

**ONE VOICE** MINNESOTA'S LGBTQA  
MIXED CHORUS  
presents

# ONEarth

**OUTDOOR CONCERT**  
Celebrating our connections  
to each other and the earth  
**RASPBERRY ISLAND**

Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:00pm • Sunday, June 11, 2023 3:00pm

J. David Moore - *Interim Artistic Director*  
Paul Kovacovic - *Accompanist*

Raspberry Island Regional Park • 2 Wabasha Street St. Paul, MN 55107



June 11 only



• BUILDING COMMUNITY AND CREATING SOCIAL CHANGE BY RAISING OUR VOICES IN SONG. •

# WELCOME

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## FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to Raspberry Island! I have had the fantastic honor of being in the pilot's seat of One Voice Mixed Chorus since February – the experience has been challenging, delightful, provocative, hilarious, and intensely rewarding.

I am deeply grateful to the Chorus for the opportunity and I am eager to share with you the music we've been making during the last few months. ONEarth contains songs about water, its blessing and endangerment; frozen northern landscapes; songbird-filled forests; songs about climate anxiety and the commitment to personal transformation. We will sing about the earth as scenery, the earth as victim, the earth as sacred, the earth as home, the earth as us. Ultimately, we will be singing to reject the idea that there is any difference between Humanity and Nature – we are all a part of one earth.

– J. David Moore, Interim Artistic Director



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are delighted you joined us for ONEarth, under the summer sky in the heart of the Mississippi River!

As we conclude our 34th year as a chorus, I reflect proudly on the changes, challenges, and triumphs One Voice has experienced over the past 12 months. Just 6 months ago we were bidding farewell to our esteemed Artistic Director of 27 years, Jane Ramseyer Miller. Currently, we are preparing to welcome our new one, Kimberly Waigwa. I couldn't be more excited about the possibilities ahead, or more confident in One Voice's future with Waigwa at the artistic helm. You can read more about them on page 13 of this program.

I would like to thank J. David Moore for stepping in as our Interim Artistic Director this past season and leading the chorus during a unique period. David has described himself as the tugboat guiding the One Voice ocean liner to its next destination. David has aptly done just that, and we are forever grateful for it.

– Mitch Fantin, Executive Director

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**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** We acknowledge that we are singing and creating community together on the sacred traditional lands of the Dakota and Ojibwe people. It is an honor to live, work, and create art and music alongside Dakota, Ojibwe and other Indigenous peoples in the Twin Cities.

 **ONE VOICE** MINNESOTA'S LGBTQA MIXED CHORUS One Voice Mixed Chorus – Minnesota's LGBTQA chorus and one of the largest LGBTQA mixed choruses in the country – is known for its musical excellence, unique programming and a strong commitment to community outreach. One Voice's 125 singing members span the ages of 16 to 85, and are accompanied by a large "Fifth Section" of non-singing volunteers. Together, they dedicate their energy and voices to the One Voice mission: "Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song." Along with the a capella ensemble OVation, One Voice has performed for thousands of people in the Twin Cities, Greater Minnesota and beyond, bringing messages of hope, inclusiveness and equality to communities outside the Twin Cities area where LGBTQA resources are often hard to find. For over 33 years their community engagement and education programs have inspired transformation through passionate, vibrant, and creative performances at concerts, during community engagement tours and with the pioneering OUT in Our Schools program. One Voice is described by Chorus America as "one of the region's best ensembles."

 **OVATION** AN ENSEMBLE OF ONE VOICE MIXED CHORUS OVation is the portable version of One Voice—an a capella ensemble that brings One Voice's music and message almost anywhere. Since its founding in 2000, OVation has presented over 350 performances, reaching over 30,000 people in dozens of Minnesota communities, at choral festivals from coast to coast, and internationally in Canada and Ireland. OVation performs at 20-25 community engagement events annually, in venues that have included the Minnesota State Fair, the Northern Spark Festival, the Minnesota Arboretum, TwinsFest, Pride festivals, places of worship, and in partnership with community organizations. To book OVation for your event, sacred service, business, wedding, coming-out party, or birthday bash, visit [www.OneVoiceMN.org/BookUs](http://www.OneVoiceMN.org/BookUs).

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS



**BELWIN**

## Belwin Conservancy

[belwin.org](http://belwin.org)

Belwin Conservancy sparks passion for wild places through conservation, education, and immersive experiences on more than 1,500 acres in Minnesota's Saint Croix Valley. Join them on August 19 & 20 for Music in the Trees; a 2-day outdoor event featuring musicians collaborating and improvising among the red pine restoration.



## Converging Consciousness

[www.catherinedalton.net/converging-consciousness](http://www.catherinedalton.net/converging-consciousness)

Join composer Catherine Dalton and her collaborators as they co-create Converging Consciousness: A Plant & Human Co-Creation, a new multidisciplinary work inspired by listening to five plant relatives. Soprano Regina Stroncek's performance will be interwoven with stories by Dakota Anishinaabe author and poet, Tara Perron Tanağidaŋ To Win, and projections of the plant relatives and their home. Dana Boyle's botanical paintings of each relative will serve as both part of the score and projections as well as gifts for our donors. The project is set to premiere at The Southern Theater on October 14, 2023.



## Friends of the Mississippi River

[fmr.org](http://fmr.org)

Friends of the Mississippi River has been engaging people to protect, restore and enhance the Mississippi River and its watershed for 30 years. Based in the Twin Cities, this nonprofit stewards habitat, trains and inspires the next generation of environmental leaders, and advocates for innovative solutions to protect clean water in our changing climate. You can learn more and support this work at [fmr.org](http://fmr.org). Volunteer with FMR at a LGBTQIA2S+ Pride prairie planting at Nicollet Island on June 20.



## Community Members for Environmental Justice

[cmejustice.org](http://cmejustice.org)

Community Members for Environmental Justice (CMEJ) is a coalition of caring community members, mothers, and youth who are committed to addressing the environmental injustices occurring disproportionately in pollution-burdened neighborhoods in the City of Minneapolis. CMEJ is focused on organizing to push for government policies and decisions that reduce the levels of toxics and other issues identified by the community affecting community health.



## Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi

[wakantipi.org](http://wakantipi.org)

We engage people to honor and care for our natural places, the sacred sites, and cultural value within them. Our program areas are Urban Conservation and Restoration, Cultural Connections and Healing, and Environmental Education. These projects include our bird walks events, Gifts of the Plant Nation Webinars, Summer Indigenous Youth Program, and daylighting Lower Phalen Creek.

# ONEarth

Celebrating our connections to each other and the Earth

## CONCERT PROGRAM

*Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices that make noise.*

### **OUR (WATER) BODIES**

by Erika Rae

Read by Erika Rae

### **WATER FOUNTAIN**

Music and Lyrics by Nathaniel Brenner & Merrill Garbus

Arr. by Kristopher Fulton

### **HOPE FOR THE WORLD (WE SING)**

Music by Jacob Narverud; lyrics by Robert Bode

### **BRING ME LITTLE WATER, SILVY**

Music and Lyrics by Huddie Ledbetter

Arr. by Moira Smiley

Body percussion by Evie Ladin

### **KAWOUNO WAN GI PI**

Music & Lyrics by Vivian Aluoch & Vivian Anyango

Arr. by Brian Tate

### **EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE**

by Sarah McMahill

Read by Sarah McMahill

### **WOODSMOKE AND ORANGES**

Music and lyrics by Ian Tamblyn

Arr. by Rebecca Campbell

## **TUNDRA**

By Ola Gjeilo

Solo: Seralina Powers

## **A HONEYBEE'S TONGUE IS MORE SWISS ARMY KNIFE THAN LADLE**

by KateLynn Hibbard

Read by KateLynn Hibbard

## **ANIMAL CRACKERS (Vol. II)**

Music by Eric Whitacre, lyrics by Ogden Nash

1. The Canary
2. The Eel
3. The Kangaroo

## **MORE WATERS RISING**

Music and lyrics by Saro Lynch-Thomason

Arr. by Saunder Choi

## **NOW THAT ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN**

by Joyce Sutphen

Read by Bree Foster/Barrett Vann

## **FRAGILE**

Music by Timothy Takach, Lyrics by Joyce Sutphen

## **THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS**

by Wendell Berry

Read by Aimee Kuzenski/Adam Best

## **EARTH BLESSING**

Music by J David Moore, Text by Jack Manno

Solos: Kat Schwartz, Mark Todd, Ham Paulson, Wendy Martin

## **HERE ON THESE BRANCHES**

Music and lyrics by Sarah Quartel

## THE ARK

Music and Lyrics by Gerry Rafferty

Arr. by J. David Moore

Solos: Mark Todd, Jesse Pollock-Foote

## TIDES OF OCEAN

Music by Matthew Orlovich; Lyrics by Victor Carell

## FOR CALLING THE SPIRIT BACK FROM WANDERING THE EARTH IN ITS HUMAN FEET

(excerpt) by Joy Harjo

Read by Darcy Juhl and Ham Paulson/Lynn Larson and Kelsey Anderson

## SINGKAP SIAGA

Music, vocables and body percussion by Dr. Tracy Wong

Joint Solo: Anni Bowers, Kerry Green

## WOYAYA

Words & Music by Sol Armarfio

Arr. by J. David Moore

Solos: Ella Stookey, Nicole Vanderheiden

**“May our grandchildren’s grandchildren share legends of when we brought about the end of arrogance and waste. May they toss stones from shores, hearing our names echo in the ripples”**

**— Jack Manno**

# ARTISTIC STAFF

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## J. DAVID MOORE



**INTERIM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

David (he/him) is the founder and music director of the First Readings Project, a chamber choir that acts as a resource for composers in the development of new work. He has won numerous grants, awards, and residencies from organizations such as ASCAP, the Jerome Foundation, the American Composers Forum, and was the recipient of the 2001 McKnight Fellowship for Performing Musicians, along with his a cappella group Dare To Breathe. Well known to One Voice singers and audiences, the chorus has performed many of his compositions and arrangements. David also served as coach of OVation, the One Voice small ensemble, in 2012 and 2015-2016.

## EMILY NAJJAR-FIELD



**Assistant Director**

Emily's (she/her) music career began at age 6 when she joined the Children's Choir at Nativity of Mary Church in Bloomington, and for over 30 years she continued to study and teach choral and instrumental music. After earning a Bachelor's in Music from Gustavus Adolphus College, Emily worked with students of all ages as a freelance piano teacher, community theatre vocal director, conductor for youth and adult ensembles. Emily returned to school earning a Music Education degree from UMN and currently teaches 6-12 Music at Community of Peace Academy in St Paul.

## PAUL KOVACOVIC



**ACCOMPANIST**

Paul Kovacovic (he/him) has been the guest soloist with several orchestras, as well as the accompanist for artists such as singer-songwriter Ann Reed and Las Vegas entertainer and television host Tony Sandler. Kovacovic has won first prizes in the Thursday Musical, Schubert Club, and Indiana University Piano Concerto Competitions. Paul loves to teach and compose as well as perform. His piece Variations Catastrophiques won the Eric Stokes Song Contest and was performed by the new music ensemble Zeitgeist. Other performed compositions include Legend (violin concerto), Through the Darkness (piano concerto), To Earth and Back (symphony), and Our Voice of Truth (chorus).

## GARY RUSCHMAN



**OVATION MUSIC DIRECTOR**

In addition to his work with OVation, Gary (he/him) leads the vocal and choral programs at North Hennepin Community College and St. Timothy Lutheran Church of St. Paul, and also serves as music director for Mixed Precipitation's critically-acclaimed Pickup Truck Opera. Gary's scores have been presented by BBC Two, C-SPAN, Minnesota Opera, Madison Square Garden, and the Center for Interfaith Relations. A Chorus America Education and Community Outreach Award recipient and American Composers Forum grantee, he earned music degrees with honors from Northern Kentucky University and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Gary's discography includes a dozen recordings with Cantus, alt-rock and classical discs, and three solo albums.

# ONE VOICE PERSONNEL

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Executive Director  
Operations Coordinator  
Office Assistant  
Grant Writer

Interim Artistic Director  
Accompanist  
Assistant Director  
OVation Music Director  
OVation

Solo Understudies

Bass  
Percussion  
Guitar  
ASL Interpreter  
Stage Manager  
Stage Assistant  
A/V Coordinator  
Puppet, Mask, Costume  
Design & Production

Graphic Designer

Braille Program

Mitch Fantin  
Casey Illig  
Jen Rivera  
Mara Winke

J. David Moore  
Paul Kovacovic  
Emily Najjar-Field  
Gary Ruschman  
Anni Bowers, Anthony (Zoja) Chmielarczyk,  
Cathy Dalton, Erika Grossman, Rossianne Jaffe,  
Marg Nelson, Katy Nordhagen, Dean Olson,  
Claire Psarouthakis, Andy Tweeten

Wendy Martin, Aimee Kuzenski, Collin O'Brien,  
Sarah McMahill, Barrett Vann, Bree Foster

Gary Ruschman  
Jeffrey Gram  
Maja Randovanlija  
Gilda Houck-Markovitz  
Anna Schultz  
Hunter Schultz  
Ann Hodson

Bart Buch  
Seth Eberle  
Duane Tougas

Tony Horning

Jennifer Dunnam

# ONE VOICE MEMBERS

# On Leave

♪ Section Music Leader

\* OVation Ensemble

+ Membership Rep.

## SOPRANO

Britt Abel  
Sara Arthur-Noble #  
Mina Barsness  
Martha Bentley  
Kaela Bloemendaal  
Anni Bowers \*  
Melissa Cuddy  
Catherine Dalton ♪ \*  
Stefanie Foreman  
Gillian Gauntt #  
Kerry Green  
Callie Hensler  
Cheryl Hornstein  
Michelle Introccia  
Vicki Janisch-Tri #  
Darcy Juhl +  
Taylor Jung  
Cece Klueh  
Wendy Martin  
Sarah McMahonill  
Steph Pederson  
Seralina Powers  
Erika Rae  
Maria Reyes-Wrede #  
Kat Schwartz  
Kaiti Shelton  
Becka Thraen  
Elizabeth Vaught  
Irene Weinhagen #  
Wendy Wilflower #

## ALTO

Kelsey Anderson  
Saba Asefa  
Jessica Axmacher  
Sharon Barnd  
Erin Bontrager +  
Julia Callander #  
Mollie Dean # \*  
Sher Demeter #  
Jessica Erickson  
Rachel Everett  
Marely Feges  
Cathy Geist  
Jennifer Heaton  
Sarah Henderson #  
KateLynn Hibbard  
Megan Kelly  
Sherry Kruczek  
Aimee Kuzenski  
Lynne Larsen  
Liz McClear  
Karen Muleski  
Emily Najjar-Field ♪  
Margaret Nelson \*  
Kathryn Nordhagen \*  
Ham Paulson  
Claire Psarouthakis \*  
Lisette Schlosser  
Emery Scott  
Rachel Sher  
Israela Stookey  
Arie Von Gottfried

## TENOR

John Bagniewski  
Oscar Berg #  
Sarah Bizek  
Zoja Chmielarczyk  
Michael Dodson  
Branden Eldred  
Alessandro Fitzsimmons  
Luke Gagnon  
Brian Geving  
Erika Grossman \*  
Joel Krause #  
Kenny Niemeyer  
Collin O'Brien +  
Josh Peterson  
Shari Pleiss  
Jen Rivera #  
Wayne Schneider  
Nirmal Sundhar  
Mark Todd  
Barrett Vann  
John Whalen #  
Austin Wiebe  
Kory Wolter ♪

## BASS

Adam Best  
Emily Boyajian  
Scott Burglechner  
Devin Dolquist # ♪  
Will Drew  
Andrew Eldred  
Bree Foster  
James Gottfried #  
Adrian Hegeman  
Allan Henden #  
Rossianne Jaffe # \*  
Dave Jerde #  
Evan Johnson  
Andy Kedl  
Noah Kuklinski  
Jay Kurvers #  
Andrew Martin  
Dave McMahonill  
Vince Mokarzel  
Doug Munro  
Dean Olson \*  
Logan Olson  
Avery Pelletier #  
Jesse Pollock-Foote ♪  
Lane Skalberg  
Anthony Stanton #  
Andy Tweeten +  
Nick Van Sickle  
Nicole Vanderheiden  
Daniel Wassim

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Chair	Earl Moore
Vice Chair	Claire Psarouthakis
Treasurer	Kenny Niemeyer
Secretary	Liz Vaught
Member At-large	Matt Ruby
Member At-large	Joe Andrews
Member At-large	Mary Pat Byrn
Member At-large	Sarah Cohn
Member At-large	Katy Nordhagen
Member At-large	Dean Olson

One Voice is seeking new board members with skills in the areas of investment, finance, and governance.

If you are interested in considering board service, contact Board Chair Earl Moore – [earl@onevoicemn.org](mailto:earl@onevoicemn.org)

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## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

We are fortunate to have many dedicated individuals who generously volunteer their time and skills in service to One Voice. Many thanks to each member of our board of directors and the following chorus committee chairs:

DEVELOPMENT – Katy Nordhagen

FINANCE – Dan Levett

EQUITY & ENGAGEMENT – Sarah Cohn

MEMBERSHIP – Andy Tweeten

MUSIC – Artistic Director

PERSONNEL – Earl Moore

PRODUCTION – Anna Shultz and Joel Krause

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# DONORS AND SPONSORS

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



One Voice is a small but mighty non-profit organization that relies on a diverse group of donors.

Last year alone, 576 individual donors contributed gifts ranging from \$5 to \$20,000, and we could not be more grateful for that support!

Because of you we can continue building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song.

-Mitch Fantin, Executive Director

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## ABOUT OUR RAINBOW SCARVES

One Voice proudly wears rainbow 'kramas', or 'scarves', hand-woven by Cambodian LGBTQIA+ rights activist, Pheng Sanh; a trans man who weaves rainbow kramas to raise funds for the Cambodian Center for Human Rights. Pheng advocates for LGBTQIA+ families to be officially recognized by the Cambodian government and society.



Jane Ramseyer Miller & Pheng Sanh

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# MEET OUR NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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**KIMBERLY WAIGWA**

**(THEY/THEM)**

This past week, at our final rehearsal of the ONEarth season, I was honored and excited to announce One Voice's new Artistic Director with the chorus. Now, I'm delighted to share that news with you!

But first, I must extend my gratitude to the 12+ member team who worked tirelessly to make this moment happen. One Voice ran a thoughtful, 9-month long, highly involved, multi-faceted, national search that resulted in finding the right person at the right time. And the result is someone to be very excited about!

Drumroll please...

We are proud to announce the appointment of Kimberly Waigwa (goes by Waigwa | they/them) as our new Artistic Director. Waigwa has the choral chops, creative mind, and fresh vision that will guide One Voice successfully in the years to come. Most importantly, they have a proven and heartfelt commitment to building community and creating social change by raising their voice in song. Waigwa will officially join One Voice staff on July 17!

Waigwa is a conductor and educator with a focus on social justice and community building through and within music making—and central to that has been BIPOC and queer advocacy. As a result of their passions and interests, they have worked with GALA Choruses, the Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues, Phoenix Women's Chorus, Desert Voices, the Choir School of Delaware, and Temple University.

"In designing performances, I focus on creating a narrative arc, tracking a human and emotional journey through a mixture of intentional lyrics, musical variety, tempos, and effects. Managing the energy of the ensemble and audience through the program is crucial," shares Waigwa.

We are delighted to welcome Waigwa to the One Voice family and cannot wait for you to meet them and experience the magic and musicality they bring to the stage (and community). More information and opportunities to meet Waigwa are forthcoming. But in the meantime, I hope you'll join me in celebrating this good news and welcoming them to One Voice.

In song and community,

Mitch Fantin

Executive Director





# UNITY CHURCH— UNITARIAN

integrity • service • joy

An inclusive religious community  
that encourages lives of  
integrity, service, and joy.

In all we do, we strive to embody:

*Wonder*

*Open-hearted engagement*

*Courageous action*

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unity@unityunitarian.org

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## viitala byrn & ives law office



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