

The Cobb Summer Singers

The William Baker Choral Foundation
5450 Buena Vista Street #100, Roeland Park, KS 66205 913.488.7524
Mail@FestivalSingers.org www.ChoralFoundation.org

Friday, 1 March 2024

INVITING YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR 17th SUMMER OF SINGING

Dear Singing Friends,

I am writing today to invite you to be a part of a wonderful and unique season of singing with the Cobb Summer Singers.

Our beloved Music Director, Lynn Swanson, will be on sabbatical for the 2024 Cobb Summer Singers, but we have planned a special event that I am sure you will want to be a part of.

One of the most powerful and deeply moving works composed in recent years is the HOLOCAUST CANTATA of Donald McCullough. Premiered in Washington, DC, the cantata has been performed across the nation in concerts that have literally changed the lives of those who have sung it and those who have heard it. The Choral Foundation's Summer Singers of Lee's Summit in Missouri performed it in 2023 to capacity audiences and rave reviews.

We are proud to announce that the Cobb Summer Singers will be in partnership for this project with Zimria Festivale Atlanta, the Choral Foundation's ensemble dedicated to the works of Jewish composers and Jewish musical traditions, and with the Temple Kol Emeth in Marietta where our rehearsals and performance will be hosted. Our guest conductor will be Amy Thropp, music director of Zimria Festivale Atlanta and retired music director for Congregation Beth Shalom in Dunwoody. She has been a long-time member of New South Festival Singers and Cobb Summer Singers.

In addition to the HOLOCAUST CANTATA, the Cobb Summer Singers will perform Ms. Thropp's KADDISH IN MEMORY OF THE SIX MILLION and Kim Andre Arnesen's EVEN WHEN HE IS SILENT. I had the privilege of singing in the chorus last year with these works and I can personally testify that this will be an experience you will treasure for the whole of your life.

The music for these works is quite approachable, so we will have a short season. First rehearsal will be June 4 and the concert will be July 7, so the entire project will be completed in less than five weeks. Singers will wish to participate in both Cobb Summer Singers and the Summer Singers of Atlanta, enjoying a traditional summer season, will receive a \$25 tuition discount for the second group. \$95 tuition, or \$85 if registered before May 1; or \$70 anytime for music educators and church music professionals. \$25 less if also enrolling in Summer Singers of Atlanta.

As always, there will be no audition for participation in the 2024 Cobb Summer Singers. All adults and mature youth (16 & older) are invited to participate. Youth younger than 16 may participate if a parent or guardian is present with them at all times. The Summer Singers program is not recommended for youth younger than 12.

You may register by mail using the forms attached, or visit www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow.

Soli Deo Gloria,

William O. Baker, DMA, Founder & Director of the Choral Foundation

THE 2024 COBB SUMMER SINGERS FAQ

Who is invited to participate in Summer Singers?

All adults regardless of their musical background are invited to sing. No audition is required. Mature youth in grades 9-12 are invited to participate. Youth under the age of 16 may participate only if a parent or guardian is a registered, participating member of the Summer Singers. The program is not recommended for youth 12 and under.

What is the schedule of rehearsals and concerts?

TU	June	4:	7:15-9:30	Rehearsal One	Temple Kol Emeth
TH	June	13:	7:15-9:30	Rehearsal Two	Temple Kol Emeth
TU	June	18:	7:15-9:30	Rehearsal Three	Temple Kol Emeth
TU	June	25:	7:15-9:30	Rehearsal Four	Temple Kol Emeth
TU	July	2:	7:15-9:30	Rehearsal Five	Temple Kol Emeth
SU	July	7:	2:00	Final Rehearsal	Temple Kol Emeth
			4:00	PERFORMANCE	Temple Kol Emeth

Where are rehearsals located?

All rehearsals and our performance will be in the sanctuary of **Temple Kol Emeth, 1415 Old Canton Road, Marietta, GA 30062.**

What is the tuition, and where does the money go?

Tuition for the 2024 Cobb Summer Singers is \$95, or \$85 if paid before May 1. A special rate of \$70 is available for Students and Choral Directors (members of ACDA, AGO, GMEA or NafME). There is a discount of \$25 off these rates if you also enroll (at regular tuition rate) in the Summer Singers of Atlanta. Those electing to pay tuition early enable the Choral Foundation to save money by making purchases in advance of need. The tuition helps fund the Choral Foundation, paying staff salaries, promotional mailings and announcements, printed materials and music scores. For the record, tuition payments and concert donations pay only a small portion of these expenses. The balance is made up by generous gifts to the Choral Foundation and the Cobb Summer Singers from individuals and organizations. **Tuition is NOT refundable for any reason**, but may be applied to any future Summer Singers if you are unable to participate.

What is the Choral Foundation?

The Choral Foundation is a national organization founded in Atlanta in 1990. It is best known in Atlanta as the sponsoring organization for The New South (formerly William Baker) Festival Singers, the Cobb Summer Singers, and the Summer Singers of Atlanta, along with the Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library and the Institute for Healthy Singing & Voice Research. In all, the twelve ensembles of the Choral Foundation will register over 600 men, women and youth in the course of the year. The Choral Foundation is a 501-c-3 tax exempt corporation of the State of Kansas, licenced to conduct business in Georgia, Missouri and Illinois. Please visit our website at www.ChoralFoundation.org or www.Guidestar.org/profile/48-1214336 to learn more.

What if I can't pay tuition?

The By-Laws and Core Values of the Choral Foundation (read them at www.ChoralFoundation.org) direct that no one will ever be denied the benefits of the Choral Foundation based on ability to pay. Full tuition

assistance, partial tuition assistance and extended tuition payment arrangements are available upon request. We rely on an honor system and ask that singers make application ONLY in case of genuine need.

I would love to sing, but my family will be away on vacation and I might miss a rehearsal.

The Cobb Summer Singers is, obviously, a "summer" chorus. We realize that summer is the vacation season and that most members may miss a rehearsal. We ask that every member do their very best to be present for all rehearsals possible and that, to the extent of their ability, every singer practices his/her music at home between rehearsals. This is especially important in our 2024 shortened season.

I sang in choir in high school and college, but I am WAY out of practice. Is there any program that will help me learn my music? Is my out-of-practice voice going to be a problem?

One of the great things about the Summer Singers is that it gives singers a chance to get their voices back in shape, or keep them in shape during the traditional off-season. Sectional rehearsals are held periodically to help singers learn their part. We would also recommend that singers purchase a recording of the scheduled works. Listening to a quality recording will help you understand how the parts fit together. It will also increase your excitement for the concerts.

May I enroll in both the Summer Singers of Atlanta and the Cobb Summer Singers?

Yes! Of course. Music Director Andrew Schmidt will be leading The Summer Singers of Atlanta in their 34th season. The program will feature music for chorus and brass centered on the thrilling GLORIA of John Rutter. Rehearsals are Monday nights at Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church, 1660 North Decatur Road in Atlanta, on the campus of Emory University, beginning June 3. The dress rehearsal will be Saturday August 3, and the concert will be Sunday, August 4, also at Glenn Memorial UMC on the Emory University campus. Tuition is the same. Enrolling in an additional summer chorus will require payment of tuition for the second program. Visit our website at www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow to enroll.

What do singers wear for concerts?

Men are asked to wear a dark suit with a white shirt and a long dark tie. Women are asked to wear a black dress, or black blouse with black trousers. All are asked to wear black shoes. You do not need to purchase any attire for Summer Singers' concerts. Get as close as you can with items from your own closet. However, ALL SINGERS are asked to refrain from fragrances at ANY rehearsal or concert.

More Questions? Call the Choral Foundation Home Office at 913-488-7524, or email Mail@FestivalSingers.org Information about the Summer Singers, and registration materials can be found at www.ChoralFoundation.org.

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY GREAT MUSIC
FEEL FREE TO COPY AND DISTRIBUTE THIS INFORMATION FAR AND WIDE

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
THE COBB SUMMER SINGERS!**

The Cobb Summer Singers

A Program of The William Baker Choral Foundation
5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, Kansas 66205 Office: 913-488-7524
E-mail: Mail@FestivalSingers.org Internet: www.ChoralFoundation.org

SEVENTEENTH SEASON REGISTRATION - 2024

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Name _____

Voice Part: S1 S2 A1 A2 T1 T2 B1 B2

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Do you presently sing with a local community chorus and/or church choir? Yes No

If so, please list the name(s) of the choir(s) and the conductor(s):

Choir _____ Conductor _____

Choir _____ Conductor _____

Are there any rehearsals between June 4 & July 7 that you know now you must miss?

If so, please CIRCLE the dates here:

June 4 June 13 June 18 June 25 July 2 July 7

Your signature is a commitment to participate in the 2024 Cobb Summer Singers. If possible, please include your check with this registration. If necessary, however, you may pay tuition at the first rehearsal or apply for tuition assistance. Please understand that repertoire, soloists and instrumentation are subject to change without notice, and please remember that tuition is no refundable for any reason.

Signature/Date _____

Please make your check payable to: **Cobb Summer Singers** and mail it to:
The William Baker Choral Foundation, 5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205
_____ \$95 tuition enclosed (\$85 if paid by May 1) _____ (\$70 Student/Director)
_____ Pay at First Rehearsal _____ Tuition Assistance Information Requested

Please remember to apply \$25 discount if concurrently enrolling in Summer Singers of Atlanta

*** Prefer to use your credit card? Please register online at www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow***

The Cobb Summer Singers

LYNN SWANSON, MME, Music Director & Conductor
AMY THROPP, MM, 2024 Guest Conductor

OUR 17th SUMMER OF SINGING

DONALD McCULLOUGH

HOLOCAUST CANTATA

AMY THROPP: KADDISH IN MEMORY OF THE SIX MILLION
KIM ANDRÉ ARNESEN: EVEN WHEN HE IS SILENT

Rehearsals Tuesday Evenings, 7:15-9:30, beginning June 4
TEMPLE KOL EMETH, 1415 Old Canton Road in Marietta, Georgia
Concert Sunday, July 7, 2024

Tuition Only \$95 (\$85 if PAID by May 1, 2024)
(\$70 Students & Members of ACDA, AGO, GMEA or NAFME)
Confidential Tuition Assistance Available In Cases of Need
Participation in Both Summer Singers of Atlanta & Cobb Summer Singers Welcome

NO AUDITION REQUIRED

Adult Singers & Mature Youth 16 & Older
Call 913-488-7524 or e-mail Mail@FestivalSingers.org
Register online at www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow

The Cobb Summer Singers is an ensemble of The William Baker Choral Foundation