



2026

SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS
GALA AND AUCTION EVENING



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Assistance Fund*

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The original 29-member San Francisco Opera Boys Chorus photographed in its founding year of 1948.

2026 Honoree

Jake Heggie

AMERICAN COMPOSER

American composer Jake Heggie is best known for *Dead Man Walking* (2000), the most widely performed new opera of the last 25 years, with a libretto by Terrence McNally, and his critically acclaimed operas *Moby-Dick* (2010), *Three Decembers* (2008), *Intelligence* (2023), and *It's a Wonderful Life* (2016), all with libretti by Gene Scheer. In addition to 10 full-length operas and numerous one-acts, Heggie has composed more than 300 art songs, as well as concerti, chamber music, choral, and orchestral works. His compositions have been performed on five continents, and he regularly collaborates with some of the world's most beloved artists as both composer and pianist.



In the 25/26 season, *Dead Man Walking* celebrates its 25th anniversary with performances across the globe, including a new production at **English National Opera**, the Western Australia premiere at **Freeze Frame Opera**, a student production at **CU Boulder**, and a special run at **San Francisco Opera**, which originally commissioned the work. Elsewhere, Heggie's opera *Intelligence* receives a new production at **Virginia Opera**, as well as a world premiere album release by **Houston Grand Opera** on the LSO Live label. "Fire," commissioned by violinist **Joshua Bell** for his concerto *The Elements*, travels to Houston Symphony, Naples Philharmonic, and Ottawa's National Arts Centre Orchestra, and new commissions appear with **London Symphony Orchestra**, **Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music**, and **Los Angeles Philharmonic**. This season also marks a new chapter in legacy-building, as Heggie joins the faculty of **San Francisco Conservatory of Music** as the Diane B. Wilsey Distinguished Professor of Composition. Mr. Heggie won the 2026 **Grammy Award** for Best Opera Recording for his work *Intelligence* at the 68th Grammy Awards on February 1, 2026.

2026 Alumnus Honoree Michael “Fuji” Fujimoto

At 81, Michael Fujimoto’s life has been enriched by music, community, and a deep commitment to service. Born in Boulder, Colorado in 1944. His family, native San Franciscans, was unjustly incarcerated at Amache (the Granada Relocation Center) in southeastern Colorado during World War II, one of the camps where over 10,000 Japanese Americans—most of them U.S. citizens—were forcibly detained from 1942 to 1945. After Executive Order 9066 uprooted their lives, his father, Mikio, moved the family back to San Francisco in 1952 to begin life anew. Mike’s mother, Dorothy, enrolled eight-year-old Mike in the San Francisco Boys Chorus. He may have been the first Japanese American in the Chorus.



For Mike, the Chorus became a place of acceptance and belonging at a time when his family was rebuilding their lives. Being welcomed into a highly acclaimed ensemble without prejudice—judged solely on his talent and love of music—made a profound difference. That early experience of inclusion and artistic excellence shaped his understanding of what community could be a lesson that resonates deeply in our own time.

Mike was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1966 and served in Germany until his honorable discharge in 1968. The passion for music that took root in those early Chorus years has remained constant throughout his life. While in Germany he started a folk-singing trio which performed in military service clubs. Today, he continues to sing in an ensemble for seniors, while his wife, Betty—a retired nurse who specialized in infertility—accompanies on piano. The family’s tradition of excellence and service spans generations: their daughter, Michele, is a surgeon who earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, and their son, Brian Fujimoto, is a 1996 alumnus of the San Francisco Boys Chorus and is an Eagle Scout.

Mike’s dedication to the San Francisco Boys Chorus extended beyond his own membership—he served on the organization’s Board from 1991 to 2012. He was also the summer camp waterfront director and cabin counselor for the Chorus in 1964 and 1965.

Beyond music, Mike serves as President of the San Francisco Nisei Fishing Club, a historic organization established in 1918 (originally as the Soko Fishing Club) that promotes angling, conservation, and fellowship among Japanese American families.

Mike’s commitment to youth through Scouting has been extraordinary. He earned his Eagle Scout rank in 1961 and has spent decades in leadership roles, including six years as Scoutmaster and six years as Roundtable Commissioner for Golden Gate District. He was recognized with the Silver Beaver Award in 2005 and the District Award of Merit. He currently serves as a Unit Commissioner and Member at Large for the Golden Gate District, Scouting America and was awarded the NESAs Outstanding Eagle Scout Award in 2023. One of his proudest accomplishments was to have the SFBC perform at the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Boy Scouts of America at the Alameda County Fairground in 2010, a collaboration of two of his greatest passions.

A proud grandfather, Mike delights in sharing his love of music with his grandson, ensuring that the melodies that have shaped his life will resonate for generations to come.

This Evening's Program

**6:00 P.M. RECEPTION
& SILENT AUCTION
WITH KURT RIBAK TRIO**

**ALUMNUS KURT RIBAK, BANDLEADER, BASS
ALUMNUS LINCOLN ADLER, SAXOPHONE
GREG SANKOVICH, KEYBOARDS**

7:30 P.M. DINNER

**PERFORMANCES BY
THE SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS**

**CONCERT & INTERMEDIATE CHORUSES
GRADUATE CHORALE
IAN ROBERTSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR
TODD JOLLY, INTERMEDIATE CHORUS DIRECTOR
HARLAN HAYS, GRADUATE CHORALE DIRECTOR
FRANZ ZHAO, ACCOMPANIST**

**WITH
ANGELA MOSER, SOPRANO
BUFFY BAGGOTT, MEZZO-SOPRANO**

**8:30 P.M. DESSERT
AND LIVE AUCTION**

**AUCTIONEER
CHORUS ALUMNUS:
ADAM GOTTSTEIN**

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Securing the Future

THE NORMAN WONG SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The Norman Wong Scholarship Fund was established to honor the memory of an alumnus and long-time devoted friend of the San Francisco Boys Chorus. A San Francisco native, Norman served on the musical and camp staff of the Chorus, working under Artistic Director William Ballard.

Boys who apply for assistance annually at the San Francisco Boys Chorus and demonstrate the need for assistance are eligible to receive the Norman Wong Scholarship. Preference is given on the basis of ethnicity in order to advance diversity at the SFBC.

SING WITH THE SFBC

Join us and sing all over the Bay Area
and around the world!

MAY 16, 2026

Placement Appointments in San Francisco,
the East Bay, South Bay & Marin Locations.

Boys in K & Pre-K do not require auditions and will
be automatically accepted into the Junior Chorus.

[SFBC.ORG/AUDITIONS](https://www.sfbc.org/auditions)

Open to boys age 5 and older.



Featured Events

SATURDAY, MARCH 21 COMMUNITY SONGFEST

Featuring San Francisco Boys Chorus and guests
Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir with Terrance Kelly

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

SPRING CONCERT – COMING TOGETHER TO SING



Celebrate Spring, the season of all things new.

SFBC.ORG/TICKETS

*Celebrating your long history of sharing
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SFBC on tour to Costa Rica, 2013



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About Us

Over its 75+ year history, San Francisco Boys Chorus boys have appeared in more than 175 San Francisco Opera productions. Choristers have sung at the White House, **regularly** on television, at Carnegie Hall, and in the great cathedrals and concert halls of Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

In 2009, the San Francisco Boys Chorus was the only boys chorus in the country selected to sing at the swearing-in ceremony at the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C.

In July 2025, the San Francisco Boys Chorus (SFBC) won a quintet of awards at the Leonardo da Vinci Choral Festival, a prestigious international choral competition in Florence, Italy. SFBC was named the Grand Prix winner, took the gold medal for best sacred music, another gold for its Graduate Men's Chorus, and a silver in the youth groups category. It also won best male soloist thanks to boy soprano Solah Malik.

Ian Robertson is the Artistic Director of the Chorus **and former Director of the SF Opera Chorus.**

The Gala event is honoring **internationally celebrated** composer Jake Heggie, who **just recently** won the 2026 Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording for his work *Intelligence* at the 68th Grammy Awards, and alumnus Mike Fujimoto.

Please join us in celebrating our Guests of Honor.



Chorus Members

Intermediate Chorus

Wesley Baird
Ethan Battogtokh
Kairav Bhupatiraju
Conor Campanelli
Jameson Chelf
Aidan Dolphin
Sebastian Duenas
Ari Dworman
Philip Friedman
Ben Gulezian
Andriel Handoyo
Keene Harrington
Finnian Hauser
Aleksander (Sasha) Hibler
Tioma Iskandar
Max Lagunas
Andrew Li
Calvin Lindmeier
Nicholas Pearcy
Forest Pinckaers
Ishaan Pitroda
Andy Ran
Benjamin Sklovskiy
Theodore Stanton-Landis
Emmett Stout
Avery Szymanski
Colin Thistlethwaite
Cyrus Tiffin
Maximilian (Max)
Vanreusel
Parth Vasanth
Alexander Vincent
Justin Walton
Duncan Winter-Schadler
Marcus "Tony" Witt
Jaythan Zhen

Concert Chorus

Arish Arvind
Anthony Awuyno-Akaba
Miles Baird
Maurice Budin
James Butterfoss
Landon Chai
Colin Chan
Tristan Chow
Logan Cook
William Dickie
Francis Eberhard
Dominic Fessenden
Tristan Fisher
Oliver Hajduk
Noah Hajduk
Nicholas Hogan
Oliver Jamil
Jaeyu Kim
Jaekang Kim
Mathai Kurien
Halvard Larson
Solah Malik
Adrian Mann
Giovanni Mendoza
Niko Min
Dominic Moser
Edmund Paul
West Pinckaers
Hudson Pratt
Lee Reeves
Kabir Sethi
Micah Soliman
Oliver Stolte
Daylon Thomas
Laurence Threlfall
Arnan Tin
Asa White-Hinman
Andrew Woo

Graduate Chorale

Owen Baird
Henry Benton-Aufferbeck
Roshan Chandran
Aidan Chen
Kenneth Chen
Drake Cheng-Fitzpatrick
Lucas Durrant
Sian Galvan
Connor Herrmann
Kevin Liang
Edgar McConnell IV
Diego Melgar
Theodore Raber
Stanley Rzad
Elias Soliman
Tally Thomas
Séo Vernay-Kim
Aden Williams
Rell Williams
Asher Yeung



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California Symphony	Korbel	Orchestra
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Carina Baird	Legion of Honor	San Francisco Boys Chorus
Chadd Schaefer	& de Young Museum	San Francisco Museum
Chanticleer	Linda Ghilotti	of Modern Art
Charles M. Schultz Museum	Lisa Semeraro-Castro	San Francisco Opera
Children's Discovery	Little Bears	Sandra Pan
Museum of San Jose	Lloyd Moss	Schweiger Vineyards
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Crown Thai Massage	Maujh Life	Susan Giorgi
CurrySutra	Megha Chawla	The Book Tree
Dashe Cellars	Michael & Jennifer Reeves	The Bull Valley Roadhouse
David Chang	Michael Forks	The Lindmeier Family
Dress Boutique	Michael Merrill	The St. Regis Hotel
Du Lair Sanctuary	Mimi Donohue	San Francisco
Eleanor Chang	Minjeong Chai	Train Town Railroad
Eleanor Chang & Kim Kellett	Movement San Francisco	USS Hornet Sea, Air & Space
Eleanore Vega	Mozzarella di Bufala Pizzeria	Museum
Eric & Caitlin Foerg	Oakland Zoo	USS Midway Museum
Eric Schumacher	Original Joe's	Victor Turks
Erica & Philip Kurien	Panwala Family	Walt Disney Family Museum
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SONGFEST



March 21 @ 2PM

**at Trinity St. Peter's Episcopal Church
1620 Gough Street, San Francisco**



Families are encouraged to attend this joyful concert and sing-along featuring performances by the acclaimed Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir and Youth Choir, led by Terrance Kelly, and the Grammy-winning San Francisco Boys Chorus under the direction of Ian Robertson. Kids attend FREE, Adults \$10. Please visit sfbc.org/events for more information.



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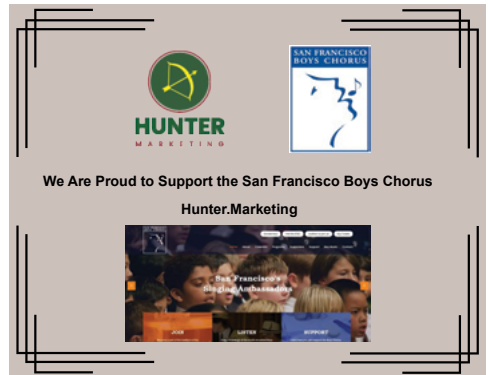
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FEATURING OAKLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR
WITH TERRANCE KELLY

MAY 16

NEW CHORISTER PLACEMENTS

MAY 27

NATIONAL ANTHEM AT ORACLE PARK
SF GIANTS VS ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

JUNE 3

BENEFIT DRAWING

JUNE 6

SPRING CONCERT "COMING TOGETHER TO SING"
CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SF

JUNE 11 - 16

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