

W A R T B U R G  C O L L E G E

RITTERCHOR

DR. LEE NELSON, CONDUCTOR



SUNDAY, APRIL 11

SPRING CONCERT

2 P.M. NEUMANN AUDITORIUM | 4 P.M. WARTBURG CHAPEL



WITH FESTEBURG

Let Music Live!

Dr. Lee Nelson, conductor | Jen Diemer, accompanist

We Gather TogetherDutch melody; Eduard Kremser;
arr. Aaron Humble

Dies IraeRyan Main; text from the Requiem Mass

SUNG IN LATIN

*Day of wrath! O Day of mourning!
See fulfilled the prophets' warning,
Heaven and Earth in ashes burning.
Oh, what fear man's bosom rending,
when from Heaven the Judge descending,
on whose sentence all depending.*

John Hoehn, Hugh Brown, Riordan Lujano, small group

For My BrotherAndrea Ramsey;
text based on the eulogy delivered by Robert Ingersoll
upon the death of his brother, Ebon, in 1879

Will the Circle Be Unbroken traditional Appalachian; arr. J. Davis Moore
James Mossman, Carter Hayden, Daniel Novotney, soloists

That Which RemainsAndrea Ramsey, text by Helen Keller

The Parting Glasstraditional Scottish;
arr. Timothy C. Takach

FEATURING FESTEBURG

Daniel Novotney, student conductor, Hayden Stone, soloist

I Know That My Redeemer Lives ANTIOCH (from *Sacred Harp*);
arr. Dan Forrest

Jen Diemer and Hugh Brown, piano
Britt Avery, Jared Knapp, Marcus Ortiz, Asher Schneider, small group

Ave Maria.....Joshua V. Himes

FESTEBURG

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen*

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light.....words and music, Kathleen Thomerson;
arr. Tom Trenney

Fergus an' Molly.....Vijay Singh

FEATURING FESTEBURG

Hugh Brown, recorder; Max Miller, soloist

Harriet Tubman..... Rollo Dilworth;
text by Eloise Greenfield

Chandler Njus, djembe; Ben Peters, double bass

The AwakeningJoseph Martin

Hugh Brown, piano

RITTERCHOR

The Wartburg Ritterchor was founded in 1997 and follows Wartburg's rich German Lutheran tradition of choral singing. Translated from German to English, Ritterchor means "Knights Choir." In connection with Wartburg's heritage, Ritterchor seeks to honor the Wartburg Castle, where Martin Luther once lived disguised as a knight.

In February 2017, members of Ritterchor traveled to New York City to make a guest appearance at Carnegie Hall. They were joined by 220 tenors and basses from across the country to sing a Presidents Day Celebration concert featuring Randall Thompson's *The Testament of Freedom*. Ritterchor has been invited to be the featured choir at various men's choir festivals including: Sioux City's Man Up and Sing!, the Iowa City Men's Choir Festival, and the Great Northern Union Collegiate Men's Choir Festival. Ritterchor has combined forces with area musicians in performances of masterworks including J. S. Bach's *Magnificat* and Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Ritterchor also performs in Wartburg's annual holiday festival, Christmas with Wartburg. Ritterchor members have various academic majors and include first-year through fourth-year students. The group performs a variety of literature for events on and off campus. While working in a fun and friendly environment, Ritterchor members seek to produce a sound distinct and unique to a superior tenor/bass choir.

FESTEBURG

Founded in 2007, Festeburg (German translation: Mighty Fortress) is a student-led male vocal ensemble from Wartburg College. Modeled after the professional men's ensemble Cantus, the collaborative ensemble works to reach new levels of artistic excellence while being full-time students at Wartburg College. Festeburg is an extension of Wartburg's outstanding choral music program. Members of Festeburg also are involved in other choral ensembles, including Wartburg Choir, Castle Singers, and Ritterchor. Among the rich history of men's choral music, Festeburg was founded to inspire through musical collaboration.



DR. LEE NELSON CONDUCTOR

Dr. Lee Nelson is the Patricia R. Zahn Chair in Choral Conducting and director of choral activities at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. Nelson conducts the Wartburg Choir and Ritterchor (men's choir) and teaches beginning and advanced conducting and choral literature at Wartburg College. He also serves as the artistic director of Christmas with Wartburg. Wartburg College recognized Nelson's work by awarding him the John O. Chellevold Award for Excellence in Teaching and Service.



Under Nelson's direction, the choir has performed at multiple ACDA conventions, including the 2017 National Convention and an unprecedented performance for the White House and the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. Internationally renowned composer Morten Lauridsen praised Nelson and the Wartburg Choir's performance of his *O Magnum Mysterium* stating: "It was in the top echelon of any performance of that piece by any choir that I have ever heard." The choir was honored as the national winners of The American Prize, College/University Choir Division in 2017.

A highly sought-after conductor, clinician, and adjudicator, Nelson has directed all-state and honor choirs throughout the United States and internationally. He was invited to conduct at Carnegie Hall in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2017, and 2018. Earlier in his career, Nelson won the National ACDA Graduate Conducting Competition in Los Angeles and the Outstanding Young Choral Conductor of the Year, awarded by ACDA of Minnesota.

A champion of contemporary music, Nelson regularly commissions and performs new works of choral literature. ECS Publishing distributes the *Lee Nelson Choral Series* both nationally and internationally. Nelson earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Concordia College and a Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Arizona.



RITTERCHOR PERSONNEL

TENOR 1

• Britt Avery
Adam Dettmer
Quinn Graber
Henry Hahn
• Dominic Hanson
* John Hoehn
† Jared Knapp
Max Miller
Marcus Ortiz
Ethan Peter
Kyle Ruckman
Kobe Schmuecker
Asher Schneider
Hayden Stone
Thomas Supper

Story City
Mason City
Luverne, Minn.
Lamont
La Farge, Wis.
Waseca, Minn.
Humboldt
Spirit Lake
Solon
Stewartville, Minn.
Fairfield
Atkins
North English
Woodland Park, Colo.
Norwalk

TENOR 2

Samuel Bast
* DaQuevion Burke
Levi Capesius
Will Dix
Spencer Dodgen
Tyler Fall
Joey Gutzmann
Richard Herra
Ethan Lambert
† Daniel Miller
James Mossman
Josh Nemitz
Chandler Njus
Ben Peters

Waverly
Waterloo
Algona
Waverly
Story City
Mount Vernon
Fond du Lac, Wis.
Elburn, Ill.
Grand Rapids, Mich.
Carroll
Winthrop
Toddville
Fredericksburg
Storm Lake

BASS 1

Carter Hayden
† Theo Herbst-Ulmer
Zach Hiney
Kyle Hoffman
Tate Jones
Alex Kooker
Riordan Lujano
Jonah Macejkovic
Andy Newell
Noah Peyton
Henry Powers
Jack Radke
• Grant Roedel
Ethan Shawgo
Nathan Shultz
Andrew Tomlinson
Nick Van Laningham
Rece Vining
Paul Zelle

Blairstown
Algona
Ankeny
Pequot Lakes, Minn.
New London
Iowa City
Washington
Baxter, Minn.
Waverly
Marion
Dysart
Princeton, Minn.
Loyal, Wis.
Nevada
Charles City
Kaukauna, Wis.
Kenosha, Wis.
Bettendorf
Waverly

BASS 2

Grant Berends
Jack Bevans
Hugh Brown
Sean Carroll
• Eric Dowe
Joshua Hamlyn
Weston Helgersen
Derek Jordan
Tryston Locke
Reed Monson
† Daniel Novotney
Nathan Onsgard
Olajuwon Osinaike
Maxwell Weber

Roland
Davenport
Iowa City
Phoenix, Ariz.
Story City
Waterloo
Elkader
Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon
Greenwood, S.C.
Rockwell
Stewartville, Minn.
Chicago, Ill.
Manchester

• Ritterchor Council
† Section Leader
* Ritterchor Librarian

ACCOMPANISTS

Jen Diemer
Sycamore, Ill.

All hometowns Iowa unless otherwise noted.



FESTEBURG PERSONNEL

TENOR 1

Britt Avery, *Journalism & Communication*

Daniel Miller, *Music Education*

Marcus Ortiz, *Engineering Science*

Story City

Carroll

Solon

TENOR 2

Levi Capesius, *Music Education/Music Performance*

Joey Gutzmann, *Music Education*

Hayden Stone, *Music Education*

Algona

Fond du Lac, Wis.

Woodland Park, Colo.

BASS 1

Theo Herbst-Ulmer, *Music Education*

Ethan Peter, *Music Education*

Rece Vining, *Business Administration*

Algona

Stewartville, Minn.

Bettendorf

BASS 2

Grant Berends, *Journalism & Communication*

Derek Jordan, *Music Performance*

Daniel Novotney, *Music Education*

Roland

Mount Vernon

Rockwell



ABOUT WARTBURG COLLEGE

Wartburg is a selective liberal arts college of the Lutheran Church (ELCA), internationally recognized for community engagement. The college's 1,564 students come from 61 countries and 38 U.S. states. Wartburg is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.

Wartburg offers more than 50 academic majors, including music education, performance, music therapy, and church music. The college's more than 15 vocal and instrumental music ensembles are open to music and nonmusic majors. The Wartburg Choir, Wind Ensemble, and Castle Singers and Kammerstreicher tour annually and travel abroad every third year during the college's one-month May Term.

All-State musicians and Lutheran Summer Music participants who enroll at Wartburg qualify for minimum \$2,500 scholarships. Meistersinger Music Scholarships offer up to \$5,000 per year to music and nonmusic majors, based on audition.

Wartburg takes its name from the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, Germany, where Martin Luther took refuge for 10 months during the stormy days of the Protestant Reformation. Music groups frequently visit the castle during their May Term trips abroad.



100 WARTBURG BLVD. • P.O. BOX 1003 • WAVERLY, IA 50677-0903
1-800-772-2085 • WWW.WARTBURG.EDU