Rainier Youth Choirs Personnel

Rainier Kids

Sue Green, Director; Penny Cramer, Accompanist; Alex Beauchman, Ben Bennett, Jonathan Callejas, Elana Cueto, Katelyn Dunham, Cassie Fokkema, Kevin Fokkema, Nicole Glaser, Emely Kamadulski, Tyson Powell, Peyton Sakamoto

Junior Choir

Sue Green, Director; Brad Wills, Accompanist; Alana Akiyama, Nick Anderson, Hannah Berry, Isabella Carraturo, Elana Cueto, Duane Davis, Tyrese Davis, Olivia Ellis, Cassie Fokkema, Emily Halversen, Russell Johnson, Isaac Kelly, Thomas Leonard, Emily Lewis, Brooke Moen, Tyson Powell, Kandis Spurling, Kylene Spurling, Nica Sy

Concert Choir

Leora Schwitters, Director; Lori McEwen, Accompanist; Haylee Ball, Shelbi Eller, Hannah Freitag, Janée Green, Karina Leonard, Katie Leonard, Sarah Martin, Caeli McKamey, Cassidy Newell, Amara Reitz, Cian Schlichte, Benjamin Songras-Rosales, Makoto Také, Jordan Vincent, Julia Wenndt, Olivia Wise, Danielle Wong

Ensemble

Leora Schwitters, Director; Lori McEwen, Accompanist; Stephanie Boutros, Dana Bygland, Trevor Bygland, Ryan Callahan, Makena Cayce, Arienna Chamberlain, Allison Combs, Matthew Eaton, Miranda Eller, Cameron Ellis, Janelle Heuslein, Leah Hollingsworth, Nathan Jacobsen, Bailey Kieffer-Peterson, Ian Lobdell, Christina Mahaney, Zach Martin, Daniel McCafferty, Joshua Meyers, Tristan Pennington, Emily Pierre, Kristin Roelofs, Carissa Schaff, Jeremy Sigrist, Gordon Starr, Anthony Sy, Brendan Walker, Christina Walker, Katie Wenndt, Courtnee Williams, Devon Wilson

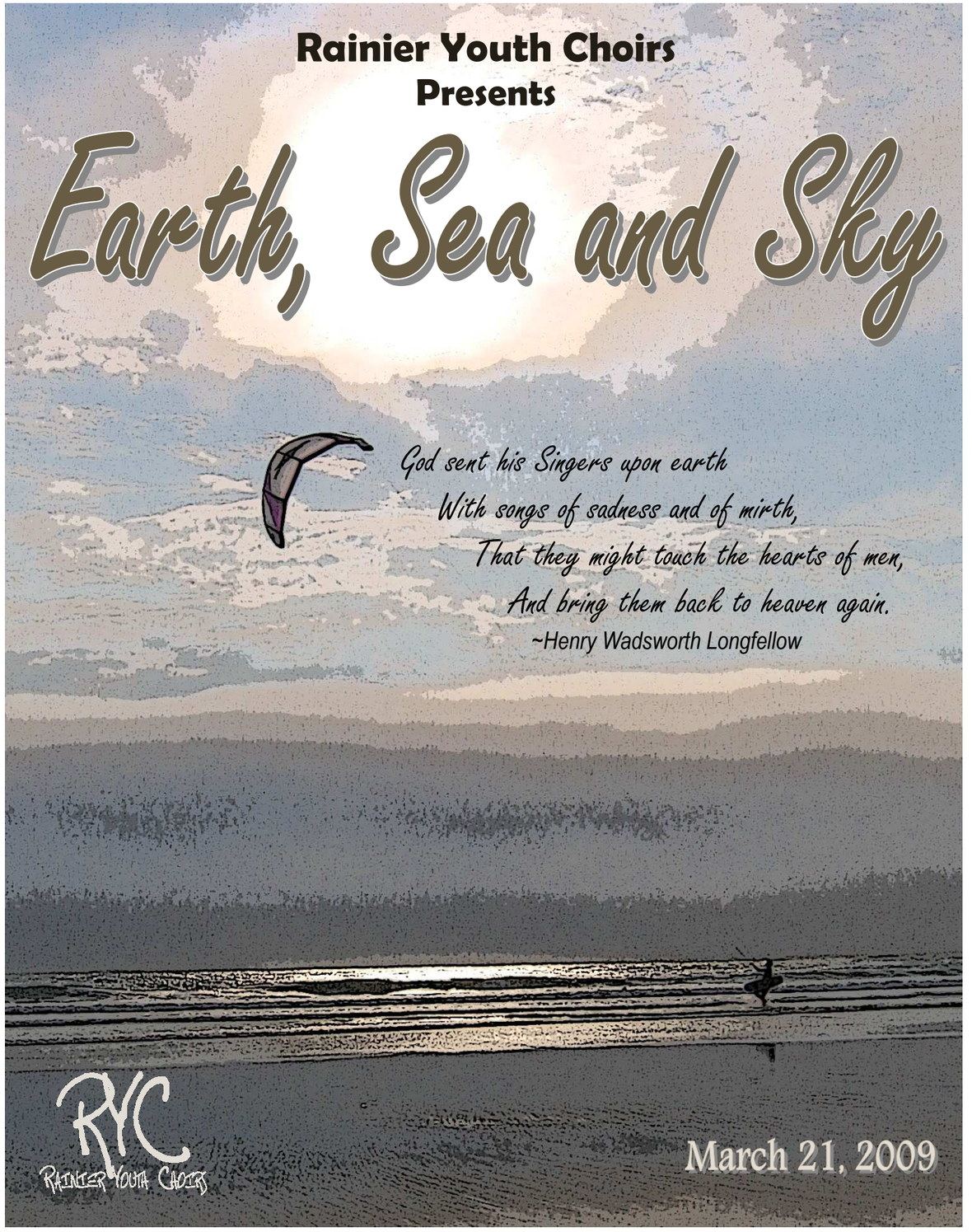
Leora Schwitters, Founder, Rainier Youth Choirs Artistic Director, and Conductor, Rainier Concert Choir and Rainier Ensemble, retired after 25 years in public education in 2006, having taught music at all levels, K-12. Most of her choral teaching experience occurred at Cedar Heights Junior High in Kent, WA. She holds a Bachelor's of Music, Summa Cum Laude, from Yankton College Conservatory of Music in South Dakota and a Master of Arts for Teachers in Music Education from the University of Washington. She is President of the Washington American Choral Director's Association (ACDA). Active as a clinician and adjudicator, Leora has also served on the board of the Tahoma Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and has presided over the Green River Music Region organization.

Sue Lundy Green, Conductor, Junior Choir and Rainier Kids, has been a K-12 vocal music specialist for over 20 years. After five years of teaching elementary music and choir at Jenkins Creek Elementary in the Kent School District, she is now the choral director at Meeker Middle School in Kent. Sue previously directed secondary choirs for the Scappoose School District in Oregon, headed the music program at Portland Public Schools' performing arts high school magnet program, and directed choirs in Banks and Roseburg, Oregon. She has a Masters of Music from the University of Arizona and a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Willamette University. Sue is currently the Western Liaison for Washington ACDA, and was the Membership Chair for Oregon ACDA before moving to the Puget Sound area. She is married to Jonathan and is the stepmother to two boys, Matthew & Joshua.

Brad Wills, Accompanist, Junior Choir, teaches general music and choir at Fairwood Elementary School in Kent. Mr. Wills studied music at Wheaton College's conservatory and frequently accompanies Kent students and choirs at solo/ensemble festivals. Prior to teaching music, Mr. Wills taught special education for 15 years. In 2002, he was selected as Kent School District's Teacher of the Year.

Lori McEwen, Accompanist, Concert Choir and Rainier Ensemble, has been the principal accompanist for Leora Schwitters' school and community groups for over ten years. Mrs. McEwen currently accompanies several Kent School District choirs and accompanies local students for solo/ensemble contests and NATS competitions each year. She studied piano and voice at Central Washington University. She and her husband Bill have led music at the contemporary worship service and sung in the chancel choir at Fairwood Community United Methodist Church in Renton for over 25 years. Lori accompanies both children and youth choirs that her husband directs at the church. Together they provide music for weddings and other special events.

Penny Cramer, Accompanist, Rainier Kids, Penny Cramer has taught music at all levels, K-12 and is the choir and orchestra director at Olympic Middle School in Auburn. She holds a degree in vocal education from the University of Idaho and is a member of The Esoterics, an a cappella choir based in Seattle. Penny has accompanied school choirs as well as college and community choirs in Idaho and Florida. She is currently the accompanist for the choir at Messiah Lutheran Church in Auburn and works with band, choir and orchestra students in solo and ensemble festivals at the local and state levels.



Rainier Choral Arts Proudly Presents
Rainier Youth Choirs

Earth, Sea and Sky

Saturday, March 21, 2009— 7:00pm
Kent United Methodist Church

Rainier Ensemble

Adorable Flujo from "Cantos Alegre" *(See Program Note 1)* ..... Paul Basler
French Horn: Brent Pennington

The Water is Wide ..... arr. René Clausen
Janice Halstead, Cello, Brent Pennington, French Horn, Jee Yoon Won, Clarinet

Rainier Kids

A Distant Shore ..... Arr. Mary Donnelly & George L.O. Strid
Solo: Peyton Sakamoto & Nicole Glaser

Songs about the Moon
The Moon ..... Andy Beck
Path to the Moon ..... Eric H. Thiman

Joy Inside! ..... Phillis White
Percussion: Karen Martin, Traci Wilson, Brad Wills, and Amy Pennington

Junior Choir

The Poetry of Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)
Prettier Far Than These ..... Music by Lon Beery
What Is Pink? ..... Music by Janet Gardner

Windy Nights ..... Mark Patterson

Song of the Earth ..... Lois Brownsey & Marti Lunn Lantz
Narration: Emily Halverson, Flute: Tracie Wilson, Drum: Kandis Spurling, Rainstick: Cassie Fokkema

Concert Choir

Out of the Stars ..... Bill Cutter
Flute: Traci Wilson

Windy Nights ..... Cynthia Gray
Text: Robert Louis Stevenson

Las Mañanitas *(See Program Note 2)* ..... arr. Francisco Nuñez
Traditional Mexican song celebrating birthdays or Saint's Day

Things That Never Die ..... Lee Dengler
Text: Charles Dickens

Birdsong *(See Program Note 3)* ..... Paul Read
Duet: Sarah Martin and Olivia Wise

Green River Music Region Soloists
(See Insert)

Rainier Ensemble

Sing Me to Heaven ..... Daniel Gawthrop

La Lluvia ("The Rain") ..... Stephen Hatfield
Percussion: Matt Eaton, Carissa Schaff, Anthony Sy
This folk melody from Ecuador is traditionally played on the siku, the double row of panpipes that have been used in the high Andes for over a thousand years.

H.M.S. Pinafore Medley ..... Arthur Sullivan and W. S. Gilbert/arr. Epp
Solos: Trevor Bygland, Daniel McCafferty, and Zach Martin

All Choirs Combined

Sun Child ..... arr. Will Schmid
Haitian Folk Song
Steel Drums: Karen Martin and Amy Pennington

Thank you for coming to our concert!

Program Notes and Translations

1. *Adorable Flujo from "Cantos Alegre"* Translation

Energy flows, flows…….
within me it enters in abundance…..
the senses are a bridge
when I fall with the force of water
like a petal of light
towards the fountain of the intimate
immensity of the divine kiss of my
mind……

Adorable cosmic flow,
I am yours in root and constellation
the senses are a river
when I fall in lightning
towards the ecstatic celebration
of the fertile garden where find you
planting rays of light and nourishment.
You run like the water with its
energy and celestial smile,

smile that makes me flow
smile that imitates the sun…
and for its abundant warmth,
I jump as I laugh
because I enjoy a blade of grass
as I do an entire forest.
I shout as loud as I can
"I love living, I love living"
Text: Gabriel Navar

2. *Las Mañanitas* Translation

These are the mornings that were sung by King David;
Today is your birthday and we will sing to you.
Wake up my love, wake up; look, sunrise has come, Already the little birds are singing, the moon has already set.
Night watchmen on the corner, would you do me the favor Of turning off the lantern until my love passes.
Now please Mr. Watchman, I would appreciate your favor, Please turn your lantern on because my love has passed by.

3. *Birdsong*

This text comes from a collection of poems written by children who, while incarcerated in the Terezin Concentration Camp in Czechoslovakia during WWII, wrote of their experiences and their dreams. This young author writes of the beauty of the world rather than of the horrors and destruction of that time.