



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 15, 2023  
CONTACT: Catherine Harsono | 703-951-7849  
press@alexandriachoralsociety.org

Alexandria, VA – The Alexandria Choral Society celebrates American composers in its spring concert and gala - ***American Fragments*** - on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria.



Featuring a musical blend of spirituals and folk traditions on poetry, Alexandria Choral Society presents contemporary arrangements from the American choral repertoire that transcend culture, race, and nationality, speaking a powerful message of hope, affirmation, acceptance, harmony and unity.

A selection from William Averitt's '*Afro-American Fragments*', his 1991 setting of Langston Hughes' poetry, will be accompanied by four-hand piano, as will the hauntingly beautiful '*Homeward Bound*', Mack Wilberg's arrangement of the words and music of Marta Keen.

Included in this collection of well-loved American composers, Artistic Director Brian Fontaine-Isaac has selected pieces by distinguished women composers in this concert's repertoire, including the prolific singer-songwriter Karen Marolli in '*Until Love is Spoken*', as well as notable women of color in '*We Are*' by accomplished composer Ysaye Barnwell, and the original composition, '*We Sing as One*' by the versatile composer of the next generation, B. E. Boykin.

Don't miss this presentation of beautiful melodies that honor the humanity and diversity in American music.

Following the concert, join us for our gala and silent auction in the Grand Hall, featuring items donated by local shops and restaurants.

Tickets are available now at  
<https://www.alexandriachoralsociety.org/american-fragments>.

As a non-profit performing arts organization, ACS strongly believes that financial capacity should never be a barrier to experiencing quality choral programming and has adopted a "Pay What You Can" model. The suggested ticket price is \$30.

Masks are recommended, though not required, at this performance.

#### *About Alexandria Choral Society:*

For half a century, Alexandria Choral Society has striven to enrich the community with a broad spectrum of choral works, from the Renaissance to modern American composers, from small chamber pieces to major works for chorus and orchestra, and from a great variety of musical cultures. Since its founding in 1970, ACS has delighted audiences year in and year out. Under the current leadership of Brian J. Fontaine-Isaac, who was selected as Artistic Director in 2017, ACS has premiered new works by Christopher Hoh, Jonathan Kolm, Lori Laitman and Tawnie Olson. With thoughtful programming, ACS is expanding the choral repertoire in the city of Alexandria and greater Washington region.

For more information visit [alexandriachoralsociety.org](http://alexandriachoralsociety.org). Follow ACS on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

*Our season is supported in part by the City of Alexandria, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and The Ross Roberts Fund for the Arts at the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia.*

