

FREE CONCERT SERIES IN THE RICHARD BRADSHAW AMPHITHEATRE

PRESENTED BY



VOCAL/JAZZ SERIES

January 16, 2024, 12 p.m.

LIFT YOUR SPIRITS

York University Gospel Choir

THE PROGRAM

Lord, You're Worthy New Direction

Holy is the Lord Chris Tomlin
as recorded by Toronto Mass Choir

Trust Me Richard Smallwood

More Than I Can Bear Kirk Franklin & God's Property

The Storm is Passing Over Charles Albert Tindley
as sung by Detroit Mass Choir

Lord, I'm Available To You Rev. Milton Brunson & The Thompson Community Singers

Jesus Paid It All Franklin & The Family

My Mind's Made Up Brunson & The Thompson Community Singers

He Has Done Marvelous Anonymous

Photography, video, and audio recording are strictly prohibited during the performance.
You are welcome to take photos before and after the performance and are encouraged to share with us on:



@CanadianOpera

#FreeConcertSeries

Programming is subject to change. For complete up-to-date listings, and to sign up for email updates, visit coc.ca/FreeConcerts.

COMING UP NEXT AT THE FREE CONCERT SERIES

Wed. Jan. 17, 2024, 12-1 p.m.

INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

Artists of The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists

Looking to the Future

Senior strings students from The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists showcase their sensational talent as the Academy Chamber Orchestra, the program's flagship chamber ensemble.

Thu. Jan. 18, 2024, 12-1 p.m.

DANCE SERIES

Dance Ontario

Preview of DanceWeekend'24

Dance Ontario presents a preview of DanceWeekend'24, celebrating their 30th anniversary. This flagship event is a sumptuous multi-day dance festival chocked full of talent, performance, innovation and education, companies, culture, and exceptional opportunities. DanceWeekend has evolved into a vibrant must-see extravaganza featuring Ballet, Flamenco, Hip Hop, Indian Classical, Egyptian, Chinese, African, Contemporary (and everything in between and unfolding!).

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE...

Tue. Feb. 20, 2024, 12-1 p.m.

VOCAL SERIES

Artists of *Aportia Chryptych*

A Musical Scripture

The story of Portia White – the daughter of a Negro Baptist minister – is a story of Black joy and Black musical royalty. This Free Concert Series performance is a celebration of soul-stirring songs adjacent to and immersed in the fabric of this new world premiere of *Aportia Chryptych: A Black Opera for Portia White*, premiering at the COC this June.

The Free Concert Series in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre is supported by the Free Concert Series Endowment Fund, established in honour of Richard Bradshaw by an anonymous donor



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FOUR SEASONS CENTRE
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



York University Gospel Choir

The York University Gospel Choir (YUGC) began with 20 unsuspecting students in 2005. Now, this popular course meets weekly and performs regularly off-campus and several times each year on campus in the beautiful recital halls located in Accolade East Building (ACE). The ACE is located on the Keele Campus of York University and home to the School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design. Renowned conductor and educator, Karen Burke (co-founder and Artistic Director of the JUNO Award-winning Toronto Mass Choir) created this seminal curricular Gospel course along with the upper-level studies course, the “History of Gospel Music.” These courses were the first of their kind at a post-secondary institution in Canada. Burke is also the co-founder and Artistic Director of the JUNO Award-winning Toronto Mass Choir, a Gospel choir now in its 35th season. The new YUGC Course Director for the 2023/2024 season is Natalie Stewart, who completed her masters in ethnomusicology at York University with a research focus in gospel music and been a music creative and educator in Canada for over 25 years. YUGC members are evaluated individually through small ensemble work, choir performances, and vocal evaluations. Besides providing a unique experience for students, other benefits of learning gospel music include vastly improved aural, harmonic, and rhythmic skills. YUGC’s performances are often supported by the York University Gospel Ensemble led by Corey Butler, who created this exciting addition to York University’s gospel course offerings in 2021.

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