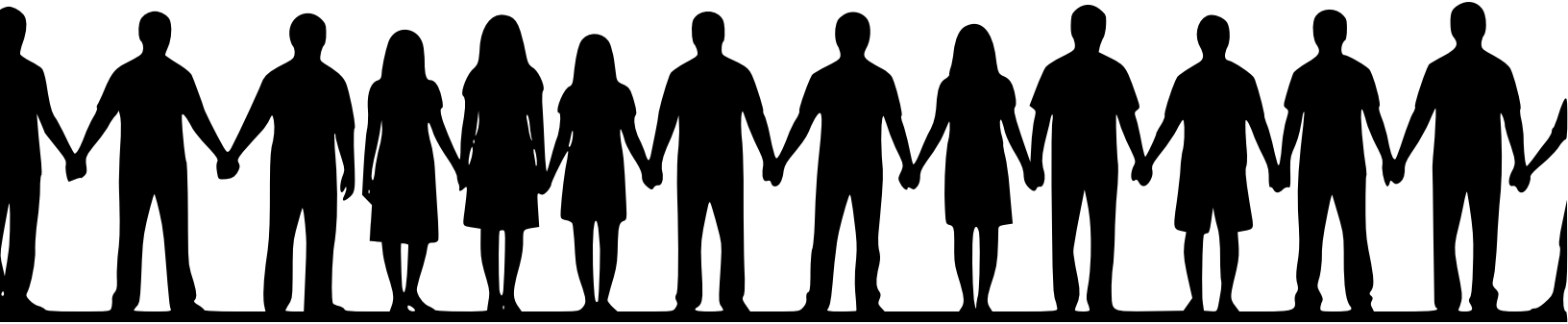


SASKATCHEWAN YOUTH CHOIR  
PRESENT



STAND BY ME

WITH GUEST CONDUCTOR  
ELROY FRIESEN

PIANIST  
JOSHUA HENDRICKSEN

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SATURDAY, MARCH 7 | 2:00 P.M.  
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4825 DEWDNEY AVENUE  
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US  
FOR THE 2026 SYC CONCERT!  
WE APPRECIATE YOUR  
SUPPORT OF YOUTH AND  
CHORAL SINGING IN  
SASKATCHEWAN!

*Thank you to the FAMILIES for supporting your children as they pursue their love of choral music, especially the past few months as members of SYC! We also extend a huge THANK YOU to the voice teachers and choral directors that have worked with, inspired, recommended and encouraged the members of the Saskatchewan Youth Choir! Thank you all for keeping choral singing alive in the province!*

# THE 2026 SASKATCHEWAN YOUTH CHOIR

## Guest Conductor

Elroy Friesen

## Soprano

Isaree Aroonwilas

Tess-Journey Brezinski

Gemyka Antonia Guillermo

Jenae Hannah

Jamie Mushynsky

Leiyanne Nepacena

Karlee Omoth

## Tenor

Andy Hu

Alex McGregor

Finn Nichol

Sebastian Pilon

Trayton Popowich

Mason Zastrow

## Instrumentalist

Funke Fayemi

Alvina Kallarakkal

James Raquion

## Pianist

Joshua Hendricksen

## Alto

Sewa Adedayo

Neo Kaip

Edna Oतिकpere

Aditi Rane

Kelsie Ring

Sophia Stav

## Baritone/Bass

Ryan Clarke

Shale Covert-Ruttenberg

Levi Bailey

Alex Grandel

Logan Markel

# Programme

When I Rise Up .....	J. David Moore
Ispiciwin (Journey).....	Andrew Balfour *
Kyrie & Agnus Dei.....	Steve Dobrogosz
O Love.....	Elaine Hagenberg
Time.....	Jennifer Lucy Cook
Stand By Me.....	Ben E. King, Mike Stoller arr. Henrik Dahlgren
As the Ship Went Down.....	Woodpigeon (the band)* arr. George Chung*
Haze.....	Stuart Beatch*
Woodriver.....	Connie Kaldor* arr. Willi Zwozdesky*
Big Yellow Taxi.....	Joni Mitchell* arr. Matt and Adam Podd
I Sing Because I'm Happy.....	Charles H. Gabriel arr. Kenneth Paden
What Is Love.....	Haddaway arr. Sam Dabrusin*

\* denotes Canadian

## About the Conductor



**Elroy Friesen** is Director of Choral Studies at the University of Manitoba, where he conducts multiple choirs, and teaches graduate conducting. His award-winning ensembles have toured extensively, garnered national and international acclaim, and been featured on CBC Radio. Friesen enjoys fostering artistic collaborations, partnering with organizations such as the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Canadian College of Organists, and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra. He is the former Artistic Director of Canzona and the former Artistic Director and Founder of Prairie Voices, a renowned Winnipeg-based youth choir. A dedicated educator, Friesen has served as a clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor across North America and Northern Europe. He holds degrees from the University of Manitoba and the University of Illinois, and is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards and grants.

## About the Collaborative Pianist



**Joshua Hendricksen** is a Regina based collaborative pianist and choral accompanist. An experienced collaborator, Joshua is regarded for his sensitive, musical playing and his steadfast demeanor as a musical partner. He is honoured to be returning to play for the Saskatchewan Youth Choir again this year.

*Did you know that March 1st to 7th, 2026 was “Choral Week”  
in the province of Saskatchewan as designated by the  
Hon. Alana Ross, Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport?*

The Saskatchewan Choral Federation celebrated the week by hosting the 13th annual ChorFest Saskatchewan that took place from March 3rd to 5th at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Regina.

Choirs from around the province performed in groups of up to three, had a mini on-stage workshop followed by a private workshop with accomplished Canadian choral clinicians: Dorothy Dyck (Manitoba), Dr. Rachel Rensink-Hoff (Ontario), and Heidi Wood (Alberta).

Let us know how you spent Choral Week in Saskatchewan!

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## *ACKNOWLEDGMENTS*

FUNDED BY



In partnership with



*Saskatchewan Choral Federation receives significant funding from Sask  
Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation through the  
assistance of SaskCulture.*





## **Support the Saskatchewan Youth Choir today with a tax deductible donation to the Saskatchewan.**

Members of the 2024-2025 SYC season had this to say about their participation in SYC:

“It was such an amazing experience, and I can’t wait for next year.”

“I’ve had such a wonderful time working with everyone at SYC, and I’m grateful for this opportunity. Being a part of this team has been such an enriching experience, and I’ve learned so much.”

“The memories and skills I have gained will always stay with me.”

“Thank you so much for the opportunity to sing in such an amazing choir! It was such a blast being able to be a member of this beautiful program. You could really tell that every single member in the choir put their best foot forward with the music and our efforts really shone through during the concert. The passion I felt for the music in the room was 100% shared amongst everyone else!!!”

By giving to the Saskatchewan Youth Choir, you help provide these singers with a truly incredible choral experience. Singers are challenged with exciting repertoire under the guidance of some of Canada’s most esteemed conductors. They meet other young singers from across the province with whom they form lifelong friendships and make a lasting impact in the communities in which they perform.

The generous support of individual donors just like you helps to defray the costs of the Saskatchewan Youth Choir. Without your support, many singers would not be able to be a part of this exciting opportunity.

Cheques made payable to the Saskatchewan Choral Federation can be mailed to:  
**Saskatchewan Choral Federation, 212-1860 Lorne Street, Regina, SK S4P 2L& or  
e-transfers can be sent to [information@saskchoral.ca](mailto:information@saskchoral.ca)**

**For an instant tax receipt, donate online at [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) through the SCF website [saskchoral.ca](http://saskchoral.ca) by clicking on the DONATE button.**

**Donations to the new Adopt-a-Choristers campaign are still being accepted at [saskchoral.ca/adopt-a-chorister.html](http://saskchoral.ca/adopt-a-chorister.html)**

*Thank you to these supporters of the 2026 Saskatchewan Youth Choir  
Stacy Allan (Adopt-a-Chorister), Shirley Brezinski (Adopt-a-Chorister),  
James Hawn, Gerald Langner, Marcia McLean, Robert Solem,  
Diane Taylor-Neale, Stewart Wilkinson, Ethan Williams*

Thank You to:

- Christ Lutheran Church and Staff, Regina
- Living Spirit Centre and Staff, Regina
- Regina Performing Arts Centre and Staff, Regina
- Stacy Allan (Sectionals)
- Kayla Stadnick (Sectionals)
- Will Ireton (Sectionals)
- Dennis Hendricksen (Sound Technician)
- Thomas Hendricksen (Video Technician)
- Brendan Dickie (Photographer)

### ***THE SASKATCHEWAN CHORAL FEDERATION***

The Saskatchewan Choral Federation is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to the elevation and enhancement of choral music in Saskatchewan through education and awareness. Entering its forty-eighth year, the SCF works to promote the art of choral music, encourage high standards of artistic attainment, maximize the number of singers and choirs in the province and grow and develop appreciative audiences. Significant funding for these activities is provided by the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation, with assistance from SaskCulture.

#### **Board of Directors**

Dorianna Holowachuk, President; Richard Janzen, President-Elect; Cynthia Peyson Wahl, Past President; Adele Sawatzky, Treasurer; Chloé Golden, Secretary; Quinn Bell, Will Ireton, Jordan Kornelsen, Evanne Wilhelm

#### **Staff**

Sheryl Neher, Executive Director; James Raquion, Program Manager

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