

## The UNI Children's Choir

The University of Northern Iowa Children's Choir (UNICC) is a choral program for students in grades 3 through 9. UNICC provides a program of music education and choral performance that seeks to fulfill each child's potential, while striving to create a model of artistic excellence and diversity that represents, enriches, and gives back to the community. Singers receive training in healthy vocal technique and music literacy and have the opportunity to foster friendships while making music together with their peers.

Members of UNICC rehearse weekly on Tuesday evenings during the academic year on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa and present performances throughout the year. Collaborative highlights and featured performances for the choir include the Association of Teacher Education Tri-I Conference, the Heartland Millennium Festival, the North Central Choral Festival, the Iowa Choral Directors (ICDA) Convention, the Midwest Children's Choir Festival, the UNI Chamber Orchestra, UNI Varsity Glee Club, and the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra.

## The Community Music School

The UNI Children's Choir is part of the UNI Community Music School (CMS). The UNI Community Music School (CMS) offers a variety of engaging music education experiences, taught and led by professional musicians and UNI students to the Cedar Valley community. CMS embraces a diverse and inclusive learning environment with exceptional programming where everyone is welcome regardless of ability, age, or financial means.

Quality musical instruction is provided for our community through private and group music lessons, membership in the New Horizons Band, Children's Choir, and Camp Musicmania. Participants in CMS programs range from ages 4 to 90 plus years old and come from several Iowa schools and communities. The Community Music School routinely offers financial need-based scholarships thanks to the generous donations from community members that share our mission of offering year-round opportunities to study music for Cedar Valley students of all ages and abilities. Each year we offer financial support for families in need for all CMS programs.

**Become a giving partner** at the UNI Foundation by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/SupportCommunityMusicSchool>. Funds are used for scholarships (lessons, Music for Little Mozarts, Camp Musicmania, and Children's Choir), to purchase music, instruments, and supplies, as well as pay guest artists.



**For more information:** [www.cms.uni.edu](http://www.cms.uni.edu)

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The University of Northern Iowa honors the ancestral stewards of the land on which our university rests. Through the work we do every day to live our mission, the University of Northern Iowa aspires for you to see a community that: honors Native and Indigenous People and culture, lives the 7th Generation Principle, does good for the people and communities we serve, and embraces stewardship of our mission and land. Please see our full stewardship statement at [president.uni.edu/stewardship-statement](http://president.uni.edu/stewardship-statement).



*in Concert*

RYAN OCCEÑA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

MARIKO MORITA, PIANO

December 17, 2024

7:30pm

Catherine Cassidy Gallagher Great Hall,  
Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center

## Program

*Star Spangled Banner*.....words by Francis Scott Key,  
music by John Stafford Smith

*Yonder Come Day*.....Michael Burkhardt

*Remember Me*.....arr. Roger Emerson

*Tres Canciones de los Elementos*.....Victor C. Johnson  
I. Escuchar al viento  
II. La lluvia está cayendo  
III. ¡Fuego!

*Cantate Deo from Water Music*.....George Frideric Handel, arr. by  
Becky Slagle Mayo  
Ellie Haan, trumpet

*Turn the World Around*.....words and music by Harry Belafonte  
and Robert Freedman, arr. by Mark Hayes

Thank you for attending tonight's concert and supporting all of the UNI Children's Choir Singers! We are so thankful to be able to work with these singers every week and bring you some great music this evening.

The UNI Children's Choir is honored to have been invited as a featured performance choir at this year's Midwest Children's Choir Festival on March 28, 2025 in Ames, Iowa at Stephen's Auditorium on the campus of Iowa State University.

The Ames Youth Choir (AYC) program created the Midwest Children's Choir Festival (MCCF) in 1996 to provide the opportunity for young singers in Iowa to hear and perform with nationally and internationally acclaimed choirs and performers. Our students have been invited to be a featured choir at the festival performance, as well as sing in the festival choir, with hundreds of fellow Iowa singers.

In order to make this memorable performance possible for our singers, we are asking for financial support from the community so that we can keep the cost of attending this festival as low as possible for our students. Costs for attending the festival include a registration fee for each singer, charter bus transportation, meals and snacks, and other miscellaneous expenses.



If you are able to offer financial support for our singers to make this memorable trip and performance possible, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/SupportCommunityMusicSchool>, click on **donate** and select "UNI Children's Choir."



THANK YOU!

## Children's Choir Members

### Allegro Members

Breeann Bahr	Lincoln Elementary (Waterloo)
Nora Ballenger	Cedar Heights Elementary (CF)
Eleanor Barclay	Kittrell Elementary (Waterloo)
Bristol Bunning	Homeschool
Lane Bunning	Homeschool
Jacob Alexander Burns	St. Patrick Catholic School (CF)
Sophia Clarke	Poyner Elementary (Evansdale)
Shaylee Deford	Olive Grove Academy (Waterloo)
London Deford	Olive Grove Academy (Waterloo)
Gabriel Drucker-Johnston	Homeschool (CF)
Amelia Fredericksen	Hansen Elementary (CF)
Mei Harlow	Hansen Elementary (CF)
Annabelle Johnson	Homeschool (Waverly)
Sadie Johnson	Homeschool (Waverly)
Alexis Longhorn	Lincoln Elementary (Waterloo)
Willem Luensmann	North Ridge Elementary (Waverly)
Maggie Mader	Homeschool (Waverly)
Alice Mader	Homeschool (Waverly)
Jensen Malley	St. Patrick Catholic School (CF)
Iryna Mishchenko	Southdale Elementary (CF)
MJ Mulholland	Hansen Elementary (CF)
Lennie Nenow	Orchard Hill Elementary (CF)
Veronica Occeña	St. Patrick Catholic School (CF)
Eleanor Pearson	Homeschool (CF)
Tate Price	Homeschool (CF)
Mae Price	Homeschool (CF)
Ethan Rohde	Lincoln Elementary (CF)
Isaiah Sharkey	Sharkey Classical Lutheran Home School
Gwen Simpson	Southdale Elementary (CF)
Asher Strei	St. Patrick Elementary (CF)
Wilemina Turner	North Cedar Elementary (CF)
Banks Van Blaricom	Cedar Heights Elementary (CF)
Mirren Wendt	Homeschool (Hudson)

### Children's Choir Assistants

Brennan Regan, Vocal Music Education Major, UNI  
Akela Salter, Vocal Music Education Major, UNI

### Vivace Members

Elena Aldrich	Orchard Hill Elementary (CF)
Charles Barlow	Olive Grove Academy (Waterloo)
Brenna Barlow	Olive Grove Academy (Waterloo)
Jaxson Bergman	Hoover Elementary (Waterloo)
Lillian Davis	Homeschool (CF)
Alne Deford	Olive Grove Academy (Waterloo)
Eliza Dobrila	Hansen Elementary (CF)
Jacey Friedly	Blessed Maria Assunta Palotta (Waterloo)
Cissnei Gardner	Bunger Middle School (Waterloo)
Belle Gilles	Homeschool (CF)
Marianne Hruby	Homeschool
Shannon Komen	Hudson Junior High (Hudson)
Jennifer Luo	Peet Junior High (CF)
Kayah Lyons	Lowell Elementary (Waterloo)
Eva Nathe	Homeschool
Sarah Nolte	Orchard Hill Elementary (CF)
Laila Strachan	Strachan Academy (Hudson)
Abbey Strachan	Strachan Academy (Hudson)
Melody Victoreen	Victoreen in Jesus Academy (Waterloo)

### Upcoming Events

#### Spring Rehearsals start January 14, 2025

- Rehearsals will meet weekly, on Tuesdays at Jebe Hall in the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center.
- *Allegro* (grades 3-5) will rehearse from 6:15-7:15pm.
- *Vivace* (grades 6-9) will rehearse from 7:15-8:15pm.
- Register online - <https://music.uni.edu/cms/childrens-choir>

#### Midwest Children's Choir Festival (all day) 7:00 pm Concert

Stephens Auditorium, Iowa State University

#### Spring Concert, May 13, 2025 at 7:30pm

Catherine Cassidy Gallagher Great Hall,  
Gallagher Bluedorn  
Performing Arts Center