

Annual Christmas Concert of Solo Vocal Music In Commemoration of World AIDS Day

Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs
Elisabeth Carlton Dowdy
Katherine Virginia DeLoyht
Michele Baez

Dr. Patrick Carlin, Piano

Sunday, December 3, 2017, 2:00 P.M.
Forest Hill Presbyterian Church
4401 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, Virginia

PROGRAM

Welcome	<i>Rev. Katherine Todd, Pastor, Forest Hill Presbyterian Church</i>	
The Christmas Song	<i>Katherine Virginia DeLoyht</i>	Mel Torme Robert Wells
White Christmas	<i>Elisabeth Carlton Dowdy</i>	Irving Berlin
I'll Be Home for Christmas	<i>Michele Baez</i>	Kim Gannon & Walter Kent
Ave Maria	<i>Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs</i>	Franz Schubert
Reflections	<i>Mr. Rodney Lofton, Deputy Director, Diversity Richmond</i>	
Do You Hear What I Hear	<i>Katherine Virginia DeLoyht</i>	Gloria Shayne Baker & Noël Regney

The Star Carol

Alfred Burt & Wilha Hutson

Elisabeth Carlton Dowdy

Gesu Bambino

Pietro Yon

Michele Baez

The Virgin's Slumber Song

Max Reger

Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs

Pie Jesu, from REQUIEM

Gabriel Faure

Sweet Lord Jesus, give them everlasting rest.

*** In Loving Memory of All who have died from AIDS*

Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs

Reflections

Ms. Willnette Cunningham

There's a Song in the Air

Oley Speaks/Arranged by Joan Frey Boytim

Katherine Virginia DeLoyht

Paska Na Sinta Ko

Francis Dandan & Aureao Estanislao

It's already Christmas, my love, I've been longing for you. Why are you so sullen? And you've left me all alone. If you're getting out of my life what will Christmas be like when you have forsaken me? Our promises, our true love for each other – were they wasted? Do you really want to dismiss our sweetness and joy? Oh, if you're getting right out of my life what will Christmas be like? – a Christmas that I dedicated to you! Yes, if you're vanishing from my life what will Christmas be like once you have forsaken me?

Elisabeth Carlton Dowdy, Soprano

Come to the Stable

Geoffrey O'Hara & Daniel Twohig

Michele Baez

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs

Immediately following this concert, you are cordially invited to a Reception in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for coming! All are welcome! This concert is made possible by a generous grant from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation; the generosity of Diversity Richmond; and the generosity of the community of Forest Hill Presbyterian Church. We will continue to offer our free concerts for ALL. Diversity Richmond envisions a community where LGBTQ+ citizens are treated with respect and dignity, and their unique gifts are championed and celebrated, enriching the colorful fabric of our community. Forest Hill Presbyterian Church is a diverse, multi-cultural, intergenerational, intentional Faith Community rooted in love and committed to service and justice in the world.

DR. LISA EDWARDS BURRS, who has been described as “a soprano of crystalline beauty” received degrees in Vocal Performance from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia (B.M. and M.M.) and The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. (D.M.A.). An accomplished lyric-coloratura soprano, her performances in recital, oratorio and chamber music are extensive. Her operatic roles include: *Athena* in *The Furies*, *Ola/Harriet Tubman* in *Vanqui*, *Blanche* in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, *Monica* in *The Medium*, *Despina* in *Così fan tutti*, *Treemonisha* in *Treemonisha*, *Adina* in *L'elisir d'amore* and *Poppea* in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*. She has performed on many occasions with several regional orchestras in Virginia and the District of Columbia and has received numerous prizes and awards such as the *Carson Silver Medal* in the *Savannah! Onstage American Traditions Vocal Competition* and the *Outstanding Vocalist of the Year for Excellence in the Arts* from *Richmond Magazine*. Some recent local performances include singing in the "Let It Snow" Concerts with The Richmond Symphony and in a musical celebration for Black History Month at Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus. Lisa was the featured performer in the CenterStage Foundation Gala Series at Rhythm Hall, sharing the stage with her son, Morgan, on Jazz Guitar. Upcoming projects include a documentary on the life and relationship of Paul Lawrence Dunbar and Alice Ruth Moore featuring performances from Steven M. Allen's opera *Lyrics of Sunshine and Shadow*, in which she sings the role of Alice. Dr. Burrs previously served on the Music Faculty of Virginia State University; currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Music at Longwood University.

KATHERINE VIRGINIA DELOYHT, a graduate of Collegiate School and The College of William and Mary, has sung various roles in opera and musical theater. A sampling of her roles includes Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* in Phoenix, Arizona and Cunegonde in *Candide* in Florence, Italy, both with Three Oaks Opera. She has also sung Mabel in *Pirates of Penzance* with both Sinfonicon Light Opera Company in Williamsburg and Henrico Theatre Company in Henrico, VA. In Musical Theater, she has appeared locally as Anne Egerman in *A Little Night Music* with VCU Opera, Cinderella's Mother in *Into The Woods* and Young Heidi in *Follies*, both with Dogwood Dell Festival of the Arts. She has performed as a soloist in concerts and programs with Capitol Opera Richmond, Opera Ischia in Italy, Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. She is currently a voice student of Dr. Patrick Carlin. Previous teachers include Deidra Palmour Gorton, Thomas Cultice, Michelle Harman-Gulick and Lisa Edwards-Burrs.

ELISABETH CARLTON DOWDY is a lyric soprano. She graduated from VCU with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education having studied under L. Wayne Batty, Melanie Day and Dr. Neil Wilson. Elisabeth was a member of the Richmond Symphony Choir and has been a cantor and professional chorus member in Richmond churches for many years. She is currently the cantor at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Elisabeth has performed in Regional productions of *Miss Saigon* as Kim; *Little Shop of Horrors* as Audrey; *Two by Two* as Leah; and *My Fair Lady* as Mrs. Pearce/Chorus. Most recently, she took on the role of Sinang/Maria Clara Cover in Capitol Opera Richmond, MAFFAA and KGB's production of the Filipino opera *Noli Me Tangere*. Elisabeth performs for several Filipino and Asian American events and is presently studying voice under Patrick Carlin.

MICHELE BAEZ studied under Theodor Uppman and Beverley Peck Johnson at the Manhattan School of Music in New York and completed a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance at VCU. She has appeared with The Richmond and Petersburg Symphonies as a featured soloist and in numerous concerts with her teacher, Patrick Carlin, here in Richmond. Most recently, she performed the role of Sisa in Capitol Opera Richmond, MAFFAA and KGB's production of the Filipino opera, *Noli Me Tangere*. Other roles include The Queen of the Night in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Madame Herz in Mozart's *The Impresario* and Sissieretta Jones in Emory Waters' contemporary opera, *The Edge of Glory*. Michele will next appear as Fiore in the world premiere of Walter Braxton's contemporary opera, *To Damascus*, with Capitol Opera Richmond. Michele is the proud Mom of Felicia and Naima.

DR. PATRICK CARLIN serves on the Music Faculty of Virginia Commonwealth University where he teaches music history and literature to undergraduate and graduate music majors and is the Director of Music at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia. In addition, Pat is the recipient of several grants to perform free concerts in venues throughout the City of Richmond, Virginia. Pat maintains a large private studio of voice and piano students. In recent months, Pat has been a guest voice teacher at The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music in New York. Pat's voice and piano students have been admitted to major music schools, including The Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Yale, and Indiana. Pat is a graduate of The Juilliard School (piano and voice), University of Dubuque (piano and voice), New York University (M.A. in college teaching/conducting; Ph.D. in college teaching/keyboard performance), University of Notre Dame (M.A. in theology/liturgical studies), and Virginia Commonwealth University (M.P.A. in public administration). In addition, he has studied music at Columbia University and theology at the Aquinas Institute of Theology. Pat's vocal teachers have included Eleanor Steber, Bernard Taylor, and William Toole; his piano and organ teachers have included Roger Boardman, Robert Harris, Rosina Lhevinne, Virginia Rice, Ruth Mahmoud, Robert Pace, John Ferguson, and Else Burtness; and his conducting teachers have included Rebecca Scott, John Gilbert, and Jon de Revere. Prior to moving to Richmond, Pat served churches in New York and Minnesota and taught music on the college and elementary school levels. His articles and reviews appear in several liturgical music journals. As a pianist, conductor, and organist, Pat has performed in over 500 concerts in Richmond, Virginia. As a conductor, Pat has conducted The Richmond Symphony in major works, including Mahler's *Resurrection Symphony*, Bruckner's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Beethoven's *Mass in C Major*, among many others. Pat is the proud father and father-in-law of Stephanie & Andrew and Sean & Carrie.

UPCOMING FREE CONCERTS

Sunday, January 14, 2018, 2 PM

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church

"Annual Concert in Honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs, Vocalist

Naima Burrs, Violin

Sunday, March 18, 2018, 2:00 PM

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church

"Songs from Musicals"

Vocal Artists TBA