

# ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Lafayette opened in 1939 and was named for the Marquis de Lafayette, the famed French general of the Revolutionary War. Lafayette is one of six public high schools in Lexington and serves over 2000 students. The school combines a comprehensive high school curriculum with the School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCAPA) and pre-engineering magnet programs.

The music department at Lafayette has a long tradition of excellence in all areas. The Marching Band has been state champion nineteen times. The Orchestra has performed at the Midwest Clinic, and has been featured a number of times at the Kentucky Music Educators Association (KMEA) conference and will perform for the American String Teachers Association in 2018. Lafayette students have a wide variety of musical choices including a number of vocal ensembles; an instrumental program consisting of strings, wind band, percussion, jazz band and piano, music technology; and comprehensive visual and theatre arts programs.

As part of the (SCAPA) magnet students can choose a major in music (voice, band, orchestra, or piano), dance, art, creative writing, and theatre. SCAPA students are admitted to the program by audition. The vocal curriculum includes music theory courses, private voice study and ensemble singing. Voice students receive private instruction during their choir class once every two weeks, participate in performance/master classes, recitals, and juries.

The Madrigal Singers are state, nationally, and internationally recognized. The choir most recently performed for the American Choral Directors Association Southern Division Conference this past February in Louisville and last performed for that organization in 2010 in Memphis. The group performed for the KMEA conference in 2009 and 2015, and was awarded two silver medals at the World Choir Games in Cincinnati in 2012. The choir won a gold diploma and the mixed youth choir category in the Sing 'N' Joy International competition in Louisville in 2014. The choir competes annually in the University of Louisville Chamber Choir Competition and have won first place ten times.

## LAFAYETTE MADRIGALS

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Lauren Adams	Nicole Bowyer	Jackson Becker	Daniel Balko
Sarah Byrd	Courtney Evans	Luke Dailey	Justin Bentley
Julia Clements	Rory Hefner-Templar	Matt DeRossett	John Compton
Katie Copeland	Victoria Kauffman	Michael Merritt	David Forish
Abby Holthaus	Valerie Langdorf	Woods Prewitt	Harrison Hancock
Laura Mendenhall	Sarah Morgan		Ian Huffman
Danielle Norman	Alexis Zapata		David Thomas Litster
Emma Owens			Jack Renaud
Alexandra Simpson			



# PROGRAM DIRECTORS



### Ryan Marsh, Director of Choirs

Ryan Marsh holds bachelors and master's degrees from the University of Louisville. He holds National Board Certification in vocal music and has taken doctoral courses at the University of Kentucky. Mr. Marsh is in his fifteenth year as director of choirs also teaching AP Music Theory and Music Technology. He holds professional memberships in ACDA, NAFME and Kentucky Music Educators Association. Mr. Marsh has held elected state office for KMEA coordinating all-state choirs from 2009-2010. He served on the KMEA state board, executive committee and currently publishes the organization's monthly e-newsletter. Mr. Marsh served on the ENVOY committee for the Inaugural Music for All National Choir Festival. His choirs have appeared at KMEA and ACDA conferences and consistently receive distinguished ratings at assessment events. Ryan lives in Midway, Kentucky with daughter, Emory and wife, Tiffany, who is the choir director at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Lexington.

### Laura Howard, SCAPA Vocal Instructor, Director



Laura Howard is a graduate of Morehead State University where she completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees. She received her Bachelor of Music Education degree as a piano major on the choral/vocal education track of study. She received the Master of Music degree while studying music education and choral conducting. Mrs. Howard has completed all three levels of training in the Kodály philosophy of music literacy and education as well as intensive summer study in Hungary, the birthplace of philosopher Zoltan Kodály. She began teaching in 2002 at Southern Middle School the Fayette County where she taught general music classes, grades 6-8, as well as the 6th-8th grade choirs. In 2006, she began teaching at the School for the Creative and Performing Arts (SCAPA) at Lafayette High School. Her responsibilities have included conducting the Women's Choir and Advanced Women's Choir. She also coaches the SCAPA vocal majors, has taught Musicianship I, II and III, and Beginning Keyboarding. In addition, she frequently works as an accompanist, clinician and adjudicator.

# Lafayette High School Madrigal Singers

Lexington, Kentucky  
Ryan Marsh, conductor

ACDA Southern Division Conference

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Incredibly supportive parents and care-givers of our students

Lafayette Chorus Boosters  
Shari Jackson, choir manager  
Emanuel Caulk, Superintendent  
Bryne Jacobs, Principal  
Richard Royster, associate principal  
David Scholl, associate principal  
Stephanie McDermott, administrative dean  
Dr. Caryn Huber, dean of students  
Lafayette Performing Arts Faculty  
Marigail Sexton, program design

February 22, 2018  
Louisville, Kentucky

# Beyond Boundaries

Music transcends boundaries, not only of time, but of place. This proposed program represents music from a variety of places and cultures. The texts and themes represent unity among peoples on Earth as well as a transcendence of place and time, Earth and the heavens, now and forever.

## PROGRAM NOTE

Time and again, though history, music has shown the power to transcend boundaries; not only of place but of time, the heavens and earth, now and forever. Our program includes music representative of a variety of places and cultures, music created with the consideration of what is possible, not necessarily what currently is. The texts represent themes of connectedness and unity not only among peoples, but within all creation.

Over the course of his 60-year career, Knut Nystedt (1915-2014) was regarded as one of Norway's foremost composers and conductors. He was knighted by the King of Norway for his contribution to Norwegian music. Our program opens with the rhythmic and joyful setting of Nystedt's Lobet den Herrn characterized by frequently changing meter and vibrant text setting. Lobet den Herrn extols all to sing praise in unity: all peoples, all creatures, the heavens and Earth.

Felix Mendelssohn was filled with grief after the passing of his beloved sister Fannie. It was during this time of profound grief that he wrote his setting of the Song of Simeon text, the Nunc Dimittis. Herr, nun lässtest du deinen diener in Frieden fahren was among Mendelssohn's final compositions written in 1847, the year of his own death. Though Mendelssohn's motets are lesser-known, they represent some of the finest writing in choral music. As is customary, Mendelssohn concludes his Nunc dimittis setting with the Gloria Patri which itself closes with the words, "as it was in the beginning and always will be from eternity to eternity." Music seeks to transcend boundaries of place and time, Earth and the heavens, now and forever.

The Sea Wind was commissioned by the Lafayette High School Madrigal Singers to premiere at the 2018 ACDA Southern Division Conference. Ešenvalds selected a text by his favorite American poet, Sara Teasdale. The Sea Wind was published in 1915 in Teasdale's third collection entitled Rivers to the Sea which earned bestseller status and several reprints. A 1917 New York Times book review said of Teasdale that she, "is first, last, and always a singer." Ešenvalds writes of his new work: In her poem Sara Teasdale draws an impressionistic miniature of a moment when freedom is being felt - the wind. It is not a moment of cheap joy. No. Sara's words express a very personal and inspiring minutes or hours which she caught that night and which made her to think about that calling voice of the far-off sea. I think I know this feeling too, and that's why I have painted the miniature with music. Ešenvalds, along with Teasdale, creates rich imagery of the sea and the interconnectedness of mankind to nature.

In the first half of the twentieth century, the rhythms of the tango worked their way from working- and lower-class neighborhoods of Argentina to the finest nightclubs in the world. Verano Porteño is a modern tango composed by Astor Piazzolla and arranged by Oscar Escalada. Piazzolla studied in Paris with Nadia Boulanger and returned to Argentina to become an influential composer in the tango tradition. Like the tango genre itself, Piazzolla continued melding musical elements from South America, Africa and Europe. He called his music in this style, "Tango Nuevo". In Verano Porteño the singers sing syllables mimicking instruments and evoking the image of summer in Buenos Aires. The music of the tango perfectly exemplifies how musical and cultural influences throughout the world mix and meld and transcend boundaries.

Sydney Guillaume was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti and takes great pride in his Haitian roots. His love for his homeland is one of his greatest inspirations. Guillaume hopes that his music will serve as an ambassador for his country and create an awareness of the beautiful culture that exists amidst economic and political turmoil. Guillaume says that:

"Ranpono is the grouping of peasants to execute community activities such as preparing soil for planting, harvesting and road and public building construction. It's also a time for sharing and mutual aid while singing appropriate songs that can arouse the enthusiasm of the workers. It describes part of the lifestyle of a Haitian countryman."

In concluding our program with Sydney Guillaume's Ranpono, we share our belief that we are stronger working together than alone. We are all connected and must reach beyond our own real or imagined boundaries to meet our collective challenges. As Ranpono says, "My brothers, my sisters, join together, let's move forward! Heads together, in harmony."

### Lobet Den Herrn (2001)

Knud Nystedt

Praise the Lord in Heaven. Praise him in the highest! Praise him, all his angels, all his army!  
Praise him, sun and moon, all the shining stars! Praise him, heavenly army, and the waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, because he commanded they were created. Forever and ever, he lets them exist.  
Praise the Lord on Earth, her fish and all the depths of the sea.  
Fire and hail and snow and mist, storm winds, mountains and hills, fruit trees and all cedars, animals, cattle, worms and all birds!

All people, kings, princes and all judges of the earth, young men and young women,  
old with the young, praise the name of the Lord, his name alone is high.  
His glory extends from heaven to Earth. He strengthens the power of his people.  
Praise him all people that serve him! Praise the Lord in the highest!

-Psalm 148

### The Sea Wind (2018)

Ēriks Ešenvalds

World Premiere Performance  
Commissioned by the Lafayette Madrigal Singers, 2018

I am a pool in a peaceful place, I greet the great sky face to face,  
I know the stars and the stately moon and the wind that runs with rippling shoo--  
But why does it always bring to me the far-off, beautiful sound of the sea?

The marsh-grass weaves me a wall of green, but the wind comes whispering in between,  
In the dead of night when the sky is deep the wind comes waking me out of sleep--  
Why does it always bring to me the far-off, terrible call of the sea?

-Sara Teasdale, 1915

### Drei Motetten, Op 69, No.1 (1847) Herr, nun lässtest du deinen Diener in Frieden fahren

Felix Mendelssohn

Abby Holthaus, Rory Hefner-Templar, Jackson Becker, Daniel Balko, solos

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, as you have spoken.  
For my eyes have seen your Savior, whom you have prepared for all peoples;  
a light to enlighten the gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and also to the Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and always, and from eternity to eternity. Amen

-Luke 2: 29-32

### Verano Porteño (1965) Astor Piazzolla, arr. Oscar Es calada )

### Ranpono (2015)

Sydney Guillaume

Luke Dailey, solo

Yele maoulo! The conch shells are sounding, the roosters haven't crowed yet,  
The sun hasn't risen yet, The workers are on their feet! Ranpono has begun!  
Laborers, let's put our hands together, let's join together, the work has begun!  
Little by little, the bird makes its nest.\* My brothers, my sisters, join together, let's move forward!  
Heads together, in harmony, we will come to see the navel of an ant.  
With perseverance, we will see the navel of an ant.\*  
The load that you bear on your head falls on your shoulders. Little by little, the bird makes its nest.\*

Yele maoulo!  
Wasting time is not part of the game. We must work today to harvest tomorrow.  
Work is over! The sun is setting, the workers are dismissed, a job well done.  
Ranpono brings life. Truly indeed, Ranpono brings life!  
With many hands the load is light.\*  
\*Haitian proverbs

-Gabriel T. Guillaume