

City Choir Directors for the Fall Semester 2025

Gregory Oh

Gregory Oh gained his notoriety as a new music revolutionary, but holds other cards up his sleeve. With graduate degrees from the Universities of Toronto and Michigan, his repertoire spans five centuries, having worked with living composers like **Steve Reich** and **Phillip Glass**. He has played everywhere from the **National Arts Centre** to legendary **Berghain, Pop Montreal** to the **Lincoln Centre**. In 2022, he received a **Dora Award** for outstanding music direction for the premiere of **RUR A Torrent of Light (Tapestry Opera)**, and was recently featured on CBC's Q for his new solo show **Lessons in Failure**.

John Millard

Mostly self-taught, John Millard has been active in the Canadian music and theatre scenes for the last 30 years. He has worked as a composer and performer with **Theatre Columbus, Bad New Days, Art of Time Ensemble, Volcano, National Film Board, Soulpepper Theatre, National Arts Centre, Shaw Festival** and many others. He has recorded six albums and toured Canada and Europe with his bands **The Polka Dogs** and **John Millard and Happy Day**. A recent collaboration with **Martha Ross** and **Tomson Highway** called **The Cave** debuted at **Luminato** and just finished touring British Columbia.

Patricia O'Callaghan

Patricia O'Callaghan is a genre-fluid singer, creator and educator, with several solo and collaborative albums, and 25 years of worldwide touring under her belt, at venues from London to New York. As a **Resident Artist** at Toronto's **Soulpepper Theatre** for six years, her responsibilities included teaching, mentoring, producing, curating, performing, and developing new work. Her newest albums are **Dark Butterflies, Deepest December**, and the recently **JUNO** nominated **Corona Divinae Misericordiae**, by **David Braid**. She is excited about her new teaching positions at **Queen's University** and The **Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity**.

Sophia Grigoriadis

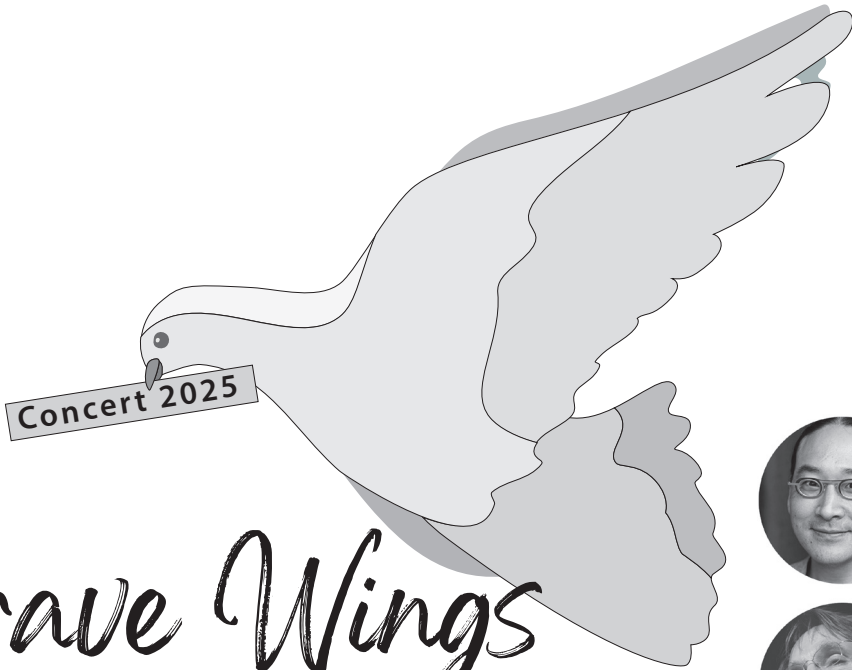
Sophia Grigoriadis, Mus.Bac., ARCT, is a **Juno-nominated** musician, choir director and teacher. Her study of Greek, and Middle Eastern singing and percussion has led her to perform and tour with many traditional and fusion ensembles across Canada. Sophia directs the choir at **All Saints Greek Orthodox Church**, and is a music teacher (JK-8). She has designed unique world music programs for children and their families, incorporating her passion for diverse music with her training. Sophia currently performs with **Turkwaz**, an all-female quartet performing the music of Greece, Turkey, the Middle East and the Balkans.

Suba Sankaran

Suba Sankaran is a multiple **Dora**-award winning, thrice **Juno**-nominated musician who crosses genres and performs worldwide as a soloist and with **Autorickshaw, FreePlay**, and **Retrocit**. She has performed for **Peter Gabriel, Nelson Mandela, and Bishop Tutu**, and collaborated with artists including **Deepa Mehta** and **Bobby McFerrin**. A versatile performer, educator, composer, and sound designer, her original music for **Why Not Theatre's Mahabharata** received a **DORA** and a **Toronto Theatre Critics Award**. Suba recently received the prestigious **2023 Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Prize** and the **Kathleen McMorow Music Prize**. She is also featured on **Justin Gray's Grammy-nominated** album, **IMMERSED**. www.subasankaran.com | Facebook/Instagram: @sankaransuba

Waleed Abdulhamid

Waleed Abdulhamid is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, vocalist, music / film producer, band leader, conductor, arranger and director of choral and orchestral music. A recipient of the **Canadian New Pioneer Award, African Tama Award, Reel World Film Festival Award, Canadian Film Board of Excellence Award** and **DORA Award**, Waleed Abdulhamid has worked with artists including **David Clayton Thomas** and **The Drifters**. He's been a mentor to artists such as **D'bi Young, Ngozi Paul** and **Zaki Ibrahim**. Waleed is now teaching at **University of Toronto** and can be seen in short and feature films, most recently for **CBC, CANN Film Festival France**, and **TIFF**.



Brave Wings

Tuesday December 9, 2025

7:30pm

East End United

310 Danforth Ave, Toronto

Pay What You Can:

Cash, credit card or e-transfer to support@CityChoir.ca

Brave is energy and joy; brave is singing your songs through it all. Music has wings of peace, freedom, and love. Come share with us and fill your heart with the voices of City Choir.

Choir Directors:

- Gregory Oh
- John Millard
- Patricia O'Callaghan
- Sophia Grigoriadis
- Suba Sankaran
- Waleed Abdulhamid



Land Acknowledgement

The original stewards of this land were also the first performers. City Choir is raising our voices tonight along side Toronto’s Indigenous communities in building relationships of reconciliation, friendship, and hope.

A Message from the Choir

Brave Wings

Sixteen years have passed since City Choir started singing. Stronger and more vibrant than ever, our community sings for the joy of it, sings for everyone’s courage, and sings to lift our worlds.

City Choir Planning Committee:

Anne Donald
Arianne Schaffer
Aries Cheung
Cathryn MacFarlane
Donna Hill
John Tse
Louis George
Megan Warren
Paul Scott
Ruth Caspell

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CityChoir.ca



Support Us

Donations are always welcome. We are a not-for-profit choir and we do not have public funding. We rely entirely on pay-what-you-can donations to continually engage professional musicians to create programs that are diverse and accessible to the community. To support us, please visit our website at **CityChoir.ca** or email to **Support@CityChoir.ca**

Program

Sing Out!

Kujichagulia

Brave Wings

Seal Lullaby

Ancestors Song

14 Remembered: Agnus Dei

----- *Intermission* -----

Breeze in the Cottonwoods

River

Bora

Yarabba Ssalami

Nia

12 Days of Christmas

This Pretty Planet/Fragile

Thank You!

City Choir relies completely on volunteers for our special events, concerts and behind-the-scenes support. Thank you. Special thanks to College Street United for their help with our rehearsal space in this session and to the East End United for the concert venue.

Choir Members Fall 2025

Adriane Garland	Jane Carnwath	Melanie Rego
Alan Hahn	Jane Hacking	Mel Nadeau
Amanda Toppazzini	Janita Luanpolcharoenchai	Michael Wiseman
Angela Boyd	Jen McGillivray	Micha Marison
Anne-Marie Jackson	Jennifer Gillmor	Myles Lipton
Anne Cairns	Jennifer Smith	Norma Dell’Agnese
Anne Donald	Jennifer Watkins	Patricia Patchet-Golubev
Anne Egger	John Mergerm	Paul Scott
Anne MacGregor-O’Neill	John Tse	Rebekah Robertson
Anupa Joseph	Julia Aplin	Remy Gagnon
Aria Ivanova	Kaitlin Makund	Roman Pawlyshyn
Arianne Schaffer	Karenna Chen	Rona Landis
Aries Cheung	Kate Lushington	Rosa Spricer
Ava Patroni	Kathleen Tanel	Roseanne Lidstone
Ayse Gulez	Kelley Aitken	Ruth Caspell
Bavani Subramanian	Krysti Allison	Samuel Alexander
Brittni Makund	Laura Williams	Sandra Cardinal
Carla Rudberg-Chin	Leah Schlesinger	Sandra Kanagasabai
Caroline Hollway	Les Tager	Sarah Fernandez
Cathryn MacFarlane	Leticia Ramirez-Arana	Sara MacMillan
Celia Harte	Linda Hershkovitz	Sara Wilson
Christine Almeida	Linda Weichel	Shaden Rizek
Cornelius Sackey	Lindsay Kertland	Sheila Stewart
Daryl Harding	Lisa Harding	Shelagh Fitzpatrick
Deborah Feinstadt	Lisa Robertson	Shirley Aranha
Diane Hamilton	Lloyd Mathias	Shân Gordon
Donna Hill	Lorraine Okungbowa	Simone Stothers
Douglas Campbell	Louis George	Stephen Anderson
Eleanor Lester	Luz Galicia	Terry Cade
Farheen Desai	Manoj Jacob-John	Tina Csathy
Gwen Patrick	Margaret Christakos	Trina Preece
Hannah Mundel	Maria Doyle	Valerie McLean
Hazel Garg	Martin Wills	Vicki O’Donnell
Hilary Clark	Megan Warren	Vivi Desmond

Program Notes

Doors open at 7pm.
Concert will start at 7:30 p.m.
There will be a 20-minute intermission.

Don’t forget our popular **Bake Sale!** Please check out our huge variety of homemade treats before the concert and during intermission.



About Us

City Choir is an exciting volunteer-driven SATB community choir whose leadership is shared by six of Toronto’s best musicians. The choir performs music of many styles, as well as original compositions.

In addition to our own public concerts, members are welcome to perform individually in a choir cabaret each year. In 2024, we performed in a collaborative work by Suba Sankaran. In the past we have participated in two Luminato festivals, and in the “SING!” A Cappella Festivals as well as in smaller events. Members also perform traditional carols for holiday events.

We are open to all who love to sing. There are no auditions. Based on donations from members and from you, we meet Tuesday nights from September till December, and from February through early June.

Check out our website: **CityChoir.ca** or write to us at **member@citychoir.ca**. You can also find us on **Facebook**.

Our next session will begin in **February 2026**.

