



Fall Newsletter

CtK Choir
In the Community



Ethereality

Celestial Dreams & the Great Beyond

Christ the King Choir was invited to sing with the Unity World Choir in Smithsonian-sponsored *Ethereality: Celestial Dreams and the Great Beyond* on Saturday, October 12, 2019. This choral and orchestral concert, interspersed with meditations about the intersection of science and faith, was the final event in the Smithsonian's 50th anniversary celebration of the Apollo 11 Lunar Landing. The program was sponsored The National Museum for African American History, and Culture and The Center for Studies in African American Religious Life; hosted by world-renowned mezzo-soprano, Denyce Graves; and produced by Networks Productions. The focus was the inspirational and awe-inspiring greatness of God in the cosmos and our harmonious interactions on this earth. One of the meditations was a quote by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the subject: "Science gives man knowledge, which is power; religion gives man wisdom, which is control. Science deals mainly with facts; religion deals mainly with values. The two are not rivals." CtK Choir Director Ann Lee said, "The choir was honored to share this musical experience; but mostly, we are grateful for the opportunity to connect with a diverse group of believing brothers and sisters with the goal of grateful unity."



Historic 19th Street Baptist Church



More CtK Choir Events



December 12, at 7:30 p.m.

CtK Choir will perform a special Lessons & Carols service for the Greenspring community in Springfield, VA. Among other things, Greenspring is home to friends and CtK parishioners, John and Gloria Uehlinger.



December 15, at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for the beautiful and traditional service of Lessons and Carols Service at CtK! Music of Britten, Willcocks, Kantor, and Chilcott.

Host a Private Concert

A Unique Experience



Host an afternoon or evening of live music in the genre of your choice for friends and family in the comfort of your own home. Upon reaching the **J.S. Bach** level of giving you will have the opportunity to enjoy this most unique gift. It's our thanks for your generous support.

Book your event today!

Contact: amycbullard@yahoo.com

Spotlight on the Artists



An Interview with

Michele Currenti, soprano, section leader and member of the choir at Christ the King Church. *(with Amy Bullard)*

Amy: *How did you get into music? Do you have any musical family members?*

Michele: I got into music completely by accident! My parents are not musical whatsoever, but for some reason both my sister and I had a knack for singing. We got involved with our church choir pretty much

immediately, and then choral singing became my passion in high school. I ended up singing in the All-State, All-Eastern, and then eventually the all national chorus (with my sister, which was CRAZY), and it really helped me grow as a musician and inspired me to stick with it into college.

Amy: *What genre or composer is your favorite to perform?*

Michele: My favorite composers are all across the board: I love Handel with all my heart, but also having a great mix of Donizetti, Mozart, and new music--all make my heart soar. I love diversity in music and keeping myself on my toes.

Amy: *Tell me about your other pursuits and passions. I understand you are a writer, scientist, linguist, etc.*

Michele: My undergraduate degrees were at the Eastman School of Music where I got a BM in voice performance, and I did a double degree in Brain and Cognitive Science at the University of Rochester at the same time. The two schools were completely separate, so I actually applied to be in a special program that allowed me to get both degrees from the two institutions. It was one of the hardest things I ever did, but it was one of the best decisions of my life. I like keeping my brain very active and always learning more about the world around me. This past summer I wanted to keep my science chops fresh, so I applied for a journalism position. The summer before this one I worked for NPR as a radio and audio journalism intern in their classical music department, and received a grant to write my own segments on the music of Latin American musicians and composers called Voces Clásicas! So, I took my experience and took a journalism position this summer with IEEE (the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) to allow me to keep that door open in the future, because as you know, singers always need a side hustle and a way to keep themselves sane.

Amy: *What are you working on currently? Degrees, performances, teachings, etc.*

Michele: My current degree is a Master in Music focusing in Opera and Pedagogy! So mostly how to sing on stage, but I also got roped into teaching; I found out I was good at it when I was already here, and they gave me a graduate assistantship in teaching voice.

Amy: *Church members would be interested to hear anything you would like to say about your faith and about your time at Christ the King.*

Michele: My faith has always been strong thanks to my incredible, tight knit family. I was raised in Christ and have been so incredibly grateful to have been able to worship along the warm, welcoming, and passionate community at Christ the King. Falling into this community has given me a church home away from my actual home, for which I'm incredibly grateful!

Amy: *Do you have any upcoming performances?*

Michele: I'll be singing Dalinda in Handel's *Ariodante* on Friday Nov. 22 and Monday Nov. 25th at the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center in College Park, MD. I'll also be singing the title role of Vixen in Janacek's *The Cunning Little Vixen* this coming April (dates to be announced soon). Additionally, I hope to organize a graduation recital this coming May that I'd love to share with Christ the King!

Michele sings with the CtK Choir again this 2019-2020 season!

Listen!

The beauty of the Anglican tradition takes us, in a year, through the Bible, the Gospel story, and engages in celebrations and remembrances to enrich our lives seasonally. We invite you to use our home page as a worship resource, as you consider the deeper meaning of each season.

Click the link below to access recordings of music performed at Christ the King.

[Friends of Music Website](#)

Concert Series

Washington Balalaika Society

November 9, 5 p.m.

Coming 2020:

T.C. Williams Award-Winning High School Choir

February TBD

Pro Coro Alexandria

April 25, 5 p.m.

Holly Creek

June 7, 5 p.m.

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J.S. Bach's Circle: \$500+ donation.

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Get Involved!

Do you sing or play an instrument? We'd love to work with you! Contact Ann Lee, Director of Music, at alee@ctkalexandria.org.



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