



St. Louis Symphony  
Orchestra

stéphane denève : music director

19:20  
140th season

## Mercy Holiday Celebration

Stuart Malina, conductor  
Rachel Potter, vocals  
Holiday Festival Chorus  
Kevin McBeth, director

Friday, December 13, 2019, at 2:00PM  
Friday, December 13, 2019, at 7:30PM  
Saturday, December 14, 2019, at 2:00PM  
Saturday, December 14, 2019, at 7:30PM  
Sunday, December 15, 2019, at 2:00PM  
Sunday, December 15, 2019, at 7:30PM

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<b>STEVEN AMUNDSON</b>	<i>On Christmas Day</i>
<b>RIMSKY-KORSAKOV</b>	“Dance of the Tumblers” from <i>The Snow Maiden</i>
<b>GRUBER</b> arr. Wilberg	“Silent Night” Holiday Festival Chorus
<b>BERNARD</b> arr. Hermann	“Winter Wonderland”
<b>TORMÉ</b> arr. Lowden	“The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)” Rachel Potter, vocals
<b>ADAM</b> arr. Clydesdale	“O Holy Night” Rachel Potter, vocals Holiday Festival Chorus
<b>TRADITIONAL</b> arr. Rutter	“The Twelve Days of Christmas” Holiday Festival Chorus
	INTERMISSION
<b>TERRY MIZESKO</b>	Dances from <i>A Chanukah Celebration</i>
<b>TRADITIONAL</b> arr. Wilberg	“The First Nowell” Holiday Festival Chorus Kevin McBeth, conductor
<b>COOTS</b> arr. Holcombe	“Santa Claus Is Coming to Town” Rachel Potter, vocals

**BERLIN**  
**orch. Blank**

“Snow” from *White Christmas*

Rachel Potter, vocals  
Holiday Festival Chorus

**BERLIN**  
**arr. Bennett**

“White Christmas”

**ANDERSON**

*Sleigh Ride*

**MARTIN**  
**arr. Hayes**

“Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas”

Rachel Potter, vocals  
Holiday Festival Chorus

**TRADITIONAL**  
**arr. Stephenson**

*A Holly and Jolly Sing-Along!*

Introduction  
Deck the Hall  
Jingle Bells  
Frosty the Snowman  
Up on the Housetop  
Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer  
Joy to the World  
We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Rachel Potter, vocals  
Holiday Festival Chorus

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**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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# Mercy Holiday Celebration

## SING-ALONG

### Deck the Hall

Deck the Hall with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la, la la la la,  
'Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la, la la la la,  
Don we now our gay apparel, Fa la la la la, la la la,  
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, Fa la la la la, la la la la,  
See the blazing yule before us, Fa la la la la, la la la la,  
Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la, la la la la,  
Follow me in merry measure, Fa la la la la, la la la la,  
While I tell of Yuletide treasure, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

### Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow, in a one horse open sleigh,  
O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way.  
Bells on bobtail ring, making spirits bright,  
What fun it is to laugh and sing a sleighing song tonight!  
Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh!  
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh!

### Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the Snowman was a jolly happy soul,  
With a corn cob pipe and a button nose and two eyes made out of coal.  
Frosty the Snowman is a fairytale they say,  
He was made of snow, but the children know how he came to life one day.  
There must have been some magic in that old silk hat they found,  
For when they placed it on his head, he began to dance around.  
Oh, Frosty the Snowman had to hurry on his way,  
But he waved goodbye saying don't you cry, I'll be back again someday.  
Thumpety thump thump, Thumpety thump thump, look at Frosty go.  
Thumpety thump thump, Thumpety thump thump, over the hills of snow.

### Up on the Housetop

Up on the housetop reindeer pause, out jumps good old Santa Claus.  
Down through the chimney with lots of toys, all for the little ones, Christmas joys!  
Ho, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go?  
Ho, ho, ho! Who wouldn't go?  
Up on the housetop click, click, click,  
Down through the chimney with old Saint Nick.

### Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer had a very shiny nose.  
And if you ever saw it, you would even say it glows.  
All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names.  
They never let poor Rudolph join in any reindeer games.  
Then one foggy Christmas Eve, Santa came to say:  
"Rudolph with your nose so bright, won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"  
Then all the reindeer loved him as they shouted out with glee,  
"Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer, you'll go down in history!"

### Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing.  
And heav'n and nature sing. And heaven and heaven and nature sing.  
Joy to the Earth! The Saviour reigns; Let men their songs employ.  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

### We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas; we wish you a merry Christmas;  
We wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;  
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
We wish you a merry Christmas; we wish you a merry Christmas;  
We wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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### STUART MALINA

Now in his 19th season as Music Director and Conductor of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, Stuart Malina has built a reputation for orchestra building and multi-faceted versatility. In a wide variety of concerts, from masterworks and grand opera to pops, Malina's ease on the podium, engaging personality, and insightful interpretations have thrilled audiences and helped break down the barriers between performer and listener wherever he has worked. Malina was previously Music Director of the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra (1996-2003)

and Associate Conductor of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra (1993-97).

In 2013, Malina was appointed Principal Guest Conductor of The Florida Orchestra, leading nine concert series each season, including the orchestra's highly acclaimed Coffee series. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in February of 2007, conducting the New York Pops in an all-Gershwin tribute including *Rhapsody in Blue*, which he conducted from the keyboard. He has recently performed with the symphony orchestras of Hong Kong, New Mexico, Fresno, Charleston, Greensboro, the Chautauqua Institution, and the Sarasota Music Festival. Malina

has had multiple engagements with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Eastern Music Festival, at which he conducted the world premiere of Billy Joel's *Symphonic Fantasies* for Piano and Orchestra. He led the Shippensburg Festival Orchestra for three seasons, the second time performing with violinist Joshua Bell for a broadcast on Pennsylvania Public Television. He has also appeared with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Kansas City Symphony, Youngstown Symphony, AIMS Festival Orchestra (Graz, Austria), North Carolina Symphony Orchestra, the Louisville Orchestra, and the Queens Symphony Orchestra.

On the opera podium Malina's recent production engagements include Opera Delaware (two runs of *Porgy and Bess*), Piedmont Opera (Massenet's *Manon*) and Greensboro Opera (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*). He has also conducted many operas in concert, including *La Bohème*, *Tosca* and many Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. He has conducted several ballets as well, with the Charleston Ballet and with Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet.

Malina spent a semester on the faculty of Penn State University, teaching conducting and leading the student orchestra. He has had three residencies at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, conducting and teaching.

An accomplished pianist, Malina has impressive credits as a soloist and chamber musician. He has performed concertos in Harrisburg, Greensboro, Charleston, New York, and Chautauqua, most often conducting from the keyboard. His recent chamber music activities include performances in Indiana (Music at Shaarey Tefilla and at the Jacobs School of Music); annual performances for the Market Square Concert series, collaborating with the Jasper Quartet, the Fry Street Quartet, the Enzo Quartet, the Dorian Wind Quintet, and oboist Gerard Reuter; presentations of Messaien's *Quartet for the End of Time* on the Linton Series in Cincinnati; and recitals with violinists Alexander Kerr and Peter Sirotn, pianist Ya-Ting Chang and cellists Zvi Plessner and Daniel Gaisford. He has been frequently engaged for the Music for a Great Space series in North Carolina, and was director of the Piccolo Spoleto Contemporary Music Festival from 1993 to 1995.

As a composer and arranger, Malina has created dozens of orchestral works, ranging from entire pops shows to works for symphony orchestra. His recent composition, *Common Fanfare for an Uncommon Orchestra*, received its world premiere by the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra in September of 2017.

Malina's activities also extend to Broadway. In June 2003, he won the Tony award for orchestration with Billy Joel for the musical *Movin' Out*, which Malina helped create with director/choreographer Twyla Tharp. He has served as music supervisor for every production of the show, both in the United States and in London. Malina has also served as Associate Conductor of the national touring company of *West Side Story* and as conductor of the Charleston production of *Porgy and Bess* with performances throughout the United States, Canada, and at the Israel Festival in Caesarea. He has also directed the music for more than twenty musical theater productions.

Malina holds degrees from Harvard University, the Yale School of Music, and the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied conducting with Otto-Werner Mueller. He studied piano with Dora and Baruch Arnon and with Keiko Sato.

He resides in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Marty, and their two children, Sara and Zev.



## RACHEL POTTER

Rachel Potter, hailing from St. Petersburg, Florida, began her professional career at Walt Disney World, singing as Ariel, Belle, and Nemo. Her first break into the world of musical theater came when she appeared on MTV's *Legally Blonde: The Search for Elle Woods*, where she placed in the top 15.

She had the honor of touring with the National Tour of the smash hit, *Wicked*, where she played the ever "popular" Glinda. She later made her Broadway debut as Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family*, playing opposite both Bebe Neuwirth and Brooke Shields as Morticia. Next, she originated the role of the Mistress in the Tony-nominated revival of *Evita*, starring Ricky Martin and Michael Cerveris. She is featured on the Original Broadway Cast Recording singing her standout song, "Another Suitcase in Another Hall."

With a piece of heart having always been in country music, she left behind the "Great White Way" to find her place among the neon lights of Music City. Potter went on to become a Top 12 finalist on season 3 of FOX's *The X Factor*, earning international praise for her country rendition of Queen's "Somebody to Love." Her take on the classic tune, which has now reached more than 40 million views on YouTube, is featured on her solo album, *Not So Black and White*.

Rachel enjoyed a fruitful solo career, releasing two solo albums, being played on CMT, creating multiple viral cover videos, and being written up in *Billboard*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Huffington Post*, to name a few. She has many well-known collaborations with the a capella groups VoicePlay and Voctave. For the past several years, she has been touring the country as a soloist with *Country Legends*, a symphony pops concert showcasing the last century's most iconic country music, all performed with an orchestra.

She is now a member of the band Steel Union, a fresh country trio made up of herself, Josh Matheny, and Donny Fallgatter. These three friends are making waves in Nashville and across the country, hooking audiences with their catchy melodies, impressive vocals, and infectious harmonies.

Rachel resides in Nashville where she also works as a session singer, vocal coach, and headshot photographer. She is now playing her most important role yet, "Mommy" to Jude.



## KEVIN MCBETH

Director, Holiday Festival Chorus

Kevin McBeth was appointed Director of the IN UNISON Chorus in 2011. Kevin is the Director of Music at Manchester United Methodist Church in suburban St. Louis. He serves as full-time administrator for the Music Ministry, which includes 18 choral and handbell ensembles, involving nearly 500 children, youth, and adults. Kevin has also recently served as Adjunct Professor of Choral Music at Webster University. Over the past 20 years, he has conducted honor, festival, and touring choirs

(choral and handbell) in the United States and Canada. Previous appointments include Assistant Conductor of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus and Music Director of the St. Louis Metro Singers. His 30-year career in church music has included appointments in churches in Houston, Texas and Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

McBeth is a graduate of Houston Baptist University and has done graduate studies in Choral Conducting at the University of Houston. In addition to being a published composer and author, he was also choral music editor for Abingdon Press. McBeth has served on the board of the Iowa Choral Directors Association, the Missouri Choral Directors Association, and the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. He was also the Repertoire and Standards Chair for the Southwest Division of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). Influential teachers in conducting have been David Wehr, Robert Linder, and John Yarrington. A strong advocate for training future conductors, he has presented several workshops and interest sessions at the state and national levels.

McBeth has recently conducted concerts at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. Choirs under his direction have also performed at regional and national gatherings for choral and handbell music, including both state and division ACDA conventions, and at the American International Choral Festival. McBeth has prepared choruses for performances with Sarah Brightman, Josh Groban, John McDaniel, Andy Williams, Billy Porter, Take 6, Larnelle Harris, Jenifer Lewis, Wintley Phipps, and Hugh Smith. In the fall of 2002, the National Religious Music Week Alliance named him as one of the top ten Church Music Directors in the country. In the church music field, he has collaborated with Mark Hayes, John Leavitt, Hal Hopson, Joseph Martin, Howard Helvey, John Purifoy, Michael Burkhardt, Craig Courtney, David Morrow, and Jeffery Ames.

His orchestral conducting credits include performances with the Indianapolis Symphony, Houston Civic Symphony, the New England Symphonic Ensemble, and with members of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra in a concert featuring Garrison Keillor. Most recently, McBeth conducted a Festival Chorus in his first European concert tour to Great Britain, and prepared choruses for a concert at Lincoln Center.

McBeth is the proud father of two talented sons, Cameron and Austin.

## HOLIDAY FESTIVAL CHORUS PARTICIPANTS | 2019/2020

Emily Barton	Ava Irlbeck-Whitson	David Pierce
Joshua Barton	Kaylah Janssen	Lillian Pinto de Sá
Hannah Beard	Kristen Jones	Michael Pirrie
Santino Bono	Erik Kiewiet	Johnathan Prichard
Madison Branson	Taylor Knight	Jas Rai
Jordan Braunschweig	Madyson Lender	Juliana Reihms
Shannon Callanan	Lawrence Lewis	Blake Renken
Ethan Cargill	Kaden Liddell	Matthaeus Riegerix
Jordan Carr	Kayla Loesche	Madison Rigsby
Jae Cauldwell	Heaven Loggins	Xmiena Rogers-Stamps
Gavin Cole	Nadia Maddex	Olivia Roland
Holly Connor	Elise Martinez	Mark Saunders
Charita Dones	Jamayha Mathis	Andrew Schmitz
Lauren Douglas	Patrick Mattia	Evan Smith
Julia Drake	Elizabeth McCarter	Peyton Smith
Joe Drexelius	Lydia McCullough	Hunter Snow
Darrius Duncan	Zoe Meyer	Hannah Stern
Eva Elders	Joseph Miller	Jacob Stern
Jaaliyah Ellis	Dale Miller	Faye Swanson
Jaleacia Evans	Skylar Monnig	Chris Tobar
Alex Fellows	Breeanna Moore	John Van Stratton
Seth Ferrell	Christopher Mosher	Brianna Voss
Ellie Frank	Anthony Murgo	Mackenzie Voss
Breanna Gaither	Bridget Mwaniki	Rachel Vrazel
BenHur Ghezehey	Kenya Nash	Noah Walls
James Haessig	Michael Nelson	Ashlyn Walls
Michael Haley	Venz Oberg	Natalie Welborn
Kyree Hamilton	Morgan Osman	Claire Whittington
Aleina Harper	Jason Patton	TaNiya Williams
Hannah Hodges	Alexander Paul	Lorna Zanders
Alayna Hopgood	Gracelyn Penn	Sophia Zegar

## HOLIDAY FESTIVAL CHORUS SCHOOLS | 2019/2020

Clayton High School	Marquette High School
Francis Howell High School	MICDS—Mary Institute and
Francis Howell Central High School	Saint Louis Country Day School
The Fulton School	O'Fallon Township High School
Grand Center Arts Academy	Pattonville High School
Highland High School	Saint Louis University
Jefferson College	Saint Louis University High School
Jennings Senior High School	St. Louis Community College—Meramec
KIPP St. Louis High School	Triad High School
Lewis and Clark Community College	Twin City Christian Academy
Lutheran High School North	University of Missouri—St. Louis
Lutheran High School South	