

# WOMEN'S VOICES RISING by the SEA

## ChoralFest at the Ferry Beach Conference Center, Saco, ME



May 2019

### Here Are the Pieces We Will be Rehearsing for Our Week Together, July 13 to 19

Our Music Director, Jeff Lipton, has picked out some wonderful pieces for us to perform for ChoralFest this summer. You'll find links to listen to the music in the body of the cover email or search for all-women groups performing these pieces on YouTube.

We will be purchasing copies of each of the performance pieces and asking attendees to cover the cost when they arrive. These copies will then be theirs to take home. The exact amount, estimated to be under \$20, will be communicated to all attendees before the conference.

#### Music for Thursday night's talent show (two pieces)



♥ **Penny Lane** by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, arranged by Audrey Snyder  
The lyrics refer to a street in Liverpool and makes

mention of the sights and characters that McCartney recalled from his upbringing in the city. Snyder's arrangement mixes the well known melody, mostly in the first alto part, with whimsical, intricate harmonies.

♥ **My Luve's Like A Red Red Rose** by Patti Drennan

This SSAA arrangement of a 1794 poem, transcribed by the Scottish poet Robert Burns from traditional sources, has beautiful harmonies and a memorable melody that support the well-loved poem.

#### Music for Friday (five pieces)

♥ **River in Judea** by Linda Marcus and Jack Feldman, arranged by John Leavitt  
This beautiful gospel-styled song is based on a secular text spun from "the river-is-life" metaphor. Its lyrics inspire hope and call us to summon the will to go on when we are weary and downhearted.

♥ **The Road Home**, lyrics by Michael Dennis Browne, adapted by Stephen Paulus

You will recognize the familiar tune "Prospect" from Southern Harmony 1835. Brown's lyrics call us to rise to find the road that with love will lead us home to where we belong.

♥ **Homeward Bound**, words and music by Marta Keen, arranged by Jay Althouse

Keen originally wrote the hauntingly beautiful lyrics and music of this piece as a solo for a loved one who was beginning a new life journey. She evokes the push and pull of being free to find your calling and at the same time promising in time to return to your roots.

♥ **O Love**, lyrics by George Matheson, music by Elaine Hagenberg  
Matheson composed this familiar hymn in 1882 to capture his resolve, despite blindness and desertion, to place all his trust in love. Hagenberg has created a beautiful updated version of Matheson's hymn that celebrates that surrender to love and joy that brings us peace. The tree-lined grove with its altar table that reminds us that God is Love will be the perfect backdrop as we sing.



♥ **Still I Rise** by Rosephanye Powell  
Powell was commissioned by Vox Femina to set the poem of the same name by Maya Angelou to music for women's voices. Although it has become an anthem to salute women's perseverance through physical and emotional abuse, particularly African-American women, its lyrics also inspire hope for all those who face prejudice and discrimination.

### Just a Few Rooms Left for ChoralFest Attendees

If you are planning to attend ChoralFest but have not registered as yet, we wanted to let you know that the Ferry Beach has less than 10 rooms left for ChoralFest attendees. GAYLA, our partner conference, reserves Rowland, one of the three dorms on campus, for their attendees and they have filled all the rooms. If there are additional attendees for GAYLA, they will begin to fill rooms that are currently being held for ChoralFest in the other two dorms.

If you are considering joining us to sing and still have questions or concerns, please email or call me or speak to other attendees you know. We'd be happy to help you decide if ChoralFest is a good fit for you. We'd love to have you pick up those remaining rooms and attend the conference.

**The easiest way to register is to call 207-282-4489, ext. 1, and talk to someone in the registration office.** You can also register by going to [www.ferrybeach.org/choralfest](http://www.ferrybeach.org/choralfest). This is our page on the Ferry Beach website. It has all of the information about our conference in one place.



### ChoralFest 2019

July 13 to 19

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