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clevelandchamberchoir.org

Cleveland Chamber Choir Announces 2026-27 Season

Following an enormously successful eleventh year, the Cleveland Chamber Choir, the region's premier professional choral ensemble, is proud to announce its 2026-27 season. Renowned for its elegant sound and stylistic versatility, the choir will present a series of concerts featuring music spanning eight centuries, and highlighting the breadth and beauty of a cappella music.

The choir's twelfth season features four choral programs plus several camera series recitals, showcasing quartets of singers. The concerts reflect the choir's commitment to choral music as a vehicle for good in the world that should be accessible and welcoming to all. Unique among professional arts organizations, the choir continues its tradition of *pay what you wish* tickets for concerts, a portion of which go to support local charity partners.

The season marks Artistic Director Gregory Ristow's fourth year leading the ensemble. "I'm especially excited about the season's strong a cappella focus, and our return to commissioning new music," said Ristow, who was praised by critics last season for, "his customary economy and calm authority," (Kevin McLaughlin, *Cleveland Classical*) as well as, "his masterful job of keeping everything together, but also for bringing out revelatory musical details and memorable nuances in music we thought we already knew inside and out," (Daniel Hathaway, *Cleveland Classical*).

Season Kick-off: A Night at the Cabaret Fundraiser

On **August 13, 2026**, join the choir at the BOP STOP as Cleveland Chamber Choir singers showcase songs from musical theater, the American Songbook and more! Your ticket goes beyond just a night of entertainment; funds raised during the evening contribute to the choir's success and the inclusive programming and charitable partnerships undertaken by the choir, as a nonprofit committed to providing free live music to the Northeast Ohio region.

The 2026-27 Season's Choral Programs

All of the season's choral programs are offered with *pay what you wish* tickets, thanks to the generosity of our donors and foundation supporters.

The season will open and close at **Trinity Cathedral**, where Cleveland Chamber Choir continues in their third season as *Artist in Residence*. The Cathedral has a storied history of bringing vibrant performances to downtown Cleveland.

On **September 25–27, 2026**, the choir will present ***Path of Miracles***, Joby Talbot's 2005 semi-staged contemporary choral work tracing the Camino de Santiago. Drawing on medieval texts, Catholic liturgy, and sung in seven languages, the piece weaves global musical influences into a moving meditation on endurance and unity, creating a shared journey of fortitude, reflection, and transformation.

Inspired by themes of pilgrimage and search for connection, a portion of all donations will be directed to the **Interfaith Group Against Hate**, to support their mission of working with community partners united by the belief that white supremacy must be confronted and the desire to create a society where people of all races and religions thrive together.

Marking All Souls' Day, CCC will present Tomás Luis de Victoria's *Officium Defunctorum* on **November 5 & 6, 2026**. Often referred to as his *Requiem*, this Renaissance masterwork will be performed alongside Eleanor Daley's *Requiem*, a stunning work interspersing the traditional Latin Requiem text with English poetry.

Inspired by musical themes of remembrance and loss, a portion of all *pay what you wish* ticket funds will be directed to **Joel's Place for Children**, which provides free, secular grief support for school-aged children and their families who have experienced loss.

On **April 3, 2027**, the choir joins forces with **Alla Boara** to present ***Work & Song***, a program rooted in heritage, storytelling, and innovation, with Alla Boara's folk-jazz reimagining of near-extinct Italian regional songs. Featuring new choral arrangements by jazz pianist Joe Leaman, the two ensembles come together at Trinity Cathedral for this immersive musical performance.

The choir explores the connections between music and the cosmos on **May 7 & 8, 2027**, with ***Music of the Spheres***, centered around Kile Smith's *The Consolation of Apollo*, with additional works by Melissa Dunphy, Claudio Monteverdi and others. The concert will include stunning space photography from NASA. Featured on the program will be the premiere of a newly commissioned three-movement choral work by Calvin Ray Shawler, a student at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music whose compositions have been

premiered by the Poeisis Quartet and Oberlin's Now Chorale. Furthering representation by NEOhio, the concert includes Corey K. Rubin's *Gold on Every Cloud*, which the choir premiered in 2023. This concert will also feature a side-by-side performance with local high school choirs, building on the choir's highly successful educational programming.

Inspired by themes of curiosity and discovery, a portion of all *pay what you wish* ticket funds will support **Rise Up: Northeast Ohio**, which provides immersive science experiences for public school students in Cleveland.

Pre-concert talks will be offered prior to each concert this season, offering insightful perspectives on the music to be performed that evening.

The 2026-27 Camerata Series

As part of its Camerata Series, two programs will be offered by small ensembles of singers from the Cleveland Chamber Choir. In December, enjoy ***In Four Voices***, featuring Americana *a cappella* choral music. In February and late spring, enjoy the delightful ***Liebeslieder Waltzes*** by Johannes Brahms, featuring four singers and four-hand piano. These will be presented in collaboration with Trinity Cathedral's free Brownbag Series, the Cleveland Museum of Art's free Chamber Music Series, and other music programs throughout Northeast Ohio.

The choir is grateful for the grant support provided by the **Bascom Little Foundation**, the **Cleveland Foundation**, **Cuyahoga Arts & Culture**, **Ohio Arts Council**, **The George Gund Foundation**, and support by **Trinity Cathedral** as named *Artist in Residence*. More information about the Cleveland Chamber Choir, its singers, leadership and concerts may be found at clevelandchamberchoir.org.

Concert Dates & Locations

A Night at the Cabaret Fundraiser

Thursday, August 13, 2026, 7:00pm, BOP STOP, 2920 Detroit Ave., Cleveland

Path of Miracles

Friday, September 25, 7:30pm, Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland

Saturday, September 26, 7:30pm, Fairchild Chapel, 50 W. Lorain St., Oberlin

Sunday, September 27, 4:00pm, Christ Presbyterian Church, 530 Tuscarawas St. W., Canton

*This concert generously supported by the Concert Series at CPC

Victoria's Requiem

Friday, November 6, 7:30pm, Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland

Saturday, November 7, 7:00pm, First Lutheran Church, 1019 W. 5th St., Lorain

Work & Song

Saturday, April 3, 2027, 7:30pm, Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland

Music of the Spheres

Friday, May 7, 7:30pm, West Shore Unitarian, 20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River

Saturday, May 8, 7:30pm, Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland

Camerata Series

In Four Voices: Americana

Wednesday, December 2, 2026, noon, Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland

Wednesday, December 16, 2026, 6:00pm, Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Blvd,

Sunday, December 20, 2026, 4:00pm, Judson Manor, 1890 E 107th St, Cleveland

Brahms' *Liebeslieder Waltzes*

Wednesday, February 17, 2027, noon, Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland

Sunday, March 7, 2027, 4:00pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 127 Cherry Rd NE, Massillon

Wednesday, May 19, 2027, 6:00pm, Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Blvd,
Cleveland

