



DAVID L. WALTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY



A CAPPELLA CHOIR ON TOUR

Eliezer Yanson Jr., director
Rachel Park, collaborative pianist

JANUARY 23 – 25, 2025

Thursday, January 23 | 7:00 PM
Golden Springs Baptist Church
3 Robertson Rd
Anniston, AL

Friday, January 24 | 1:50 PM
Alabama School of Fine Arts
1800 Rev. Abraham Woods Jr. Blvd
Birmingham, AL

Friday, January 24 | 11:45 AM
Reid Chapel, Samford University
800 Lakeshore Dr
Birmingham, AL

Friday, January 24 | 6:00 PM
Brookwood Baptist Church
3449 Overton Rd
Birmingham, AL

Saturday, January 25 | 9:50 AM
AMEA Professional Development Conference
BJCC Theatre
2100 Richard Arrington, Jr. Blvd
Birmingham, AL



PROGRAM

to be chosen from the following selections

Cum Sancto Spiritu.....Hyo-won Woo
from *Gloria* (b. 1974)

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of goodwill,
We praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we glorify You,
We give You thanks for Your great glory.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, Amen.*

We Beheld Once Again the Stars (Riveder le stelle).....Z. Randall Stroope
(b. 1953)

*But soon it will be night; [and we must rise to the stars]
Now is the time to depart this place,
For we have seen and experienced it all
Keep moving!
The wings of hell's monarch are heard nearby!
But soon it will be night;
I climbed toward paradise with no thought of looking back,
And finally saw heaven and the supreme light,
And beheld once again the stars.*

Jagdlied.....Felix Mendelssohn
(1809 – 1847)

*Through swaying treetops flickers a ray of gold,
The misty valley lies far beneath the summits,
The call of the hunting horn rings out from the far castle,
The horses whinny into the air, into the air!

Soon lands and lakes, soon scudding clouds
Appear shimmering far off in the dizzying flight,
Soon darkness again veils rider and horse,
O love, O love, let me go!

The sounds push on further and further,
Through woods and over moors; where, O where are they going?
Invigorating freshness, sweet, fearful desire!*

The Gift to Sing.....Marianne Forman
(b. 1981)

Music Lesson/You are the Music.....Maury Yeston
from *Phantom* (b. 1945)

Evan Tigue and Maleah Hallmark, soloists

Kaisa-isa Nyan.....Nilo Alcala
(b. 1978)

*Just one,
two,
or three of that.
Four are alternating.
Five: too noisy, it's disturbing.
Six: a sound so loud!
Seven: a dragon...
Eight: pounds heavily on a puddle
Nine: a box
Ten: a drawer*

Jesus, the Light of Gentiles (Arirang & Amazing Grace).....arr. by Rachel Park

My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord.....Traditional Spiritual
arr. Moses Hogan

Fairest Lord Jesus.....Derek Hakes
(b. 1976)
rev. Craig Courtney

I'll Be on My Way.....Shawn Kirchner
(b. 1970)

Ethan Duce, Alex Frost, or Christian Parker, soloist
Assisted by Alayna Endicott, violin

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The Jacksonville State University A Cappella Choir will embark on a European tour of Belgium, The Netherlands, and Germany from May 22 - June 4, 2025. The choir is currently raising funds for this trip and is grateful for the generosity of the following sponsors:

**Pamela Corbin
Dr. & Mrs. Carmine Di Biase
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Ken & Jenny Howell
Tony Ivey
Dr. & Mrs. Don Killingsworth**

**Evan Ledford
Clint & Susan McCall
Lori McCollum
The Concert Black Closet (Bonnie Jones)
First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville, AL
Riverchase Baptist Church, Hoover, AL**

If you would like to contribute towards the A Cappella Choir's trip to Europe, please scan the QR code below. All donations are tax deductible.



The A Cappella Choir is Jacksonville State University's flagship choral ensemble performing a wide variety of standard choral literature from all musical periods, contemporary art music, and world music. Founded in 1960, the A Cappella Choir tours annually and participates in events hosted by the Alabama American Choral Directors Association and Alabama Music Educators Association. The A Cappella Choir is an auditioned ensemble comprised of students from various disciplines across campus. Recently, the A Cappella Choir debuted at Carnegie Hall and Spivey Hall and was named a national finalist in the choral performance category – college/university division (smaller program) of The American Prize, the nation's most comprehensive series of contests in the performing arts. In May 2025, the A Cappella Choir will tour Belgium and the Netherlands and compete at the CantaRode International Choral Festival in the Netherlands.

CONDUCTOR & PIANIST

Eliezer Yanson Jr. is professor of music and director of choral activities at Jacksonville State University where he conducts the A Cappella Choir and Civic Chorale and teaches undergraduate and graduate music classes. Prior to his appointment at Jax State, Eliezer served on the music faculty at Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina. He earned a doctor of musical arts degree in choral conducting from the University of South Carolina, a master of music in church music (conducting) and a bachelor of music in piano performance from Bob Jones University. His main conducting mentors have been Larry Wyatt and Warren Cook. Eliezer has also worked and studied with André Thomas, Don Portnoy, Paul Vermel, Dian Tchobanov and Hilary Apfelstadt. An active adjudicator, conference speaker, and clinician, Eliezer has conducted choirs and clinics and presented at conferences in the United States, Bulgaria, Canada, South Korea, Thailand, Türkiye, and in his native Philippines. He is a two-time 3rd prize winner (2015 and 2023) in conducting – college/university chorus division of The American Prize and has appeared in Carnegie Hall as conductor in 2015, 2018, and 2023. While passionate about conducting and teaching, Eliezer's greatest role is being husband to Martha and father to Isabella and Andre.

Rachel Park is associate professor of music at the Jacksonville State University. She has given more than a thousand concerts and recitals with various soloists, ensembles, and orchestras throughout the United States and overseas, including performing in Carnegie Hall, the Crystal Cathedral in California, and at the Embassy of Korea in Washington D.C. She dedicates herself to piano performance and music education with practical applications and insight gained through her wide performance experience. She has been a recipient of numerous awards throughout her career including the 2023 American Prize National Finalist in Professional Solo Piano Performance. Currently serving the Alabama Music Teachers Association as the First Vice President and the President-Elect, Park is also an active member of the MTNA, ASCAP, and Asian Society of Music in New York. Park received her doctor of music arts degree in church music and piano performance from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas where she also earned her master of music degree. She received her bachelor of music degree from Sookmyung Women's University in Seoul, South Korea.

SOPRANO

Leila Acheson, Oxford, Ala., *graduate student, history*
Blue Adams, Fort Payne, Ala., *instrumental music education*
Carley Brooks, McDonough, Ga., *vocal music education*
Brie Dinkins, Stockbridge, Ga., *vocal music education*
Elizabeth Embrey, Newnan, Ga., *vocal music education*
Alayna Endicott, Valley, Ala., *vocal music education*
Ashlyn Endicott, Valley, Ala., *vocal music education*
Maleah Hallmark, Kimberly, Ala., *vocal music education*
Tierra-Michael Harmon, Cartersville, Ga., *vocal performance*
Kaya Knox, Pagosa Springs, Colo., *integrated studies*
Alexa Lusk, Bay Minette, Ala., *vocal music education*
Grace Shelton, Jacksonville, Ala., *English*

ALTO

Paulina Dingler, Balleyston, Ala., *vocal music education*
Bethany Hallmark, Kimberly, Ala., *forensic investigation*
Adria Hamilton, Albertville, Ala., *integrated studies*
Lauren Kilgore, Moody, Ala., *vocal performance*
Morgan Langley, Albertville, Ala., *integrated studies*
Kimora Linder, Wilmington, N.C., *psychology*
Adyson Lowden, Albertville, Ala., *vocal music education*
Mary Elizabeth Maddox, Albertville, Ala., *exercise science & wellness*
Anna Smith, Piedmont, Ala., *vocal music education*
Ramsey Whitney, Anniston, Ala., *integrated studies*

TENOR

Levi Benefield, LaFayette, Ga., *vocal music education*
Nicholas Frederick, Sylacauga, Ala., *marketing*
Timothy Jones, Jackson, Ga., *communication*
Hayden Medley, Anniston, Ala., *communication*
Dylan Mitchell, Weaver, Ala., *general music – piano*
Ethan Nessler, Gadsden, Ala., *graduate student, music education*
Reid Nordan, Oxford, Ala., *biology*
Devonte Roszell, Oxford, Ala., *vocal music education*
Evan Tighe, Gadsden, Ala., *jazz performance*

BASS

Mitchell Coleman, Rome, Ga., *vocal music education*
Ryan Dowis, Ringgold, Ga., *studio art*
Ethan Duce, Winston, Ala., *theatre production*
Alex Frost, Ringgold, Ga., *vocal music education*
Mark Harris, Ringgold, Ga., *mathematics education*
Christian Parker, Lineville, Ala., *vocal performance*
Jamey Smith, Anniston, Ala., *graduate student, voice*
Kobe Smith, Opelika, Ala., *creative writing*
Jarod Sprayberry, Altoona, Ala., *vocal music education*
Silas Tankersley, Anniston, Ala., *vocal music education*