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FOUNDATION

*presents*

*"Christmas Time in the City"*  
*An Annual Holiday Concert*

*Spectacular!*

**Children, Youth, Teen, Adult, Senior**  
**&**  
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**Continuo Arts Orchestra**

**WESTFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**DECEMBER 12, 2015**  
**7:30 P.M.**  
**140 MOUNTAIN AVE**  
**WESTFIELD, NJ**

*Presented free of charge as a gift to our communities*

*Donations accepted*



Presents

The



An Original Musical Revue

Songbook

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE CENTRAL PLAYERS

Featuring

**The Continuo Arts Foundation Choruses**  
**&**  
**The Central Players**

**Saturday, November 14 at 8pm**

**Sunday, November 15 at 3pm**

Central Presbyterian Church

70 Maple Street, Summit

Suggested donation: \$10

Made possible in part by The Grand Summit Hotel, The Manley Winsor Foundation,  
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The Continuo Arts Foundation



Around the World



And right next door



# The Continuo Arts Summer Musical Theater Conservatory

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Continuo Arts is pleased to introduce our new Musical Theater Director!

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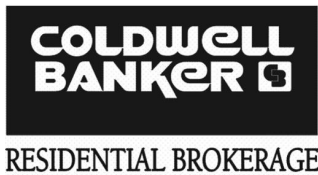
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Welcome to

## "The Hollywood Songbook"

A Production of  
**The Minuetto Music Festival**

&

**The Continuo Arts Foundation**

A Benefit Concert for  
**The Central Players**

### The Central Players/ Statement of Purpose

The mission of the Central Players is to extend an outreach to the church's congregation, the city of Summit and New Jersey's community at-large through the medium of live theatre, with an emphasis on the classic scripts of the English-speaking canon.

We believe in the power of a compelling tale well-told. Hence, we'll embrace the simple but profound label of Storyteller. From the days when our ancestors would gather around a fire, stories have been a principal means of defining our culture and preserving our identity.

When a great story is shared with a group of friends and strangers in the confines of a theatre, it can make everyone (in Arthur Miller's insightful phrase) "feel less alone."

The Central Players will seek to do just that.

The Digital Age, with all the smart phones and social media sites that now dominate our lives, is revolutionary. Communication has never been faster or generated at a higher volume. Yet ironically, all this technology has also isolated individuals from their peers. People who have never met face-to-face call themselves friends, and many who've lived on a street for years can't name their neighbors.

The public square has been reduced to the size of a computer screen, or a device one holds in the palm of a hand. However, popular culture is still somewhat cyclical. We may be on the brink of a time when the relative simplicity and communal intimacy of live Theatre is desirable once again.

After all, when you've sampled everything up to Virtual Reality, there's only one direction to turn: back toward home, back to the basics.

Back to the Storyteller.

Your donations and gifts will enable us to continue this venture.



**Candace Wicke, President & Executive Director**

Conductor Candace Wicke made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2002. As a champion of new music, Dr. Wicke has premiered new works in many of her Carnegie Hall appearances including the World Premiere of Imant Raminsh's *Symphony of Psalms*, Gary Fry's *Sing A Song With Me*, and Stephen Edwards's *A Carol Fantasy, Requiem for my Mother, Revelation*, and the New York Premiere of the *Ave Maria Mass*. Sharing the stage in 2008 with the likes of the Vienna Philharmonic, Christoph Eschenbach, and Helmuth Rilling, Wicke conducted the European premiere and world-wide television broadcast of the Edwards *Requiem for my Mother* with the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus, Orchestra and the City of Prague Philharmonic at the prestigious Festival Pro Musica e Arte Sacre Series in Roma, Italy.

Wicke conducted and produced the Carnegie Hall "Christmas Time in the City" concert series in 2009 and the Lee Kjelson Memorial "Sounds of Music Series" in 2010. In 2011, Dr. Wicke conducted the first Festival Internazionale Di Arte Per Giovani Musicisti in Rome, Italy. She also served as the principal conductor for the 2012 Inaugural season of the Minuetto Music Festival and returned for the second annual Giovani Musicisti Festival to conduct the world premiere of Stephen Edwards *Missa Brevis* in Rome, Vatican City, Assisi and Prague in 2012. In February of 2014 she conducted the first concert in history inside the Sistine Chapel by an American organization and conductor. The 2015 season includes serving as Chorus Master for the world premiere of Disney's "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" at the Paper Mill Playhouse

Dr. Wicke's international experience also includes conducting the United States representative Wind Ensemble at the Taipei Presidential Inauguration, the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, the City of Prague Philharmonic, in Prague and the Waratah Girls Choir in Australia. Ensembles under her baton have received National and International acclaim performing with Andre Rieu and the Johan Strauss Orchestra, the Turksoy Orchestra in Lincoln Center and the Music Center at Strathmore, the Global International Women's Summit, Musica Mundi International, Legatus International, and the Miami Civic Associations Young Artist Debut. She is a popular guest conductor, adjudicator and master class clinician across the United States.

Wicke is the founder, president, and executive director for the Continuo Arts Foundation and conducts the Continuo Arts Intergenerational Choral Ensembles including; Children's Chorus, Chanticleers, Singers, Continuos!, Civic Chorale, Seniors Sing! and Sonaré. These ensembles are featured in a variety of concert series and community outreach performances throughout the year. In these roles, she is committed to procreating the arts through performance, composition, education, and to fostering patronage for musical advancement and exposure. Wicke resides in Westfield, NJ with her husband and two teenage boys and is a graduate of the University of Miami and Evangel University, majoring in vocal and instrumental performance, music education, and conducting. Dr. Wicke was recently named the 2014 Distinguished Alumni of the Year for Evangel University.



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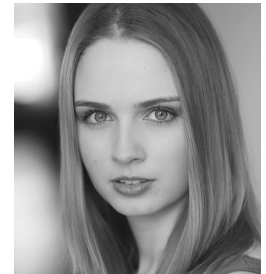
**Amanda Blunter** Assistant Conductor / Programs Manager Mrs. Blunter holds a B.M. in Music Education from Westminster Choir College of Rider University and an M.A. in Music and Music Education from Teachers College of Columbia University. During her time at Westminster, she performed as a choir member and soloist with Schola Cantorum, Williamson Voices, and the Westminster Choir under the batons of James Jordan, Joe Miller, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Jacques Lacombe, Alan Gilbert and Joseph Flummerfelt. Mrs. Blunter is a choir director and music teacher in the Elizabeth Public School District, and resides in Roselle Park with her husband.



**Julia Craig**, Administrative Assistant Ms. Craig is a founding member of The Singers ensemble with numerous performances in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, The Music Center at Strathmore, as well as international appearances in Rome, Prague, Assisi and Vatican City. She is currently a student at County College of Morris with a major in music technology. Ms. Craig is also a sales associate at Vineyard Vines in Short Hills, NJ.



**John Conte**, pianist, composer, producer, orchestrator, educator, is the staff accompanist for the Continuo Arts Foundation and holds a B.M. and M.M. in piano performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, MD. His subsequent education includes studies in Jazz Performance and Music Theory at the Manhattan School of Music, Chamber Music at The Banff Centre in Alberta, Canada, and Composition at Westminster Choir College. His teachers have included Robert Weirich, Ann Schein, Leon Fleisher and Karl Ulrich Schnabel. He's written and recorded the scores for the award-winning independent features "Black-Eyed Susan" and "Mass of Angels." He was the Assistant Conductor of the Lyric Theatre Orchestra of NYC and is an accompanist for The Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, NJ. He is currently the pianist and Musical Director for Alexander Kariotis and the Rock Opera Orchestra.



**Samantha Ferrara** Musical Theater Director Ms. Ferrara graduated in 2014 from Westminster Choir College of Rider University with a B.M. in Music Education and a minor in Musical Theatre. While at Rider and Westminster, she performed as a choir member and soloist with Symphonic Choir, as well as performing in six mainstage productions under the direction of Nathan Hurwitz, Robin Lewis, Trent Blanton and Miriam Mills. Ms. Ferrara can be frequently found on both the professional and community stage; she spent last spring in the chorus of *Hunchback of Notre Dame* at Paper Mill Playhouse, and this past summer flying high in Trilogy Repertory Company's *Mary Poppins* as the title role. Some of her favorite roles include Niki Harris in *Curtains*, Ariel in *Footloose* and Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes*. Ms. Ferrara is currently teaching chorus and orchestra at Mountain View Middle School in Mendham, as well as actively pursuing her Kodály certification. Ms. Ferrara grew up in Bernardsville, where she is the alto section leader at St. Bernard's Episcopal Church and had music directed productions at Bernardsville Middle School. She currently lives in Morristown with her fiancé.



### **Nicholas John Steltzer** Conducting Fellow

Originally from Geneseo, NY, Mr. Steltzer studied both piano and organ at the Eastman School (Rochester) in a course of study through the Community Education Division. Since then he has lived, worked and studied organ/choral music in Texas, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Washington, and England. He now lives in Morristown serving as Director of Music at Brookside Community Church in Mendham Township, and is currently working on research toward a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting through the University of Washington (Seattle). In the summer, he serves the Big Moose Community Chapel, a seasonal parish in the Adirondack mountains. Nicholas is pleased to have a part in making music with the Continuo Arts Foundation.

## The Central Players

**Will Lampe** (John Adams) National tour: **Urban Cowboy, the Musical** (Uncle Bob). New York: **Edward II** (Gurney), **Comedy of Errors** (Dromio), Riverside Shakespeare Company. Regional: Bickford Theatre: **1776** (John Adams), **She Loves Me** (Georg), **Blithe Spirit** (Charles). For 1776 and She Loves Me, Will was named Best Actor in a Musical by the Star-Ledger's Peter Filicia. 4th Wall Theatre: **A Man of No Importance** (Carney), **Assassins** (Byck), **I Do! I Do!** (Michael), **Philemon** (Cockian), **The Real Inspector Hound** (Birdboot). Barn Theatre: **Evita** (Che), **Lend Me a Tenor** (Max), **Anything Goes** (Lord Evelyn).

**D'Angelique Dopson** (Abigail Adams) is delighted to have the opportunity to make beautiful music with these wonderful artists. This summer, she sang with the Black River Singers in Chester and she is currently a member of the choral group Coro Lirico, based in Madison. Over the years, Dani has performed in musicals such as **Assassins, Me and My Girl, Jekyll and Hyde, Sweeney Todd, and Jane Eyre**. Her music is dedicated, as is her life, to her wonderful Hubby and Kid.

**Tom Schopper** (Thomas Jefferson) Credits include **1776** (*Thomas Jefferson*) at The Bickford Theatre and at Chester Theatre Group; **A Christmas Story: The Musical** (*The Old Man*), **The Drowsy Chaperone** (*Feldzjeg*), **The Producers** (*Franz*), **My Favorite Year** (*King Kaiser*), **Ragtime** (*Henry Ford*), **Most Happy Fella** (*Joe*), **Twelve Angry Men** (*Director*) and **Epic Proportions** (*Director*) at The Barn Theater; **Avenue Q** (*Trekkie*), **Assassins** (*Proprietor*), and **Hands on a Hardbody** (*Frank*) at 4th Wall Theatre. Love to Janice, Brian & Danny!

## DONORS TO THE CENTRAL PLAYERS

The Central Players are deeply grateful to the following individuals, whose contributions were essential in funding this production:

Theresa Blades  
Lori Donahue  
Phyllis Hartley

Toby Herbst Antiques  
John Huneke  
Noni MacPherson

Dee Robertson



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Trilogy Repertory Company  
Henri and Jaye Barre  
Julian Gordon  
C & J Costumes  
Lyle Brehm

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~ Scene Six: A Preview of Coming Attractions ~

*Two Scenes and Songs from the Broadway Musical "1776", which the Central Players hope to produce in the Summer of 2016  
Music and Lyrics by Sherman Edwards*

Yours, Yours, Yours!  
*Will Lampe, D'Angelique Dopson*

The Egg  
*Tom Schopper, Will Lampe, Walker Joyce*

~ Finale ~

Joyful, Joyful (from *Sister Act 2*) ..... Beethoven/arr. Warren/Emerson

**Full Company**  
*Elizabeth Allen & Jessica Allen, Soloists*



**Produced By:**



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**Walker Joyce (Benjamin Franklin, The Central Players' Producing Artistic Director)**

Though he wasn't born in a trunk, Walker grew up in Show Business. He's the first-born of late, great entertainer Jimmy Joyce, whose career spanned nightclubs, Grand Opera, TV and movies, and whose glorious voice and gift for storytelling made him one of the most sought-after stand-ups of his era. Walker's mother also sang professionally, prior to settling down to teach school and raise their family.

While his Dad excelled at arias and Irish jokes, Walker's knack was acting. After college he returned to New York and began a long stint in the Theatre, appearing in the city and around the country, mostly in book musicals. Signature roles included Ben Franklin in *1776* and The King in *Big River*, Roger Miller's take on *Huckleberry Finn*. During the national tour with that Tony-winning show critic William Henry, *Time* magazine's Pulitzer Prize recipient, published a story entitled, "How Does Broadway Play in Peoria?" Regarding the actor playing the comic bad guy he wrote, "As a scalawag con man, Walker Joyce malevolently out-performs his antecedents."

Between stage parts Walker supported himself with commercials, and as an executive with Duchin-Lyons Productions, a consulting firm servicing Fortune 500 companies. After a spell in Los Angeles pursuing movies and television, Walker moved home to New Jersey and founded The Bickford Theatre, an Equity company now in its 20<sup>th</sup> season. As the first Artistic Director, he produced 28 shows in 6 years, directing 10 and appearing in 5. They won numerous awards, including 3 consecutive Best Play of the Year citations in the Newark Star Ledger's annual survey

In recent times, Walker has managed The Opera At Florham at Fairleigh Dickinson University, returned to the stage in several state theatres and joined The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra as Manager of Audience Development.

In 2014, he chartered The Central Players, a theatre company in residence at the Central Presbyterian Church in Summit, NJ. The troupe debuted that November, presenting a warmly-received revival of Thornton Wilder's masterpiece, *Our Town*.

Walker extends profound thanks to Dr. Candace Wicke, The Minuetto Music Festival, The Continuo Arts Foundation, Dr. Charity Wicks, Reverend Don Steele and The Central Presbyterian Church staff and music department for their incredible support and generosity.

# “THE HOLLYWOOD SONGBOOK”

Master of Ceremonies ~ Rev. Don Steele

Hooray for Hollywood.....Whiting/arr. Beck

**Full Company**

## ~ Scene One: Golden Age Hits, 1936-1949 ~

Over the Rainbow (from *The Wizard of Oz*).....Arlen/arr. Huff

**Singers**

*Ellen Camacho-Walsh, soloist*

Nice Work if You Can Get It (from *Damsel in Distress*).....Gershwin/

arr. Althouse

**Seniors Sing!**

*Linda Melnick & Pat Foca, Soloists*

Baby It's Cold Outside (from *Neptune's Daughter*).....Loesser

**Emma Peterson and Anthony Alberti**

## ~ Scene Two: The Fabulous Fifties ~

Singin' In the Rain (from *Singin' In the Rain*) .....Brown/arr. Hayes

**Sonaré**

Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend

(from *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*).....Styne/arr. Hayes

**Civic Chorale**

Que Sera, Sera (from *The Man Who Knew Too Much*).....Livingston

**Full Company**

When I was just a little girl, I asked my mother, “What will I be?”

Will I be pretty? Will I be rich? Here's what she said to me

Que Sera, Sera, whatever will be, will be  
The future's not ours to see, Que sera sera,  
what will be, will be

When I was just a child in school, I asked my teacher, “What should I try?”

Should I paint pictures? Should I sing songs?

This was her wise reply: *Chorus*

When I grew up and fell? in love, I asked my sweetheart, “What lies ahead?”

Will there be rainbows, day after day? Here's what my sweetheart said: *Chorus*

Now I have children of my own, they ask their father, “What will I be?”

Will I be handsome, will I be rich?

I tell them tenderly: *Chorus*

## ~ Scene Three: At the Movies with Disney ~

Step in Time (from *Mary Poppins*).....Sherman & Sherman/arr. Kern

**Children's Chorus & Chanticleers**

*Alexandra Blancato, Katelyn Leiter, Abby Wall, Julie Fischer, soloist*

Do You Want to Build a Snowman? (from *Frozen*).....Lopez/arr. Brymer

**Chanticleers & Singers**

*Nicole Dencker & Gabriella Merino, Soloists*

*Bella Becchi, Dance Soloist*

God Help the Outcasts (from *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*).....Menken

**Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus**

*Olivia McElbeny, Nicole Dencker, Matt Lafargue, Bill Hammond,*

*Matt Libera, & Dick Lunde, Soloists*

## ~ Scene Four: From Classic To Modern ~

Moon River (from *Breakfast at Tiffany's*).....Mancini/arr. Shaw

**Seniors Sing!**

*Gilleen Hassert, soloist*

Seasons of Love (from *Rent*)..... Larson/arr. Emerson

**Sonaré**

*Tessa Scortino, Soloist*

## ~ Scene Five: Showstoppers ~

Entre'Acte (from *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*).....Menken

**Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus**

Funiculi, Funicula!..... Denza

**Children's Chorus & Chanticleers**

*Asia Vandoni, Abigail Wall, Victoria Nicely, Ines Lopez-Silvero,*

*& Eileen Camacho, Soloists*

Fortuna Imperatrix Mundi.....Orff

**Civic Chorale**