



Christine Noel
Artistic Director



Lift Every Voice

November 15-16, 2025



Celebrating the Contributions of Black Composers

The Providence Singers is an auditioned concert choir that performs choral masterworks, introduces New England audiences to new music, and presents concerts on themes of social justice. Recent concerts include Craig Hella Johnson's *Considering Matthew Shepard* and James Whitbourn's *Annelies*, with a libretto based on *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*.

Performing classical music by Black composers is an act of artistic enrichment for performers and listeners alike. Black composers have often been at the forefront of musical innovation, incorporating non-Western musical elements and taking inventive approaches to traditional forms. Their works offer performers and audiences new technical and interpretive aspects that expand and deepen musical understanding.

In addition to the musical enrichment this concert offers to all, it addresses issues of profound importance to BIPOC communities. Black composers use their art to challenge stereotypes and assert the intellectual and creative power of Black artists in spaces that often denied them access. Their music affirms the richness of Black cultural heritage and offers listeners a reflection of their own stories, struggles, and triumphs in a traditionally Eurocentric art form.

Concert Program

- Margaret Bonds - Credo
- Adolphus Hailstork - I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes
- Zanaida Robles - His Eye Is On the Sparrow (arranged)
- Reginald Wright - We Are the Music Makers
- Marques Garrett - Perfect Love, My Heart Be Brave
- Roland Carter- Lift Every Voice and Sing (arranged)





The Premier Choir of the Boston Children's Chorus will join the Providence Singers for the Sunday performance at Grace Church.

For BIPOC students and musicians, seeing and performing works by composers who share their heritage can be deeply empowering. It validates their place in classical music and encourages future generations to pursue composition, performance, and scholarship.

Kenneth Griffith is the Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Premier Choir at Boston Children's Chorus (BCC). He is a highly sought-after conductor, clinician, educator, and collaborative pianist who promotes music for social change.

During his time with BCC, Kenneth has led the chorus in major performances at some of the city's most prestigious venues, including Boston's Symphony Hall, the debut of a new musical, *WILD*, with the American Repertory Theater featuring Idina Menzel, the WGBH Holiday Celebration with operatic tenor Lawrence Brownlee, and civic performances such as a performance for the Earthshot Prize and the investiture of US Attorney Rachael Rollins, and events for the Red Sox and Boston Celtics.



Thanks to generous sponsors, we are able to offer a limited number of free tickets for the Sunday concert to students and their chaperones.

Discounted group rates for organizations are available for either concert.



Tickets available now through Eventbrite. For group discounts and sponsored student tickets, please contact Elaine Cunningham at info@providencesingers.org.

Saturday, November 15, 2025, 7 PM

St. Mary of the Bay
645 Main Street, Warren, RI

Sunday, November 16, 2025. 3 PM

Grace Episcopal Church
300 Westminster Street, Providence, RI



For more information visit
www.ProvidenceSingers.org



LIFT EVERY VOICE Soloists

Farah Darliette
Soprano



Orlando Montalvo
Tenor



Dana Whiteside
Baritone



Farah Darliette is a dynamic soprano whose artistry spans opera, original composition, and genre-blending performance. Her song “The Universe Next Door”—a dreamy, poetic piece blending guitar, soprano vocals, and iPhone recording—explores parallel realities and emotional longing with a whimsical, philosophical twist. Farah is active on platforms like Clubhouse, where she co-hosts music and book club rooms. She describes herself as a “Sonic Sorceress” and enjoys composing in styles like country and heavy blues/rock. She’s been involved with Castle of Our Skins, a Boston-based initiative celebrating Black artistry in classical music. Through this, she’s contributed to performances that highlight underrepresented composers and stories. Farah’s blend of operatic finesse, poetic songwriting, and cultural engagement makes her a standout voice in today’s musical landscape.

Tenor **Orlando Montalvo Avalo** is a versatile performer praised for his artistry across musical theater, opera and oratorio. As a Young Artist with the Opera Company of Middlebury, he has appeared in roles including Parpignol (*La Bohème*), Gherardo (*Gianni Schicchi*), and Dormont (*La Scala di Seta*). He also debuted as Count Belfiore in *Die Gärtnerin aus Liebe* and Alfred in *Die Fledermaus* through Middlebury College’s German for Opera Singers program. Montalvo made his professional debut with New Orleans Opera as Don Curzio in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and has performed with LSU Opera as Justice Scalia (*Scalia/Ginsburg*) and Encore Opera Company as Monostatos (*The Magic Flute*). From 2021 to 2023, he was a member of the College Light Opera Company, where he appeared as Frederic (*The Pirates of Penzance*), Alexis (*The Sorcerer*), and Sebastian (*The Little Mermaid*). He holds vocal performance degrees from Louisiana State University and Rhode Island College.

Dana Whiteside is a Boston-based baritone acclaimed for his rich tone, versatility, and expressive musicality. He has performed widely in orchestral works, opera, and art song, appearing with ensembles such as Boston Baroque, Emmanuel Music, and the Kennedy Center’s Washington Chorus. His repertoire spans from Bach to Copland, with standout performances in *St. John Passion*, *Carmina Burana*, and *A Little Night Music*. A graduate of Holy Cross College and the New England Conservatory, Whiteside is also a member of the Grammy-nominated Skylark Vocal Ensemble. Offstage, he serves as Deputy Director for Community Economic Development with the Boston Planning & Development Agency, exemplifying a dual devotion to civic life and the arts.



The Providence Singers value and celebrate diversity, aiming to create a choral community where all are respected and valued. We aspire to present high-quality choral performances that represent and reflect the unique cultures, perspectives, and experiences of the people, groups, and communities we serve. We embrace musical inclusion and actively pursue opportunities to broaden our membership, board, partner organizations, and audiences as we strive to expand access, connections, and engagement in creative exploration of the choral arts.

Our 55th Season

November 15-16, 2025 - LIFT EVERY VOICE

A Celebration of the Contributions of Black Composers
with the Premier Choir of the Boston Children's Chorus

December 14, 2025 - Handel's *Messiah*

with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra

March 14, 2026 - *Carmina Burana* (version with 2 pianos and percussion)
with the Rhode Island Children's Chorus

May 30-31 - THE HOPE OF LOVING

Music for choir, string quartet, and piano

www.ProvidenceSingers.org