glorify You, we give You thanks for Your great glory.  
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, Amen.*

Kaisa-isa Nyan..... Nilo Alcala  
(b. 1978)

*Just one, two, or three of that.  
Four are alternating.  
Five: too noisy, it's disturbing.  
Six: a sound so loud! Seven: a dragon...  
Eight: pounds heavily on a puddle  
Nine: a box. Ten: a drawer*

My Soul's Been Achored in the Lord..... Traditional Spiritual  
arr. Moses Hogan

**11:20 a.m.**

**Shelton State Community College Shelton Singers**

Dr. Mark Brown, conductor  
Amy Ashley, collaborative pianist

Umoja Tunaimba – “United We Sing” ..... Victor C. Johnson  
(b. 1978)

Shelly Simmons & Noelle Douglas, percussion

Glory, Glory! I Feel Better.....arr. Adam and Matt Podd  
Noelle Douglas, soloist

A Jubilant Song.....Victor C. Johnson

**11:45 a.m.**

**University of West Alabama Choir**

Dr. Christopher Shelt, conductor

Wood..... Cecil Effinger  
from *Four Pastorales* (1914 – 1990)

Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree..... arr. Elizabeth Poston

Chanson Joyeuse de Noël..... F. A. Gevaert  
(1828 – 1908)

*Little Jesus, Adorable Savior, on Christmas Eve, Was born in the stable; Shepherds soon came To adore Him in His cradle, And three wise men were seen To offer as homage Myrrh, gold and incense, Ah! what beautiful gifts! For Jesus, in their eyes, is truly the King of Heaven!*

*The angelic choirs Sang Christmas! Let us mingle our hymns With the accents of heaven! Christmas! Christmas! Christmas! Let us all sing Christmas! Christmas! Christmas! Let us all sing Christmas!*

*The all-lovable God Was born in the stable. Graceful and beautiful, Graceful and beautiful! On the damp straw, Charming and candid Like a gentle lamb, Like a gentle lamb.*

*Little Jesus said the rosary, Leaning over the heart of his tender mother; It was he who made the Pater, The divine Pater noster, And his blessed voice, Greeting Mary, Said: Ave Maria, And then Gloria. We must therefore each day, Imitate this God of love.*

*The angelic choirs Sang Christmas! Let us mingle our hymns With the accents of heaven! Christmas! Christmas! Christmas! Let us all sing Christmas! Christmas! Christmas! Let us all sing Christmas!*

‘Twas the Night Before Christmas..... Ken Darby  
arr. Harry Simeone

~Afternoon Block~

**1:00 p.m. WELCOME**

**1:05 p.m.**

**University of Montevallo Concert Choir**

Dr. Melinda Doyle, conductor

Dr. Lynn Faulkner, collaborative pianist

The One Hundred Fiftieth Psalm..... Howard Hanson  
(1896-1981)

Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir, BWV 131..... Johann Sebastian Bach  
I. Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir (1685-1750)

*Out of the depths I cry Lord to you. Lord, hear my voice, hearken your ears to the voice of my supplication!*

How Do I Love Thee?..... Eric Nelson  
(b. 1959)

City Called Heaven..... Josephine Poelinitz  
(b. 1942)

Kaylie Hull, soloist

**1:30 p.m.**

**Faulkner University Chorus**

Dr. Allen Clements, conductor

Christus factus est..... Anton Bruckner  
(1824-1896)

*Christ was made obedient for us even unto death, even the death of the cross.  
Therefore, God also has exalted him and given him a name which is above every name.  
-Philippians 2:8-9*

Say Ye to the Righteous..... Randall Thompson  
(1899-1984)

I Heard a Voice from Heaven..... Charles Villiers Stanford  
(1852-1924)

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly..... arr. Paul Christiansen

Ain'-a That Good News!..... Traditional Spiritual  
arr. William Dawson



**1:55 p.m.**

**University of Alabama** University Singers  
Dr. Morgan Luttig, conductor

I Am Loved..... Christopher Harris

Antara..... Tracy Wong

*Between  
from sitting to standing  
challenge (your) heart  
strengthen your inner-self  
from stillness to running*

Perhaps..... Dale Trumbore  
(b. 1987)

O Schöne Nacht..... Johannes Brahms  
(1833 – 1897)

*lovely night! In the heavens,  
the moon gleams magically in all its splendour;  
about it, the sweet comradeship of tiny stars.  
The dew glimmers brightly on the green blades of grass;  
with great power, the nightingale sings out in the elder-bush;  
the young man steals quietly to his sweetheart - O lovely night!*

He's Got the Whole World..... arr. Cedric Dent

**2:20 p.m.**

**Auburn University** Chamber Choir  
Dr. William Powell, conductor  
Haein Kim, collaborative pianist

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal..... Traditional  
arr. Alice Parker

Deep River..... Traditional Spiritual  
arr. Moses Hogan

I Am Loved..... Christopher Harris

Arise, Beloved!..... Rosephanye Powell  
(b. 1962)

**2:45 p.m.**

**Miles College Choir**  
Dr. Valerie R. Harris, conductor  
Patrick J. Whitehead, assistant director/collaborative pianist

Ukranian Alleluia..... Craig Courtney  
(b. 1954)

Hallelujah Amen..... George Frideric Handel  
(1685-1759)

God Speaks to Each of Us..... Gwyneth Walker  
(b. 1947)

Poor Man Lazarus..... Jester Hairston  
(1901-2000)

Eyes Of All Wait Upon Thee..... Jean Berger  
(1909-2002)

Ain't Got Time to Die..... Hall Johnson  
(1888-1970)

**3:05 p.m.**

**Jefferson State Community College Jefferson State Singers**

Jessica Kaufhold, conductor

Psallite, unigenito (Singt und Klingt)..... Michael Praetorius  
(1571 - 1621)

*Sing to Christ the only begotten Son of God.  
Sing to the Redeemer, our Lord, the child lying in the manger.  
A little child lies in the small crib;  
All the lovely angels serve the child and sing to him sweetly.  
Sing and ring! Jesus, the child of God and Mary's little son!  
Our lovely little Jesus in the cradle, surrounded by little oxen and sheep!*

Lux aurumque..... Eric Whitacre  
(b. 1970)

*Light, warm and heavy as pure gold  
and the angels sing softly  
to the new-born baby.*

Vox populi..... Giedrius Svilainis  
(b. 1972)

*The voice of the people is the voice of God.  
Man is a friend to man.  
Where there is unity, there is victory.*

Esto les digo..... Kinley Lange  
(b. 1950)

*Where two or three are gathered in My name, there will I be also.*

The Lord Bless You and Keep You..... Peter C. Lutkin  
(1858 - 1931)

**3:30 p.m.**

**Snead State Community College Concert Choir**

Dr. Kathleen Ruhleder, conductor  
Dr. Monica Baker, collaborative pianist

Jesus Keeps Loving and I Keep on Singing..... Adam Cochran

Ave Maria..... Franz Schubert  
(1797-1828)  
arr. Russell Robinson

*Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb,  
Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.*

Der Sandmann..... Robert Schumann  
(1810-1856)  
arr. By Dan Miner

*I'm wearing two fine boots of buckram that have super-soft soles  
I'm carrying a little sack. Hurry! I patter quickly up the stairs  
And when I step into their room, the children are praying their prayer*

*I strew two little grains of sand in their eyes  
They sleep all night watched by God and the angels*

*I strew two little grains of sand in their eyes  
The pious children will soon go into a happy dream  
Now swiftly and quickly with sack and staff  
I climb down the stairs  
I can no longer stand idle; I have to visit many more*

*They are already nodding and laughing in a dream  
And I barely opened my sack*

Sam Was a Man..... Vincent Persichetti  
(1915-1987)

Cindy..... arr. Neil A. Johnson

**3:55 p.m.**

**Auburn University Men's Chorus**

Dr. William Powell, conductor  
Rusty McKinnell, student conductor  
Haein Kim, collaborative pianist

Riu Riu Chiu..... Mateo Flecha el Viejo  
My Heart be Brave..... Marques Garrett  
The Warrior..... J. Reese Norris

**4:20 p.m.**

**Alabama A & M University Choir**

Dr. Horace R. Carney, conductor  
Dr. Mira Kruja, collaborative pianist

Lord, We Give Thanks..... Undine S. Moore  
(1904 – 1989)  
In the Beginning Was the Word..... Rosephanye Powell  
(b. 1962)  
Anyhow..... Evelyn Pittman  
(1910 – 1992)  
Battle of Jericho..... Traditional Spiritual  
arr. Moses Hogan

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**Dr. Eliezer Yanson Jr** – Collegiate Choral Festival Coordinator, Alabama ACDA College & University Chair, Director of Choral Activities at Jacksonville State University

**Trinity Presbyterian Church, Dr. Mark Nabholz**, director of music

**Shaun Gates** – recording engineer

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