



The Vail Chorale

LIVE FOR SINGING. SING FOR LIFE.

presents



Saturday, November 8, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

Rancho del Lago

Del Webb Community Center Lodge

10264 S. Blendu Way, Vail

Sunday, November 9, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

The Academy Village

Arizona Senior Academy Building

13715 E. Langtry Lane, Tucson

Melissa Hale, Director

Hanna Gregg, Accompanist

Rene Cañez, Percussionist

Donations gratefully accepted

No charge to attend

Program

Pure Imagination <i>from Willy Wonka & the Chocolate-Factory</i>	Words & Music: Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley; arr.: Matthew D. Nielsen
Animal Crackers.....	Words: Ogden Nash, Music: Eric Whitacre
Vol. I	
i. The Panther	
ii. The Cow	
iii. The Firefly	
The Seal Lullaby	Words: Rudyard Kipling; Music: Eric Whitacre.
Fly Me to the Moon (In Other Words).....	Words & Music: Bart Howard; arr.: MaryAnne Muglia <i>(The Vail Chorale Small Ensemble*; conductor: Mindi Bennett)</i>
Swinging on a Star	Music: James Van Heusen; Words: Johnny Burke; arr.: Norman Luboff
What is This Feeling? <i>from Wicked</i>	Stephen Schwartz; arr.: Roger Emerson <i>(Soloists: Mindi Bennett & Holly Gonzalez)</i>
Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend <i>from Gentlemen Prefer Blondes</i>	Words: Leo Robin; Music: Jule Styne; arr.: Mark Hayes <i>(The Vail Chorale Sopranos & Altos; Soloist: Janet Cañez)</i>
Anything You Can Do (I Can Do Better) <i>from Annie Get Your Gun</i>	Words & Music: Irving Berlin <i>(Soloists: Julie Dawson & Dale Thoreen)</i>
The Banana Boat Sonng (Day-O).....	Traditional Jamaican folk song <i>(The Vail Chorale Tenors & Basses)</i>
Alwas Look on the Bright Side of Life <i>from Monty Python's Life of Brian</i>	Words & Music: Eric Idle <i>(Singers: What Four? Mike DePaso, Josiah Gaffney, Ron Klaiss, Mike Perdue)</i>
The Lobster Quadrille (from choral settings from Alice in Wonderland).....	Music: Irving Fine, Words: Lewis Carroll
My Bonie Lass She Smelleth.....	P.D.Q. Bach (edited with feeling by Professor Peter Schickele)
Rise Up.....	Words & Music by Cassandra Batie & Jennifer Decilveo <i>Soloists: Laura Gehrig, Ashley Payne, Mary Jo Snyder, Robert Snyder)</i>



A big thank-you to Mike Melton for his invaluable contribution of time and talent. He's a wonderful mentor to the Chorale.

The Vail Chorale Singers

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors
Erika Brand	Mindi Bennett	Lee Cuevas*
Linda Buus	Laura Gerhig*	Josiah Gaffney*
Janet Cañez*	Holly Gonzalez	April Layher*
Julie Dawson	Nicole Herington*	Lynne Perdue
Chelsea Grote	Heather Redmon	Robert Snyder
Martie Maierhauser*	Lisa Robinson	Dale Thoreen*
Jessica Mannella	Mary Jo Snyder	AdrianaWalker
Lisa Horuczi Markus	Susan Taylor	
Sarah Lee		Basses
Amy McAllister		Butch Bryant
Leslie Nitzberg		Rene Cañez
Ashley Payne*		Mike DePaso*
Lindsay Shaw		Paul Jonsson
Maureen Shea		Ronald Klaiss*
Michelle Smeckler		Michael Perdue
		Marco Vildosola

*The Vail Chorale Ensemble Singers

The Panther

The panther is like a leopard,
Except it hasn't been peppered.
Should you behold a panther crouch,
Prepare to say Ouch.
Better yet, if called by a panther,
Don't anther

The Cow

The cow is of the bovine ilk;
One end is moo, the other, milk

The Firefly

The firefly's flame
Is something for which science has no name
I can think of nothing eerier
Than flying around with an unidentified glow on a
person's posteerier, posteerier, posteerier.



The Vail Chorale Governing Board

Janet Cañez, President
 Julie Dawson, Immediate Past President
 Mindi Bennett, Vice President
 Holly Gonzales, Secretary
 Dale Thoreen, Treasurer
 Melissa Hale, Director of Music
 Hanna Gregg, Accompanist
 Rene Cañez, Percussionist
 Fritz Reinagel, ex officio



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www.shecreatesart.net

Many thanks to the Vail School District for giving us rehearsal space.

The Lobster Quadrille

"Will you walk a little faster?" said the whiting to a snail.
"There's a porpoise close behind us, and he's treading on my tail.
See how eagerly the lobsters and the turtles all advance!
They are waiting on the shingle -- will you come and join the dance?

"Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you join the dance?
Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you join the dance?"

"You can really have no notion how delightful it will be
When they take us up and throw us, with the lobsters, out to sea!"
But the snail replied "Too far, too far!" and gave a look askance --
Said he thanked the whiting kindly, but he would not join the dance.

Would not, could not, would not, could not, would not join the dance.
Would not, could not, would not, could not, could not join the dance
"What matters it how far we go?" his scaly friend replied.
"There is another shore, you know, upon the other side.
The further off from England the nearer is to France --
Then turn not pale, beloved snail, but come and join the dance.

"Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you join the dance?
Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you join the dance?"

The Seal Lullaby

Oh! hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us,
And black are the waters that sparkled so green.
The moon, o'er the combers, looks downward to find us
At rest in the hollows that rustle between.
Where billow meets billow, there soft be thy pillow;
Ah, weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease!
The storm shall not wake thee, nor shark overtake thee,
Asleep in the arms of the slow-swinging seas.



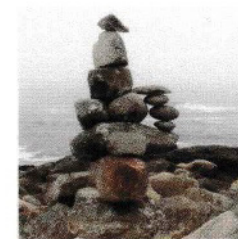
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Were it not for the generous support of the residents of Academy
Village, it would not be possible to offer this extraordinary resource to
the greater Tucson community.

**inspiring
harmony**



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Author/Presenter

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Who We Are

We are a non-auditioned, multi-generation community chorus, open to anyone age 18 and up who enjoys choral singing. Based in the Greater Vail, Arizona, area, we have been entertaining local audiences since 2011, singing jazz, pop, and folk arrangements, Broadway tunes, Renaissance madrigals, sacred music, and classical gems.

We invite choral singers of all musical skill levels to sing with us! Please go to www.thevailchorale.org to learn how to join us in song. We're looking forward to our Spring 2026 season—keep an eye out for the details.

The Vail Chorale is a member of the Arizona Choral Arts Association (ACAA), and a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Our Director, Melissa Hale, throughout grade school, sang and played for choirs in school and church. She attended both the University of Alabama at Huntsville (UAH) and Birmingham Southern Methodist College (BSC) where she studied voice and piano, sang in the Concert Choir and the Village Singer ensemble, and accompanied soloists, ensembles, and choirs. After a nearly 25-year hiatus from music, in the fall of 2011 she attended the first rehearsal of The Vail Chorale. The Chorale's founder and first Director, Fritz Reinagel, recruited her as Assistant Director, a post she held for ten years, through 2021. Melissa became our director starting with the Spring 2022 Concert season!

Our Accompanist, Hanna Gregg has degrees in Music and Educational Psychology from the University of Arizona and Texas A&M. She was awarded the Alice Jones Berding Award for Excellence in Music in 2018. In December of 2022, Hanna graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor's of Arts in Music and a minor in Spanish. Hanna enjoys teaching piano and performing as a soloist and collaborative pianist.

Our Percussionist, Rene Cañez, is a Tucson native. He started playing drums and percussion in fifth grade. He continued to play percussion throughout his middle school and high school years. His playing styles range from Black gospel to jazz and blues, and even punk rock! Since 2003, he has played drums for various churches, including at the Talil Air Base Gospel Chapel while deployed to Iraq with the US Air Force. He currently plays drums at University City Church, which he has attended for the past six years. Rene has been playing drums and auxiliary percussion (and singing) with The Vail Chorale.

<http://thevailchorale.org>  [Facebook.com/thevailchorale](https://www.facebook.com/thevailchorale)
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We Are a 501(c)(3) Organization