

The Choir School of Newport County



**Friends of Music at St. John's
2019-2020**

The Professional Choristers of The Choir School of Newport County, the Adult Choir of The Church of Saint John the Evangelist, Newport, and Friends of Music at St. John's **welcome you** to these events in the exciting 2019–2020 program season!

As the Choir School grew through a major educational trip to England in August 2018, and has grown through a new piano lesson outreach program now in its second year, we hope you will enjoy news of our progress since forming five years ago, and previews of some outstanding musical offerings to the Newport County community.

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St. John's Adult Choir and the Professional Choristers provide music at St. John's each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on a rotating schedule. To receive an email each Friday with a link to each week's program with music notes, please email parishoffice@saintjohns-newport.org.



Front row, left to right: Hannah L., Sindy L., Jasmine E., Kayla L., Yamillé G., Melanie P., Kenneth M., Joshua M., Maurice C., Lily B., Margaret H..

Second row: Ainsley M., Eden C., Andrew H., Peter K., Ezequiel M., Niall M., Juno C., Amadeo L., Devin S..

Third row: Sophie B., Lindsay Cohn, Anne Stone, Sybille Pierre, Jennifer Berton.

Top row: Peter Berton, Pel Boyer, Ann Boyer, Dylan Marshall, Bill Karner, Chris Scott.

Photo December 11, 2019. Not pictured: Rob Currier, Mack Wallace.

The inscription on the eagle shield on the front cover of this book is Sanctus Ioannes (*Saint John*).

WHO'S WHO IN THE CHOIR

Lily B., 7 years old, is a 2nd grader at Aquidneck Elementary School, and the second-youngest member of the Professional Choristers. She has been listening to the choir since the womb, and finally joined the Angel Choir division of the Choir School at age 4. She began studying piano at age 6 and hopes to study the violin when she enters the 4th grade. Lily is passionate about studying karate, and loves to swim, dance, read, solve math problems, write stories, and create pretend play games.

Sophie B., 12 years old, is an 8th grade student at Pennfield School and Head Chorister in the Choir School. She has been singing in the RSCM tradition and studying piano since the age of 6, and studied the cello at age 8 for two years. When she isn't making music, Sophie can be found nurturing her drawing skills or at the barn working with and riding horses. Sophie volunteers at a barn every morning, has built her own pet sitting business, and aspires to own a barn one day.

Jennifer Delmhorst Berton studied voice, flute, and piano at Packer Collegiate Institute, Manhattan School of Music, and Skidmore College. She has been a member and soloist in choirs, both sacred and secular, since she was 6 years old, performing solos in all four vocal ranges. She has performed in musical theater since age 7, carrying leading roles throughout high school before turning to directing and producing, including vocal direction, throughout college. A dance major in college, Jennifer danced with Paul Taylor's second company before hanging up her dance shoes. Today, she runs marathons, owns The Rose Center for Learning, a counseling and training company, and happily directs the Angel Choir division of the Choir School.

Peter Stoltzfus Berton has been founding executive director of the Choir School of Newport County and organist/choirmaster for St. John's Church since June 2014, prior to which he developed intergenerational choir programs in CT, MA, and NYC. He studied music at the University of Michigan and Yale, and caught the "bug" of choir directing as assistant musician in three amazing programs: The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit; Trinity Church on the Green, New Haven; and Saint Thomas Church, Fifth

Avenue. He enjoys composing, reading, and model railroading for relative sanity, and lives in Middletown with his musical family, two cats, and a regularly evolving number of fish.

Ann Boyer began her musical education while listening to her mother and grandmother harmonize shape-note music in front of the family pump organ. She joined the choir at her North Carolina Methodist church (with an Episcopal choir director, however) at age 5. After "joining" the Navy as a wife, she sang in choirs from Charleston, South Carolina, to Monterey, California, and finally at Saint John's in Newport, where for 20-plus years she held down the alto section. Now semi-retired and with a voice that slid south, she enjoys being a "third string" tenor, filling out the section and delighting in the choir's camaraderie.

Pelham "Pel" Boyer, tenor emeritus, joined the newly formed St. John the Evangelist choir in 1991, thereafter singing continuously and simultaneously there, in the choir of Grace Church, Providence, and in the Swanhurst Chorus of Newport, for almost a quarter-century. In those years he "studied" (trained on the job, by immersion) under choirmasters Brady Johnson, Mark Johnson, and Jono Babbitt. Joining the present group in early 2017, he works cheap and (Ann tells him) will have to do for the time being.

Maurice C. is a bright and handsome 8 year old in 3rd grade at Pell Elementary, who enjoys playing with friends and being included. Since he has begun to come into his own, he has shown more interest in the Boy Scouts and music. He's always had an ear for music; however, it's becoming more important to him. He also enjoys playing baseball for the Newport Little League and is captain of his team. He has an infectious smile and has the sweetest heart ever. He joined the Choir School this fall through the piano outreach program.

Lindsay P. Cohn sang in children's church choir from ages 8 to 15, in an Irish traditional band and a Medieval music ensemble in college, and in a chamber ensemble focusing on Renaissance and Baroque music in graduate school. She joined St. John's adult choir in 2014, and still grumbles if made to sing anything composed later than 1850 (exceptions for Irish music). She would have trouble naming a favorite musical period, but the 16th and 17th centuries are the primary contenders.



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Eden C., 10 years old, joined the Choir School through Emmanuel Angel Choir in 2014. She has just achieved her dark blue level status in the professional choristers. Eden loves to play piano and cello. She speaks fluent Mandarin Chinese, and is able to write and read in Chinese as well. Eden travels to China to spend the summer with her family. In her free time, she plays with her two sisters, Zelda and Juno; takes care of her younger brother, Orion; rides her bike; composes her songs; reads, and dances. She also likes to act. When she grows up, she wants to become an actor.

Juno C., age 11, was born in Singapore and moved to America when she was 3. She has two sisters and one brother. Juno has been singing as a chorister for five ears, and now has achieved her red ribbon. She enjoys dancing, reading, drawing, and playing piano and violin. Her other adventures include travel with the family to China in the past four summers, camping, and sailing. She has also performed *The Nutcracker* at Rosecliff in Newport. Juno lives in Portsmouth and enjoys going to the beach.

Rob Currier started singing in the Men and Boys Choir of Trinity Church, Southport, CT, with James Litton, director. Moving through the ranks of treble, alto, and finally baritone, he graduated from The Westminster Choir College. A lover of choral music and an ardent supporter of the multiple values of choral singing, Rob has sung in numerous organizations performing liturgical literature from early music to contemporary pieces. Taking the charge of horticulture for a vocation, Rob is a certified arborist and works in Newport. In his spare time, he can be found (maybe) hiking in the forests of Maine.

Jasmine E., 8 years old, is in third grade at Pell Elementary. She joined the piano outreach program in November. She enjoys listening to music, dancing, and singing. One of her favorite things to do is teach her older brother how to play the piano. She was born in Newport where she lives with her parents and two brothers. She enjoys theater and arts, and hopes to follow her dream of becoming a professional singer or dancer someday. Her favorite foods are pizza and hamburgers. She is a happy and friendly person, and enjoys spending time with family and friends

Yamillé G., a very smart 10 year old, was born in Providence and moved to Newport two years ago. She is in her last year at Pell Elementary. In summer

2019 she attended music camp at the Salvation Army where she learned to play the guitar, and received a full scholarship to Sail Newport. She joined the Choir School in September through the piano program. She enjoys dancing, singing, cooking, tennis on sunny days, and going to the beach. Her dream is to become an anesthesiologist, designer, and hairdresser, like her mother. Her favorite pastime is drawing. She is an only child, and loves people; she's interested in becoming a social media blogger.

Andrew H. is 10 years old and in 5th grade. He enjoys playing sports (especially soccer and baseball), collecting sea glass, building LEGO creations, and watching progress on St. John's roof project. His favorite class is P.E., but he also loves science, art, and language arts, and he plays clarinet in the school band. He is a big reader who loves books of all genres: novels, nonfiction, and reference books alike. This is Andrew's third year as a professional chorister. When he is not singing, you can find him serving as an acolyte and unofficial ambassador for St. John's.

Margaret H. is 12 years old and in the 7th grade. A self-taught artist, she specializes in fantastic three-dimensional paper and cardboard creations, but she also enjoys painting, drawing, writing, and fashion design. She creates and sews her own original patterns. She also has a cottage industry painting portraits of people's deceased pets. This is her sixth year as a professional chorister, and she is proud to be working on her yellow ribbon. Margaret loves music theory classes and is learning to play the flute.

Bill Karner comes from a family of singers. His uncle had saved a friend's life during WWII. The friend went on to own a musical instrument business in Chicago that provided each of the 35-plus family members with their instrument of choice (at cost). Family gatherings included cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents all joining in the music they knew by heart. High school chorus, University of Illinois Oratorio Society, followed by many church choirs. Bill joined the amazing bass section at St. John's a year ago—experiencing the most terrifying, gracious, and joyful time of each week.

Peter K. was born in Warwick and raised in Newport. He is a very smart 11-year-old 5th grader who loves being a big brother to his little sister, Nova. He has an older brother as well. He enjoys reading and



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cleaning! Peter participates in the Big Brother Big Sister program. He started singing at a young age and is thrilled to be advancing his singing skills with the choir. He loves the piano also.

Choristership sponsored by Duenna Karner

Hannah L. is 11 years old and was born in Korea. She speaks Korean and can write and read as well in Korean. She is a 6th grade student at Pennfield School and has been a member of the Choir School since October. After school, she likes to take care of her three cute pet cats, or work in a horse barn and ride horses. She also likes dancing, playing the piano and painting. For almost three years, she has been a model in Boston, working on toy advertisements and on television. One day, she wants to own an animal farm.

Amadeo L. is new to the choir this fall. He is 10 years old and attends All Saints Steam Academy. He is in the fifth grade, enjoys math and is an avid reader. He is learning to play the trumpet and ukulele (he especially likes the ukulele). He is also learning how to box, play lacrosse, play baseball, and ice skate. During the summer he takes sailing lessons, plays golf with his grandfather and enjoys being on the waterfront on Washington Street. He is a member of the robotics club at All Saints and a Member of Boy Scout Troop #77 in Middletown.

Kayla L., age 11, is a fourth grader at Pell Elementary. She plays a variety of musical instruments, and the violin is her favorite. She has a passion for music and also enjoys drawing and painting. She is an avid reader and enjoys all types of books. Kayla has lived in America for 7 months and is excited to learn about American culture. Her favorite color is light green. She is helpful to many and enjoys helping her teachers whenever she can.

Sindy L., age 11, was born in Guatemala and moved to America when she was 9. She lives with her parents and enjoys playing the violin and piano, dancing, drawing and reading. She likes going to the beach and many outdoor activities in the summer. She looks forward to going back to Guatemala to visit relatives. Her favorite color is light green. She favors Guatemalan food over American food. She's fluent in English and Spanish. She loves to help her cousin with homework and learning English. She is shy until you get to know her and then she is friendly and outgoing.

Niall M. is an 11-year-old in 6th grade at Thompson Middle School in Newport. He has many interests, including piano, singing, sports, and Legos. He has taken piano lessons since he was 5 years old. He enjoys playing and singing, especially with his grandfather who has been a great inspiration. He is also a very accomplished tennis player, traveling around New England to compete. Other sports he enjoys are baseball, in which he is competent enough to be selected for All-Stars, and soccer and basketball. In his free time, Niall enjoys building Legos, biking, and going to the beach.

Joshua M., age 7, is in 2nd grade at Pell Elementary. He loves to play soccer, to do art projects at school, dance and do yoga, and to have pajama day. This is his first year as a member of the choir, and he thinks being part of the choir is great! He loves learning to play songs on the piano and wants to learn to play the harp. He lived in Puerto Rico until Hurricane Maria, then moved to Newport. Eventually he wants to become a policeman.

Kenneth M., 10 years old, is a 4th grader at Pell Elementary. He loves playing basketball and football. At school he enjoys math games on the computer, playing Pokémon, and trading cards with his friends. He loves science and doing experiments. He wants to be a policeman when he grows up because he wants to help people. He joined the Choir School this year and is taking piano lessons at St. John's. His favorite song so far is "Go tell it on the mountain." He thinks being part of the choir is awesome, and likes that he is learning how to sing and is making new friends.

Ezequiel M., 9 years old, attends 4th grade at Pell Elementary. He likes to play football and wall ball with his friends at school and at home. He loves math, writing, and art. This year in art class he made a dragon out of paper and string. He likes reading Harry Potter stories, has seen three of the movies, and likes the first one best. He likes to cook, and makes gingerbread men at Christmastime. His favorite foods are chicken nuggets and pizza. He likes to sing with the other choristers.

Dylan Marshall, age 27, grew up singing in the boys' choir of Grace Church, Providence under the direction of Mark Johnson. There he gained an ongoing love for Anglican and Romantic choral music. In high

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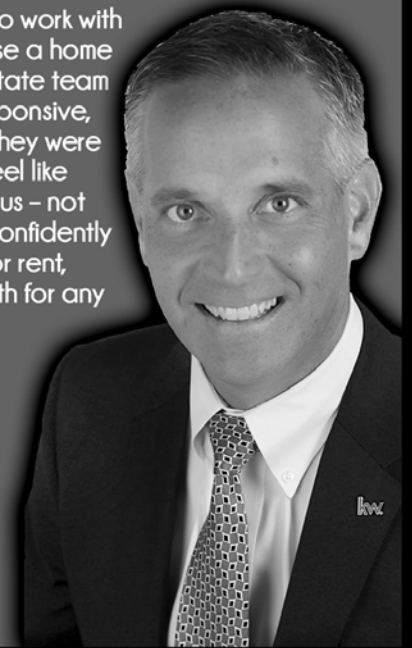


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school, he began pursuing French horn, playing in New England Conservatory's Youth Philharmonic and in the Interlochen Summer Arts Camp. He further pursued French horn at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, and sang baritone in the University's Chorale. After receiving a bachelor's degree in French horn performance with an "Outside Field" in Business, he decided to pursue a legal career. He graduated from Roger Williams University's School of Law in August 2019. He loves spending time at a cabin in West Newfield, Maine, with friends and family.

Ainsley M. is 10 years old and in the 5th grade at Pennfield School. She loves all aspects of her school and is usually somewhat disappointed when summer arrives! Her favorite class is math and for no reason in particular she decided the other day to memorize π to the 83rd place. She is an avid member of the chess club and was undefeated champion last year. She plays field hockey and lacrosse, and swims and sails all summer. She has studied the violin for five years and is now starting the piano. She first joined the Angel Choir (at Emmanuel) when she was 6. She's planning on being a neuroscientist but that, as they say, is a few years away.

Melanie P., age 8, is a third grader at Pell Elementary. She joined the piano-program in November. She was born in Newport and lives with her parents and younger sister. She plays the violin and enjoys music, dancing, arts and crafts. She enjoys school and learning new things. She teaches her younger sister how to play the piano and sing. She enjoys reading graphic novels, and helping her mom around the house.

Sybille V. Pierre is a music educator in Providence. Having been born into a musical family, Sybille can't remember a time when she was not around music. She received a degree in Music Education from Oakwood University in Huntsville, AL, and since then has taught in TX, PA, and, currently, RI. When she's not teaching or singing with the St. John's choir, she can be found cooking, buying Air Jordans, or FaceTiming with her nephew. Her favorite colors are leopard print and glitter.

Christopher R. Scott sang in high school chorus, chamber singers, and musicals, and was awarded a high school music scholarship. He has sung in multiple church choirs: Saint Mary's Church, Scituate, MA;

Trinity Church, Newport, under Fred Jodry; and Saint John's Church for the last twenty-two years under James Wallace, Mark Johnson, Jonathan Babbitt, and now Peter Berton. He also has sung with Swanhurst Chorus and Chamber Choir. He has been a self-employed Shipwright and Architectural Woodworker for the last 41 years.

Devin S. was born in Warwick and raised in Newport. He is a very active 12-year-old with two younger siblings. Devin enjoys video games and playing outdoors. He also likes meeting new people. He first showed an interest in piano when he started playing the "piano tiles" game on a phone. He is excited to be learning piano formally as well as singing in the choir with other kids.

Choristership sponsored by Duenna Karner

Anne Stone is a cradle Episcopalian who has spent much of her life in and around churches. At the age of 6, she was introduced to the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys in New York City, commuting five hours each way for Sunday services while her brother was a chorister there. She believes that Anglican choral music offers glimpses of the divine. Anne is married to Father Humphrey, the rector of St. John's, and appreciates that her Sunday commute is now 20 steps door to door. The couple has two children, both of whom enjoy singing for the Choir School of Newport County, turning Sundays into a family affair.

Mack Wallace has been homeschooled since the age of 6. In that time, she has explored playing the piano, the drums, the guitar, the cello, the violin, and the oboe. She has been passionate about singing her entire life and knows she will sing for the rest of it. She has been involved with the Choir School of Newport County since 2015. In the future, Mack hopes to pursue a career in music or musical theater. She is very thankful to Mr. Berton and the entire choir family for helping her pursue what she loves.

Do **you** enjoy choral singing and camaraderie or think you would? Are you an adult with choral experience, a curious child, or a parent interested in finding out more about long-term personal growth in a team-oriented community service experience considered highly desirable for college applications? Contact us:

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REFLECTIONS ON LAST SEASON

Last season built on the foundation of our two-week training trip to England in August 2018. Three primary reasons for our visit to England were:

To educate our choristers and prepare them for even finer service when they returned home.

To serve as ambassadors representing our city and country, sharing the best of what we are.

To encourage awareness of our choir program in our community, ensuring its strong future.

We attended the 291st Three Choirs Festival (at Hereford Cathedral) sung by the combined choirs of Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester Cathedrals. Directed by Dr. Barry Rose, one of

England's foremost cathedral musicians, we sang three services at Worcester Cathedral, and hiked on the Malvern Hills, majestic inspiration to native composer Sir Edward Elgar. We toured Gloucester Cathedral, including the famous fan-vaulted cloisters used in filming Harry Potter movies, and sampled chocolate delights of Cadbury World. Mid-tour in London, we visited the Tower of London and St. Paul's Cathedral, saw a show in the West End theatre district, and were hosted by St. Marylebone School. Back at Hereford Cathedral, we saw the medieval Mappa Mundi, the Chained Library, and the view from the top of the tower. We sang at a lunchtime organ recital, sang at the sublime former monastery at Tewkesbury Abbey, and climbed the ruins of Ludlow Castle. We returned with many memories, stories, and fine recordings to share, gratitude for English hospitality, and a larger view of the world and music's part in it. We will travel to New York City in October 2020, and aim to travel abroad next in 2022, giving each student the opportunity for this level of advanced training at least once.



In a chorister's words...

Ever since I was little, my dream was to go to England. When I learned that I could go to England to do the thing I love, singing, I was ecstatic. Mr. Berton had been telling us about traveling to England for four years. He had told us all about Dr. Barry Rose, and we even got the chance to sing with him as director before we went to England. By the time the trip came around, everyone was extremely excited. The churches in England were so beautiful and were perfect for singing in. Mr. Berton had prepared us for how much work this trip would be, but I don't think any of us fully understood how much we would be doing. There was a day when we sang three services in a row. In between those services, everyone was tired, but while singing them, we all came together to make beautiful music. We all became closer to each other and really started to connect. I enjoyed getting to know the choir members better, and meeting new adult singers was an inspiration. No matter what mood we were in, at the end of the day, after long rehearsals and touring, we all sang better than we ever had before. It definitely was a life-changing experience. Singing with Dr. Rose made us all better singers. The trip made me appreciate the art of music more than I ever had before. — Mack Wallace

The Outer Look Salon

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BUILDING ON A SOLID FOUNDATION (IN FACT, TWO)

In October 2018, we **split our Professional Choristers division into two choirs: one for girls, and one for boys, and introduced the study of piano as part of the curriculum for eligible lower-income families.** The piano outreach program is made possible by grants from the Rhode Island Foundation (from the Black Philanthropy Bannister Fund and from the Newport County Fund), by the Karen House Memorial Trust, and by new funding in 2019 from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. The program has provided lessons, high-quality keyboards for home practice, lesson books, Choir School tuition, a recruiting campaign, meals, transportation, and the hire of a logistics coordinator to make a very meaningful impact on Newport County students. **If you know a child who could benefit from this opportunity,** please contact Nikki Vazquez, Piano Program Coordinator, at: ChoirPianoLessonsRI@gmail.com or (401) 339-0243.



RHODE ISLAND
FOUNDATION

This activity is made possible in part by a grant from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, through an appropriation by the Rhode Island General Assembly and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



In November 2018 we presented the second annual Candlelight Concert of Remembrance, featuring Brahms's *Requiem* which we had heard sung in England. The Christmas season brought the usual round of special music (similar to this year's schedule found on pages 19 and 21), notably the complete "Little Organ Mass" of Haydn accompanied by strings, and a delightful new carol by John Rutter. A special treat was singing for two fully staged performances of ***A Christmas Carol* at Trinity Rep theater** in Providence.

2019 opened with an annual meeting celebrating the beginning of a multi-year capital campaign to restore our base of operations: The 125-year-old Zabriskie Memorial Church of Saint John the Evangelist. As well as our physical home, the grounds provide playing space and while this was curtailed by the transformation of the parking lot into a roof reconstruction site, the singing went on unimpeded. Our spring concert featured a medley of music from both *Mary Poppins* movies and the world music of one of our favorite composers, Paul Halley. We sang the National Anthem for a home game of the Newport Gulls at **Cardines Field**, and celebrated Peter Quire Day with more music of Paul Halley before a month of vacation. In August, a week of choir camp in Connecticut introduced music for the fall, taught residential teamwork to those who had not traveled to England, and built our core skills with a vocal coach and combined activities with other choirs camping at the same facility. Following camp, we sang by invitation for the 40th anniversary of the **Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence**, welcomed new students into the piano program, and hired a Director of Development.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

While grants assist with specific projects, **your support makes it possible to share the joy of choral music year after year.** Donations may be sent directly to 61 Poplar Street, Newport, RI 02840, payable to *The Choir School of Newport County*. Any amount is helpful, and all gifts are appreciated deeply. All donors are acknowledged in this annual program book, published in the fall. The Choir School of Newport County welcomes tax-deductible donations of all sizes from alumni of choirs which provided similar life-changing experiences, friends of music education, and lovers of liturgical music, including corporate matching donations, memorial gifts, and bequests. Interested? Contact us at (401) 848-2562 or at office@thechoirschoolri.org. Above all, please **tell someone** about the Choir School or your experience at one of our events, or pass this book along to a friend.

We're a work in progress! (Aren't we all?) Come be a work in progress with us here.



REMOVE THE CAULKING THAT WAS APPLIED TO MASONRY JOINTS TYPICAL



BELFRY ROOF: INSTALL NEW COPPER FLASHING AT ROOF TO WALL TRANSITIONS



REPAIR STEPS AND THE GAP BETWEEN THE TOP LANDING AND THE CHURCH. NOTE THAT ALL THE TREADS HAVE MOVED OUT OF THE ORIGINAL POSITION AND WILL HAVE TO BE RESET.



EXISTING COPPER FLASHING, GUTTERS, & DOWNSPOUT CONDITIONS

Launching the 125th anniversary year of the Zabriskie Memorial Church building, the 1894 terra cotta roof has been meticulously reconstructed with original materials, thanks to a leadership grant from the Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust (the largest grant the Trust has ever awarded to a church). To seal "the envelope," as well as "the deal" for our contracted organ restoration, critical masonry work on the exterior walls awaits in 2020. Once repointed, the exterior walls will be returned to their original beauty with a non-chemical cleaning.

Pending further funding, phased interior projects to be undertaken in 2021–2022, along with the organ restoration, include plaster and stone repair, a lighting control system and new wiring, and other improvements.

Help preserve Newport history!

To follow our progress together, learn more about the work, and lend a hand: www.saintjohns-newport.org/progress



MASONRY RESTORATION:

1. CUT OUT THE EXISTING MORTAR JOINTS TO A DEPTH OF 3/4" OR UNTIL SOUND MORTAR IS ENCOUNTERED.
2. INSTALL NEW MORTAR JOINTS IN WELL COMPACTED LIFTS, SUGGESTED MORTAR TYPE "S".
3. NEW MORTAR MUST MATCH THE HISTORIC MORTAR IN COLOR, TEXTURE, AND TOOLING. THE SAND MUST MATCH THE SAND IN THE HISTORIC MORTAR TO PROVIDE A UNIFORM STRENGTH, WEATHERING CHARACTERISTICS, AND SAME APPEARANCE AS THE ORIGINAL HISTORIC JOINT MATERIALS.
4. CLEAN THE ENTIRE FACADE AT COMPLETION OF REPAIRS WITHOUT USING CHEMICALS.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS, ELECTRONIC DATA, AND OTHER DOCUMENTS IN RESPECT TO THIS PROJECT ARE THE INSTRUMENTS OF SERVICE FOR NEWPORT ARCHITECTURE, LLC (NPA) AND THEIR CONSULTANTS. THE ARCHITECT RETAINS ALL RIGHTS TO THE DRAWINGS OWNERSHIP AND USAGE. Thursday, April 4, 2019 1:47:57 PM ---- F:\Projects\Saint John\Saint-Johns-roof-4-5-2019-CD-phase.dwg

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THE ST. JOHN'S HOOK AND HASTINGS PIPE ORGAN

Supporting the Choir School curriculum and most of the musical programming at St. John's is its historic organ, built in Boston and installed as part of the original construction of the building in 1894. Hook and Hastings (1827–1935) was one of the pre-eminent American organ builders of the 19th century, and St. John's was fortunate to have commissioned a work of such quality and integrity. It is an irreplaceable gem, historically and musically.

There are 1,769 pipes in the organ, from 16 feet long to a half inch in speaking length. All but five of the painted façade pipes speak. In 1934, the Hook and Hastings company returned to electrify the action of the organ and make some judicious tonal additions. Since then, there has been very little done to the organ beyond routine maintenance and tuning. Eighty-



Wooden bass pipes; scaling, water-damaged chamber walls

five years more have taken their toll on the mechanisms of the instrument. A roof leak fifteen years ago damaged the chamber walls and a windchest. We have accomplished several critical repairs to ensure that the organ keeps playing. Missing



Damaged metal pipes in foreground

pipes have been returned; we await the urgent repair of hundreds more, damaged over 124 years, and a cleaning of the instrument to return its original clarity, volume, and majesty.

KEEP THE PIPES SINGING! As a part of the 125th anniversary capital campaign, we seek to raise \$170,000 for the new console arriving February 2020, and \$460,000 for a thorough chamber repair (see photo above), pipe cleaning, and mechanical restoration. Removal is scheduled for Spring 2021, alongside major plaster and stone repair work inside the church. The restoration of the organ will take about 18 months, and has been contracted to the nationally recognized artisans of S. L. Huntington & Co., Stonington, CT (www.slhorgans.com).

In February 2018, the original blower died after over 100 years of use. In its damp basement environment, it had rusted beyond restoration, so a suitable vintage blower was purchased to replace it. This was installed along with a “hospital-clean” room on a concrete pad to prevent future moisture problems, drawing air from the church above. The new blower provides a quieter air supply and a solid foundation for the restoration to come.



With your help, we'll rebuild a masterpiece for the inspiration of future generations.

Thank you for your timely support!

Tax deductible checks may be made payable to St. John's Church (memo: Organ Fund), and placed in the donation pipe at concerts or mailed to 61 Poplar Street, Newport 02840.



With your help, the formerly dreadful blower area is now heavenly . . .



Congratulations on your continuing choristerships Peter and Devin!

from your Choir Godmother



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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, at 4:00 p.m., St. John's Church

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT OF REMEMBRANCE

The Professional Choristers

The St. John's Adult Choir

members of Trinity Church Choir

The Newport Navy Choristers

Christopher Scott, Joel McCoy and Dennis Ryan, *soloists*
with organ and chamber orchestra Reception following.



Fauré around the time
of composing Requiem

For the Fallen by Douglas Guest, written for the Choir of Westminster Abbey, *Lo, the Full, final sacrifice* by Gerald Finzi, and *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré, are sung in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary in June of the D-Day Allied invasion of Normandy. After the Armistice which ended World War I in 1918, November 11 thereafter became known as Armistice Day, and as Remembrance Day (in England). The United States holiday was renamed Veterans Day in 1954. The Church also celebrates and remembers all the faithful departed annually in the context of All Saints Day (November 1) and All Souls Day (November 2). Following a recording of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's prayer delivered to U. S. citizens on behalf of the invading forces, the concert continues with three short works: *Ave Maria* by film composer Philippe Rombi (from the 2005 French film *Joyeux Noel*, relating opposing troops calling a cease fire on Christmas Eve); the Navy Hymn; and *Let peace then still the strife* by Mack Wilberg, composer and conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

The Newport Navy Choristers were founded in 1953 by a group of Naval War College and Fleet wives. Initially known as the Navy Wives Chorus, they sang at Navy functions and performed concerts at various locations in Newport. In succeeding years, as the size and reputation of the chorus grew, husbands added their voices to those of their wives and the chorus began accepting members from other Naval Station Newport commands. In 1959 the group became known as the Navy Choristers, and in 1963, the Newport Navy Choristers, in order to emphasize ties to the local community.



Today, membership in The Newport Navy Choristers is open to active duty, reserve and retired personnel of all the Armed Services, civilian employees of the Department of Defense, and their spouses and dependent children over the age of 16. A non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, the Choristers perform four to five major concerts a year for the benefit of local charitable and civic organizations. Since 1961, when the chorus began charging admission to their concerts and donating the proceeds to charity, Chorister concerts have raised over \$420,000 (net proceeds after expenses) for local non-profit organizations.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, at 4:00 p.m., St. John's Church

CHORAL EVENSONG AND BENEDICTION for the 125th Anniversary of The Zabriskie Memorial Church, with The Right Reverend Nicholas Knisely, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island. The Feast of Dedication is celebrated with special choral music by Herbert Howells, Gerre Hancock and two works of Sir Edward Elgar: "Behold, a great priest" for the entrance of a Bishop, and his extended festival anthem setting of Psalm 48. In *Great is the Lord*, Elgar presents an enduring vision of God, and the thwarting of earthly kings, "that we may tell it to the generation following." With an anniversary reception in the Guild Hall.



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ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE 2019

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS Sunday, December 1, at 5:00 p.m., St. John's Church

Sung by the Professional Choristers and St. John's Adult Choir, this atmospheric service begins in near-darkness and gradually evolves into brightness, symbolizing the fulfillment of biblical prophecy. This annual service on the first day of the new Church year is followed by an outstanding reception!

POINT TREE LIGHTING Tuesday, December 3, at 5:30 p.m., Storer Park

This year, following the ceremonies at Storer Park, revelers move to the St. John's Guild Hall for an indoor party, with the St. John's Adults and Professional Choristers leading carols including the unique local one below, written by a former organist at St. John's with words by the creator of the Brownie Scouts.

CHRISTMAS ON THE POINT Wednesday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m., St. John's Church

With special lighting, and a reading of the Christmas story, this year's concert features the Professional Choristers, St. John's Adult Choir and harpist Susan Knapp Thomas, for Britten's evergreen *Ceremony of Carols*, along with sing-along favorites, the local carol below, and other seasonal gems. \$15/\$10

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Thursday, December 19, at 5:00 p.m., Emmanuel Church

A presentation of Emmanuel Day School, with the Emmanuel Angel Choir and Professional Choristers.

CHRISTMAS EVE Tuesday, December 24, at 5:00 and 10:00 p.m., St. John's Church

5:00 service with the Professional Choristers omits incense; 10:00 sung by the Adult Choir with incense.

CHRISTMAS DAY Wednesday, December 25, at 10:00 a.m., St. John's Church

In recent history, the three Episcopal parishes of Newport have rotated hosting Christmas Day when it does not fall on a Sunday. This year they combine to make a joyful noise at St. John's.

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS Sunday, January 5, at 4:00 p.m., Trinity Church

Trinity Church Choir and the St. John's Adults combine in a traditional musical treat on Historic Hill.



christmas on the point

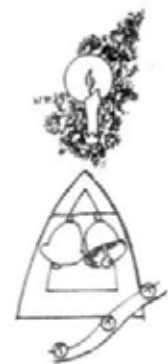
Edith Ballinger Price (1897-1997)

William King Covell, III (1904-1975), 1958

Allegro

1. Bare bran-ches creak a- gainst the sky. Clean lies the snow, the moon sails high;
2. But hark! the bells ring sharp and wide A- cross the frost - y har - bor side; And
3. Old hou - ses wake, and can - dles glow; Car - ols ring out a - cross the snow. Good

Gray in their dreams old hou - ses sigh, "The times are out of joint."
come whut may, what e'er be - tide, It's Christ-mas on the Point.
days shall come, and ill may go: With Christ-mas on the Point.



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IN THE NEW YEAR

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY Sunday, January 5, at 10:00 a.m., St. John's Church

Sung by the St. John's Adult Choir and the Professional Choristers.

CANDLEMAS Sunday, February 2, at 10:00 a.m., St. John's Church

Conclusion of celebrations (40 days from Christmas): The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, the date of removing of greens and blessing of candles for the coming year.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, at 4:30 p.m., St. John's Guild Hall (*snow date: Friday, February 7*)

CHOIR SCHOOL PIANO PROGRAM WINTER TERM RECITAL

Our piano students each playing a separate piano in an exciting ten-piano "play-in," also with individual performers. *Reception following. See page 13 for more information.*



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, at 6:30 p.m., St. John's Church

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Sung by the St. John's Adult Choir and the Professional Choristers, including Allegri's haunting *Miserere* with its soaring top C, first transcribed from the Sistine Chapel by the boy Mozart.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, at 4:00 p.m., location to be announced

DIOCESAN RSCM YOUTH CHOIR FESTIVAL EVENSONG

Combining several RI choirs trained through the curriculum of the Royal School of Church Music, this day-long annual event for 50-plus voices culminates in a public service and reception.

About the Medals and ribbons worn by certain singers... easily compared at an RSCM Festival!

The Choir School uses the curriculum and promotion system developed by the RSCM, a world-wide organization. Promotions are decided by the choir director based on: 1) demonstrated progress in regular services and rehearsals, including tests of musical skills and terms; 2) punctual and consistent attendance, and 3) consistent behavior. Stipends increase with rank. Upon graduation from the choir, a singer keeps the medal and ribbon of the rank held at that time. The levels are:

NOVICE – A singer in training wears a red or black robe only

SINGER – (White level) adds the white surplice to the robe

JUNIOR – (Light Blue level) adds a medal worn on a light blue ribbon

SENIOR – (Dark Blue ribbon)

CHORISTER – (Red ribbon, or gold ribbon for advanced theoretical knowledge)

LEAD SINGER – (Green ribbon)

HEAD CHORISTER – (Purple or gold ribbon with a special medal)



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S

Palm Sunday, April 5	9:45 a.m. (Procession from Storer Park) Adult Choir, Professional Choristers
Maundy Thursday, April 9	Solemn Mass 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir, Professional Choristers. Church open all night.
Good Friday, April 10	Solemn Liturgy of the Day, 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir
Holy Saturday, April 11	The Great Vigil of Easter, 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir
Easter Day, April 12	Procession & High Mass, 10 a.m. Adult Choir, Professional Choristers, tympani

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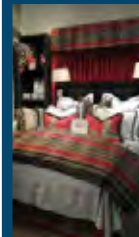
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TWO NEWPORT FESTIVAL EVENTS *benefiting the* ORGAN RESTORATION

Suggested donation \$10; all donations matched dollar for dollar

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, at 6:30 p.m., St. John's Church (a *Newport Winter Festival* event)

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME



Opening with a comedy short starring Buster Keaton, this unique concert moves on to the feature-length original 1923 silent film *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, with live organ accompaniment improvised by the spectacular silent film artist Peter Krasinski of Boston. Krasinski, past Dean of the Boston chapter of

The American Guild of Organists, is known internationally for his silent film accompaniments, and delighted Newport in 2017 with his playing of this film at St. John's. We're repeating it, given the immense outpouring of support and interest in Notre Dame cathedral following its roof fire in April 2019. As part of the film's "soundtrack," the Professional Choristers will sing pieces written by past musicians at Notre Dame inserted at appropriate scenes, and the church's tower bells will be rung to dramatic effect.

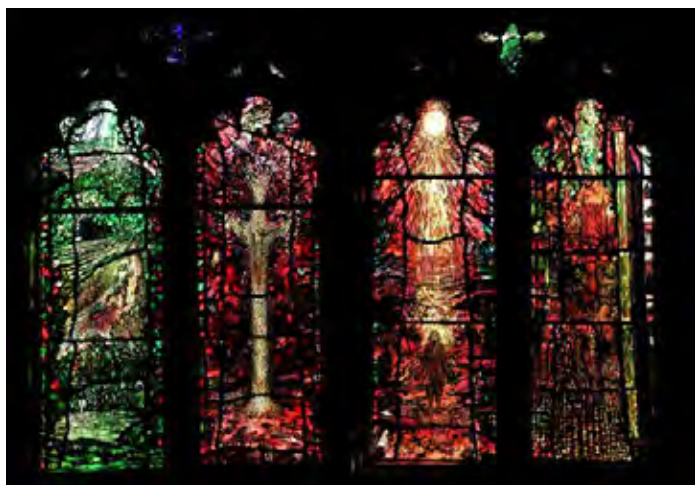


Sunday, APRIL 26, at 4:30 p.m., St. John's Church (a *Daffodil Days Festival* event)

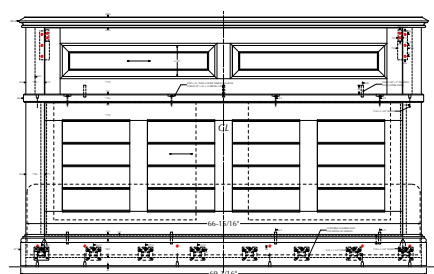
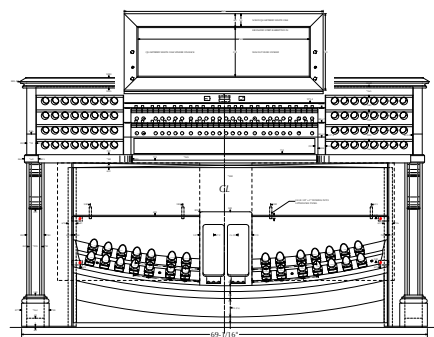
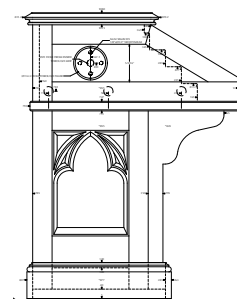
HEREFORD VARIATIONS SPECIAL EDITION: INTRODUCING THE NEW ST. JOHN'S ORGAN CONSOLE


Presented by Peter Stoltzfus Berton, organist and composer

This hour-long program with a close-up video-projected seat gives you a look at the ingenious compact design and 21st-century technology incorporated into the new console arriving this Spring. This is the latest creation of the team of builders Joseph Zamberlan (Ohio) and Richard Houghten (Michigan) who have built custom consoles for Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston; Duke University Chapel; and the Community of Jesus, Orleans, MA, among others. Following a demonstration of features, the musical main course is a 40-minute set of Variations based on stained glass windows at Hereford Cathedral, themselves



based on poetry, with slides of the dazzling windows projected on the screen. The Professional Choristers and St. John's Adult Choir join in the sung elements of several Variations, which they sang in Hereford Cathedral in August 2018.




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 - Plato

THURSDAY, MAY 21, at 6:00 p.m., Emmanuel Church

CHORAL EUCHARIST FOR ASCENSION DAY with the St. John's Adults, Emmanuel Church choir, and Professional Choristers. An Emmanuel parish supper follows this annual collaborative service.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, at 4:30 p.m., St. John's Guild Hall

CHOIR SCHOOL PIANO PROGRAM SPRING TERM RECITAL

Our piano students each playing a separate piano in an exciting ten-piano "play-in," also with individual performers. *Reception following. See page 13 for more information.*



SUNDAYS, JUNE 7 through SEPTEMBER 6, at 2:45, 5:45 and 7:45 p.m., St. John's Church

"BACH AND FRIENDS AT QUARTER TILL" ORGAN RECITALS

15- to 20-minute programs, with video projection of the console and interior mechanisms during the music, thanks to a grant from the New York City Chapter, American Guild of Organists' Centennial Millennium Fund. Music of Bach and another composer, played and introduced by organist Peter S. Berton and guests. *Your 25-cent (or more!) donation, or a pledge, benefits the 2021-2022 restoration work, and is matchable dollar for dollar.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, at 4:00 p.m., St. John's Church

EVENSONG, OUTDOOR PROCESSION, AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FOR THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Weather permitting, a procession with trumpet takes the Body of Christ around the neighborhood in this striking and joyful annual service. *Reception following.*



Peter Quire

SUNDAY, JULY 19, at 10:00 a.m., St. John's Church

PETER QUIRE SUNDAY

The end of the choral season for the Professional Choristers celebrates the vision and legacy of Peter Quire, founder of St. John's in 1875. *Reception following.*

WEEK OF JULY 19, date and time to be announced, St. John's Church

CONCERT BY THE CHOIR OF CHRIST'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, UK

With a rich musical tradition stretching back to the founding of the college in the early 16th century, the Christ's College Choir sings two Evensong services a week, performs concerts in venues including the prestigious St Martin-in-the-Fields in London, and regularly records CDs. The choir tours internationally every summer; recent tours have included Singapore & New Zealand; Quebec & Ontario; Australia; and the West Coast. The Choir is made up of 24 Singers and three Organists; all are auditioned and of a high musical standard, resulting in Christ's Choir being widely recognised as "one of Cambridge's finest mixed-voice ensembles." Their 2020 summer tour to the East Coast will take them from Washington, DC to Boston over the course of three weeks with many stops along the way, including Philadelphia, New York and Rhode Island. Concert programs will include a large range of English Choral masterpieces of the last five centuries: from early composers such as Tallis and Purcell, through to classics of the 19th and 20th centuries like Parry and Finzi, all the way to contemporary commissions. This visit is made possible by local hosts, and the Bruce & Teddi Shaw Memorial Fund for Choral Music, honoring their decade of bringing English choirs to St. John's.



THE CHOIR SCHOOL OF NEWPORT COUNTY

Forming lives of character and service, the Choir School was established in 2014 as a partnership between the Church of Saint John the Evangelist, Emmanuel Church, and Trinity Church, with additional faculty from around Newport. The Choir School enriches the musical life of the greater Newport County community and participating churches through training, services and concerts. Choristers trained at the Choir School enrich their home church choir programs; concerts educate and enrich all. Affiliated ensembles include:

Emmanuel Angel Choir (ages 4 through 7, open to all) Tuesdays at Emmanuel Church, 4:00 to 4:40 pm

Professional Choristers (ages 7 and up, auditioned) at the Church of Saint John the Evangelist:

3:45 to 5:15 pm Tuesdays (girls), Wednesdays (boys); rotating Thursdays 5:00-7:30 pm (includes dinner).

The Professional Choristers have twice traveled to New York City, in summer 2016 sang for a week in Washington, DC, and in summer 2018 sang for a two-week educational tour in England.

New singers ages 4 to 15 (unchanged voices for boys) may join at any time. Visit us for a rehearsal, concert or service; phone the administrative office at (401) 848-2562 to arrange an informal interview. No prior training or experience is expected or required. *The Choir School of Newport County does not discriminate on the basis of race, income, national origin, religious affiliation, or any other factor in determining admission to its programs.*

The Choir School incorporated as an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in December 2016. It is principally supported through foundation grants and individual donations both large and small. The participating churches contribute facilities, faculty, and family support. We need people passionate for the arts in Newport to help us achieve sustainability both in the short term and in the long term. While the generosity of donors is essential, so is the support of volunteers. We are in need of people of diverse skills and gifts. We are grateful for the people who have jumped in with enthusiasm thus far, and want you to know that you can get involved, too. You can make a difference in the lives of young people that will carry them through adulthood, as well as foster a choral arts program of unparalleled excellence in Newport County and all of Rhode Island.

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Emmanuel Angel Choir: *Here comes treble!*

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*The Choir School thanks these generous donors for contributions received through December 17, 2019.
Contributions received after that date will be acknowledged gratefully in future printings.*

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David Thalmann	Deborah B. Timby
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Wisdom from a fortune cookie: in music, one must think with his heart and feel with his brain.	
Joseph Goldkamp & Kate Michelson Goldkamp	The Newport Gulls
In honor of Canon Jeremy Haselock, Chaplain to HM the Queen, and Peter Stoltzfus Berton	
Robert L. & Mary B. Johnstone	G. Donald & Elaine Wolfe Kaye
Henry Lowe	Duncan N. Macomber
Paul McKee	Christopher Moe
Miriam Meglan	"Magic is what we do; Music is how we do it." – Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead
Gertrude M. Patenaude & Camille E. White	
Robert Regalbutto	O ye children of men, bless the Lord: praise him and magnify him for ever.
Clay & Emily Rives	Kim Robey
With thanksgiving for this beautiful Christian family, whose commitment to sharing their many faceted gifts of music, brings pleasure to so many!	Mary Jane Rodman
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Dedicated to Dr. James Lancelot: Organist of Durham Cathedral (1985-2017) Giles Brightwell

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Anne Ramsey Cuvelier	Terry, Keiko, and Alexis Dickinson
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John Garagliano	Irene Gorski, in memory of Wallace Bruce Gorski
Sophie so happy to hear you spreading your gifts and wings. Love, Grandma Eddie	
Gardenia Griffith	Jean Holman
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Listening from above

Zachariah Allen	John H. Rives
Joan Applegate	L. Michael Rives
Robert Glasgow	Carl E. and Jane H. Schroeder
Gerre Hancock	John Scott
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The games are also available at the administrative office of the Choir School, at the Church of Saint John the Evangelist, 61 Poplar Street, where sales tax is not charged and a quantity discount is possible:

\$65 for two (\$32.50 each) \$30 each for three or more
In person only, please

FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S

Friends of Music at St. John's is an official body established in the spring of 2017 to design and raise money for music events not already supported by the budgets of the church or the choir school, and to help publicize all of our music events as a regional music destination. Supported events include instrumentalists at afternoon services, and concerts of all types in the church, the Guild Hall, and on the lawn . . . from Bach to Rock!

MUSIC ON THE LAWN, a regular summer concert series since 2014, is finalized after this book goes to press; see website in June for confirmation of artists. We will host seven concerts in 2020, each Tuesday from July 21 through Sept. 1. We especially thank past summer sponsors: **The Point Association, Caleb & Broad, Point Wine & Spirits, Sardella's Restaurant, The Marina Pub, Pasta Beach, Gurney's, and Newport Shipyard** for a great 2019! To be added to our music events reminder email list, please email music@saintjohns-newport.org

The Friends of Music committee of parishioners and neighbors includes Peter Berton (Artistic Director), Anne Cuvelier, Kathy Merrill, David & Phyllis Procaccini, Kim Robey, Nancy Scott, and Jane Walsh.

Our Mission Statement is: *Friends of Music supports neighborhood music events at St. John's, fostering its growth as a community center to the Point, Newport, Aquidneck Island, and Southern Rhode Island.*

FOUNDING FRIENDS OF MUSIC DONORS

April 2017 through December 17, 2019

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61 Poplar Street, Newport RI 02840 (401) 848-2561 www.saintjohns-newport.org

Founded 1875 Church at Washington and Willow Streets consecrated 1894, open daily

THE CHOIR SCHOOL OF NEWPORT COUNTY (401) 848-2562 www.thechoirschoolri.org

Perhaps you know someone who would like to join the choir?

The Professional Choristers program gives boys and girls a unique opportunity for developing a positive attitude, respect, team spirit, discipline, and service to others. Making music alongside adult singers, with professional, adult expectations, is the vehicle for developing these attributes. Singers in intergenerational choirs gain experience and confidence to meet many of the challenges of their future lives.

What a child can expect...

- * A monthly stipend is paid for weekday rehearsals and services, based on your attendance and level. Stipends range from \$12 up to \$40 per month.
- * Singing well is hard work, and also a lot of fun!
- * Making new friends who are excited about music.
- * Travel, non-singing activities, and a fantastic choir camp in August, including a team-building ropes course, swimming, campfires, and more.
- * Sing the world's greatest choral music in its original form, not simplified versions for "children's choir."
- * Rehearsing two days a week, plus singing an average of one Sunday morning and one afternoon service or concert per month. (*Schedule, page 26.*)
- * St. John's Church is a beautiful, safe, inspiring place.

What a parent can expect...

- * Get your child off the couch and off screens!
- * Brain Power! The study of music stimulates and often dramatically improves a child's intellectual development and academic performance. A choral education teaches problem solving, spatial reasoning, cooperation, and an appreciation of excellence, along with patience.
- * Community. Parents will find themselves part of an extended and vital "choir family," proud of the whole team's accomplishments.
- * Commitment. The most important requirement is an unwavering commitment of time.
- * Thanks to the Choir School's generous supporters, the enrollment fee is quite low, for a training value worth several thousand dollars of music lessons. Scholarship aid is available.
- * The program is open to new members at any time. If you know a child who may be interested in this potentially life-changing experience, please contact us at office@thechoirschoolri.org (401) 848-2562

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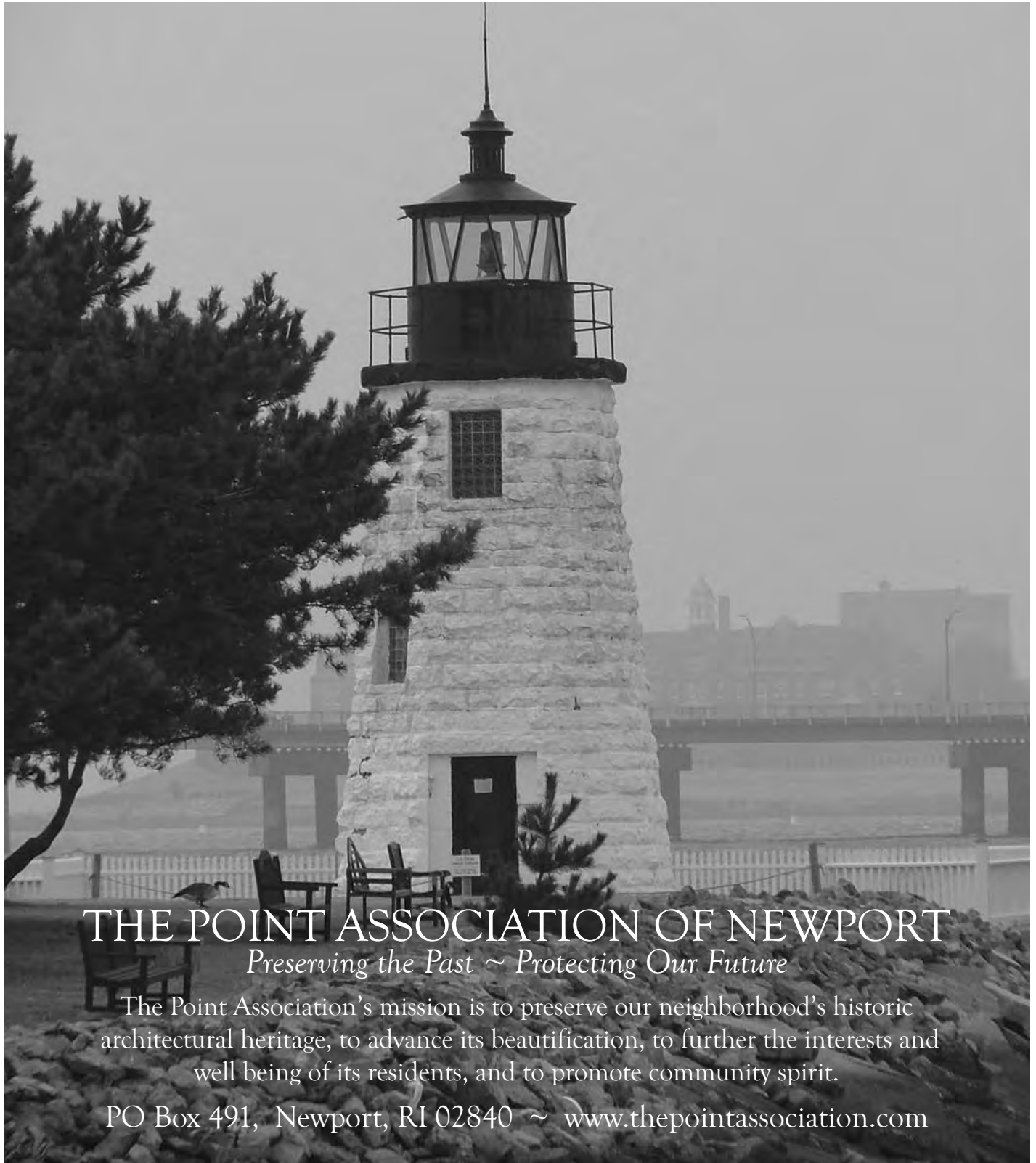
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The Point Association of Newport is proud to support The Choir School of Newport County!



The Choir School provides young people of Newport County professional training in music -- and skills for life! This after-school program plays an important role in the community and is an integral musical beacon of the Point neighborhood. Please join us in supporting The Choir School as it forms lives of character and service!



THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT

Preserving the Past ~ Protecting Our Future

The Point Association's mission is to preserve our neighborhood's historic architectural heritage, to advance its beautification, to further the interests and well being of its residents, and to promote community spirit.

PO Box 491, Newport, RI 02840 ~ www.thepointassociation.com