Join us for music fit for royalty!

Saturday, July 22, 2023 at 8pm
Dekelboum Concert Hall, The Clarice
Mark Helms & David Mann, conductors

Mozart
Coronation Mass K. 317

Handel
Let thy hand be strengthened

Vaughan Williams
Five Mystical Songs

Since 2002, the UMD Summer Chorus has given college students, community singers, and high school choristers the opportunity to perform major works in a friendly, collaborative setting.

Auditions not necessary!

SUMMER 2023 SCHEDULE

All rehearsals are 7-9:30pm at The Clarice (Rm. 2201) unless otherwise noted.

WEEK 1 Wed, Jul 5; Thurs, Jul 6; Fri, Jul 7
WEEK 2 Mon, Jul 10; Tue, Jul 11; Wed, Jul 12; Thu, Jul 13
WEEK 3 Mon, July 17*; Tue, July 18*; Wed, July 19*
Dress Rehearsal Fri, July 21, 7-10pm*
Performance Sat, July 22, 6:30pm Call *In Dekelboum Concert Hall

PRACTICE RECORDINGS
Practice tracks are available on YouTube and on choralia.net

MEMBERSHIP FEES
$60 ($50 for high school and college students). Fees are non-refundable.
All scores will be provided.
ABOUT THE MUSIC

The triumphant Coronation Mass, scored for oboes, horns, trumpets, timpani, strings, and organ, was completed when Mozart was just 23 years old. After Mozart’s death, this piece became the preferred ceremonial music for the Imperial Court at Vienna beginning with the coronation of Francis II in 1792. Today it remains one of Mozart's most celebrated choral-orchestral works from his time in Salzburg.

Let thy hand be strengthened was a part of Handel's music for the coronation of King George II at Westminster Abbey in 1727. It is scored for oboes, strings, chorus, and continuo group and would have been played as the new king sat upon his throne for the very first time.

Vaughan Williams premiered Five Mystical Songs in 1911 at the Three Choirs Festival in Worcester, England. In it, he sets the words of a seventeenth-century Welsh priest combining both sacred and secular topics. This work is known for its stunning baritone solos including "The Call," and its thunderous closing movement in which choir and orchestra proclaim together, "Let all the world in every corner sing: My God and King."

ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

MARK HELMS is an active conductor, singer and organist. He is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting at the University of Maryland, College Park. Prior to UMD, Helms was based in the Philadelphia area and served as director of music and the arts at Doylestown Presbyterian Church, where he oversaw a comprehensive music ministry involving nearly 200 participants of all ages. Helms recently served as the director of choral activities and liturgical music at DeSales University, where he conducted three choral ensembles and taught additional courses in music. He is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, where he earned a Master of Music degree in choral conducting. Helms is also a graduate of Furman University in Greenville, SC, where he graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Music in church music. At Furman, he was also named the Theodore Presser Scholar and was inducted into both Phi Beta Kappa and Pi Kappa Lambda. Helms has studied conducting with Edward Maclary, William Weinert, Brad Lubman and Hugh Ferguson Floyd.

DAVID MANN is a doctoral student and graduate assistant in choral conducting at the University of Maryland where he serves as assistant conductor of the University Chorale and UMD Treble Choir. Prior to attending UMD, David was a high school choral director for 7 years in Prince William County, Virginia. As a clinician and presenter, he has led high school and middle school honor choirs in the Commonwealth of Virginia and presents regularly at state and regional conferences on repertoire and pedagogy for developing singers. David is also in his third year as artistic director of Voce Chamber Singers in Vienna, Virginia. He earned his Master's in choral conducting from Michigan State University and his Bachelor's in music education from James Madison University. In 2018, he was recognized as the winner of the American Prize in Choral Conducting and a finalist for the American Prize in Choral Performance for his work with the Michigan State University Chamber Choir.

ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE

The University of Maryland Summer Chorus is a campus and community chorus available to anyone who wishes to sing. Each year, during three weeks in July, the UMD Summer Chorus rehearses and performs a major choral work with professional orchestra and soloists, led by one of the graduate conductors in the UMD choral conducting program. Performances have included Brahms’ Ein deutsches Requiem, the Duruflé Requiem, and Orff’s Carmina Burana. Auditions for participation are not required.

REGISTER HERE

Scan the QR code to your right or go to:
https://theclarice.formstack.com/forms/summerchorus

For more information, contact: umchoirs@umd.edu | 301.405.5571