

Kevin McBeth, conductor  
 Take 6  
 St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus  
 Kevin McBeth, director

Thursday, December 20, 2018  
 at 7:30PM

**COLERIDGE-TAYLOR***Christmas Overture***JEFFERY AMES***A Festive Praise***orch. Michael B. Dunsmoor**

St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**LEONTOVICH/arr. Cates***Carol of the Bells*

St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**arr. Dawson**

"Mary Had a Baby"

Beth Enloe Fritz, conductor  
 Samantha Minor, soprano  
 St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**ROBERT RAY***He Never Failed Me Yet***orch. Keith Christopher**

Cynthia Davis, soprano  
 St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**DAVID PACK**

"The Biggest Part of Me"

**orch. Keith Christopher****BERNARD/arr. Goodwin***Winter Wonderland***BRIAN MCKNIGHT/arr. Dent**

"He Never Sleeps"

Take 6

**CEDRIC DENT/arr. Goodwin**

"Family of Love, Family of God"

Take 6  
 St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**arr. Goodwin**

"Joy to the World"

Take 6

INTERMISSION

**arr. Floyd**

“Oh What a Wonderful Child  
(Glory to the Newborn King)”

Cassandra Gilyard, alto  
Charles Stancil, bass  
St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**arr. Speed**

“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”

Karen Hylton, soprano  
St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**ANITA WATKINS-STEVENS**

“...And He Blessed My Soul”

Randell McGee, baritone  
St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**PAUL DAVID WILSON**

**arr. Warren/Jackson/  
Kibble/Hey/Chinn**

“Hallelujah” from *Handel’s Messiah*:  
*A Soulful Celebration*

*In Memory of Curtis McGruder*

Reginald Davis, bass  
St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**BAKER/arr. Goodwin**

“Do You Hear What I Hear?”

Take 6

**arr. Speed**

“Mary”

Take 6  
St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

**BRAHE/orch. Dent**

**CEDRIC DENT**

“Bless This House”

“Over the Hill Is Home”

Take 6

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**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

This concert is supported by **Monsanto Fund.**



## **KEVIN MCBETH**

Kevin McBeth was appointed Director of the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus in January 2011, and is also the founding Director of the St. Louis Symphony Holiday Festival Chorus. He serves as the Director of Music and Worship at Manchester United Methodist Church in suburban St. Louis. He was recently Adjunct Professor in Choral Music at Webster University.

He has conducted honor, festival, and touring choirs in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain. Previous appointments include assistant conductor of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus and music director of the St. Louis Metro Singers.

With the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, he has conducted concerts with Oleta Adams, Jennifer Holliday, and Boyz II Men, as well as the July 4th Celebration under the Gateway Arch. McBeth recently led concerts at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and is a frequent presenter at regional and national conferences for the American Choral Directors Association. His orchestral conducting credits include performances with the Indianapolis Symphony, Houston Civic Symphony, the New England Symphonic Ensemble, and the Distinguished Concerts Orchestra of New York. Most recently, McBeth conducted a concert tour to Italy, with a performance at St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City.



## TAKE 6

Take 6 (Claude McKnight, Mark Kibble, Joel Kibble, Dave Thomas, Alvin Chea, and Khristian Dentley), heralded by Quincy Jones as the “baddest vocal cats on the planet!”, is the quintessential a cappella group and model for vocal genius. Six virtuosic voices united in crystal clear harmony, against a backdrop of syncopated rhythms, innovative arrangements, and funky grooves that bubble into an intoxicating brew of gospel, jazz, R&B, and pop. With praise from such luminaries as Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder, Brian Wilson, Ella Fitzgerald, and Whitney Houston, the multi-platinum selling sextet has toured across the globe, collaborated across genres, and is recognized as the pre-eminent a cappella group in the world.

With the popularity of televised vocal competitions such as the explosive a cappella show *The Sing Off* and the mania over singing driven comedy-dramas like *Glee* and *Smash*, Take 6 is the original torchbearer. Two major recent events reminded everyone of this as Take 6 triumphed among a gathering of stars including Celine Dion, Lionel Richie, Justin Timberlake, Stevie Nicks, and Ne-Yo. At Walmart’s 50th Anniversary celebration, Take 6 captivated the audience with their rendition of the Louis Armstrong hit, “What A Wonderful World.” Showing the global reach of this phenomenal group, Take 6 closed the show with Ladysmith Black Mambazo to a standing ovation! Two weeks later at the behest of legendary Producer Phil Ramone, Take 6 thrilled a sold-out audience at the Songwriters Hall of Fame Awards performing with and honoring legendary singer-songwriter Ben E. King on his classic “Stand By Me.” As a group that knows no musical bounds, they then brought the house down with their tribute to folk icon Woody Guthrie with “This Land Is Your Land.”

Take 6 has come a long way from their days at Huntsville, Alabama’s Oakwood College where McKnight formed the group as The Gentleman’s Estate Quartet in 1980. The group eventually became known as Alliance, but when they signed to Reprise Records in 1987 they found that there was another group with the same name, so they became Take 6. Their self-titled debut CD won over jazz and pop critics and they’ve never slowed down.

What makes the music and the group last this long? The answers are direct and simple: faith, friendship, respect, and love of music. From their exceptional Christmas Show to their innovative symphony shows, these qualities are at the heart of the Take 6 phenomenon.

## ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY IN UNISON CHORUS | 2018/2019

Kevin McBeth  
*Director*

Harry Cecil  
*Assistant Director*

Beth Enloe Fritz  
*Assistant Director*

W. Christopher White  
*Accompanist*

Susan D. Patterson  
*Manager*

AJSR  
Carlotta Algee-Stancil +  
Cassandra Allen  
Damon N. Ambus  
Carl L. Anderson  
Brian Andrews  
Gregory Bailey  
Glenda Bastain  
Tom Baynham  
Laketia A. Beasley  
Alison Bell  
Sean Betts  
Juanita Blackshear  
Pamela L. Bolden  
Amelia Boler  
Daeryl Booker  
Preston R. Bosley +  
Candice R. Boyd  
L. R. Bracy +  
Jacquelyn Brown  
Lynette G. Brunson +  
Marvin C. Brunson +  
Denise Brunson-Harris  
Michelle Byrd  
Rochelle Calhoun  
Debra L. Casimere  
Harry Cecil  
Beverly Charisse +  
Denise Clothier  
Jazmyn Cole \*  
Doris M. Coleman +  
Vernetta P. Cox

Cynthia Davis  
Joyce L. Davis +  
Reginald Davis  
Janet L. Dickerson  
Charita Alletrice Dones  
Maggie Dorsey +  
Elaine P. Dowdle  
Darrius K. Duncan \*  
Kim H. Durr  
Isaac Edwards  
Glenn H. Ellis  
Michael Engelhardt  
Kellen Fant  
Vivian Fox  
Beth Enloe Fritz  
Grace Lee Fulford  
Ruth A. Gilliam +  
Cassandra Gilyard  
Brittany Graham \*  
Gregory Green  
Deborah Grupe  
Leslie Hanlin  
Ja'Quis Hardin \*  
Carol D. Henley  
Jared Hennings  
Dorothy T. Heyward  
Natalie Hill  
Veda Hill  
Sarah Hoth  
Vanessa Howard  
Lawrence Hudson-Lewis  
Carole Anne Hughes +  
Don Hutcherson  
Karen E. Hylton +  
Annie Mae Jackson  
Nathaniel Jackson  
Pearline Jamison  
Joyce Jefferson  
La'Matra Johnson  
Lisa Johnson  
Stanley R. Johnson, Jr.  
Barrie C. Jones +  
Tericida L. Jones  
Jennifer L. Kelley  
Patricia Land  
Julie Lynch  
Margaret Ann McCabe

Wilberline Viola McCall  
Tiffany McClenton  
Randell McGee \*  
Samantha Minor  
Vickie Minter  
Montel Moore \*  
Mary Moorehead  
Harry V. Moppins, Jr.  
Mary A. Morgan +  
Calvin Parker  
Susan D. Patterson  
Diane J. Peal +  
Harry A. Penelton, III  
Patricia Penelton +  
Eric W. Pitts  
Wilatrell B. Rice  
Jackie W. Richardson +  
Linda S. Richie  
Tiara Rooks  
Kathleen Schroeder  
Christopher Scott  
Teresa Simmons  
Denise Sleet  
Dwyane Smith  
Diane Smoot  
Charles D. Stancil  
Bridget Ford Stegall +  
Wynton Stuart  
Althelia Powell Thomas +  
Karen E. Thomas-Stuart  
Sharon Thurman  
Lisha Tucker  
Cheryl Walker +  
Kwamina Walker-Williams +  
Gracie Ward  
Martyl Webster  
Gwendolyn J. Wesley +  
Elsa Whitfield  
Edward Whittington  
Michele Sue Williams

\* Young Artist  
+ Charter Member