

MARGARET'S CHOIR PRESENTS

Dreams

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR REFUGE WINNIPEG
COMMITTED TO ASSISTING REFUGEES

Sunday December 10

2:30pm

FEATURING:

MARGARET'S CHOIR & PAPA JOHN'S BLUES TRIO



MARGARET'S CHOIR

Margaret's Choir was founded on one woman's belief that everyone should be able to experience the joy of singing. In 2000, when a group of students said they couldn't sing, she encouraged them to try singing together. With mutual support and encouragement, and eventually with professional direction, that initial handful of "non-singers" grew to become "Spirit's Call Choir". In 2014, the name was changed to "Margaret's Choir" to honour its founder, Margaret Tobin (1946-2014).

Now a choir of 220 members of all capabilities, Margaret's Choir sings in joyous four part harmony under the outstanding direction of Nathan Poole, accompanied by the talented Charmaine Bacon. As a non-audition, community choir, Margaret's Choir provides a welcoming and supportive environment for all who want to sing, whatever their experience. Singing from the heart, the choir performs two benefit concerts each year and has raised over \$230,000, monies which have been returned to the community, promoting and supporting many worthy organizations. These charities, in turn, support the well being of children, youth, and adults, including newcomers to Canada. Margaret's vision of a choir which sings for joy and for personal, choral and global harmony, is still flourishing.

PROGRAM

Adiemus	<i>Karl Jenkins</i>
Pure Imagination	<i>Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley arr. Jay Althouse</i>
Go the Distance	<i>Music by Alan Menken, words by David Zippel, arranged by John Leavitt</i>
Only Time	<i>Words and Music by Enya, arranged by Kirby Shaw</i>
I Dreamed of Rain	<i>Jan Garrett, arranged by Larry Nickel</i>
Come Follow Me	<i>Words and music by Don Besig and Nancy Price</i>
Lux Aurumque	<i>Words by Erick Esch, music by Eric Whitacre</i>
Imagine	<i>Words and Music by John Lennon, Arranged by Mac Huff</i>
Bohemian Rhapsody	<i>QUEEN, arranged by Mark Brymer</i>

OUR MUSICIANS

NATHAN POOLE *musical director*

Hailing from St. Paul, Minnesota, Nathan has conducted and performed as artistic director of several choral groups throughout Manitoba, including Prairie Voices, and the Central Manitoba Youth Choir. He has sung for both Henry Engbrecht and Dr. Elroy Friesen in his years in Winnipeg, traveling across Canada and to the United Kingdom with the University Singers. He is also the director of Margaret's Choir, a community choir of 220 that performs two benefit concerts in Winnipeg each year. Along with choral directing, Nathan teaches violin and piano to more than forty students in the city of Winnipeg.



CHARMAINE BACON *collaborative pianist, and flautist*



Originally from Russell, Manitoba, Charmaine Bacon (BMus, MMus) is a classically trained pianist, organist, and flutist. Charmaine is the pianist for Margaret's Choir, the Silver Notes Choir, Joie de Vivre, and the Winnipeg Youth Chorus Juniors. Charmaine teaches flute at her home studio in River Heights and is active as a flute clinician across the city and province. She is co-artistic director and flutist of the Wind Chamber Concert Series at Crescent Fort Rouge United and performs as piccoloist in the Winnipeg Wind Ensemble.

HELEN BERGEN *guest conductor, and pianist*

Helen earned her degree in Piano Performance from Canadian Mennonite Bible College (now CMU), and her degree in Organ Performance from the University of Manitoba. Her musical passions all start with "E" – eclectic, energetic, electric, enthusiastic, exciting! She summarizes her preferences as "anything wonderful! Even strange and wonderful, but wonderful!" The Senior Choir, one of the musical responsibilities Helen carries, each year becomes a new community of friends. They welcome everyone, and know how to throw a good party! And she says: "You're invited! Come with a love of singing!"

PAPA JOHN'S BLUES TRIO *guest musical group*

John Perry, Debbie Profit, & Fred Dugdale

Papa John's Blues was formed by John Perry and his lovely wife Debbie Profit in 2011.

The group's music reflects the '60s and '70s music that the members grew up listening to and playing. Preferring to be mainly acoustic, PJB performs using microphones and direct input into an amplified sound system. PJB continues to present music with a subtle edge.

In August 2012, while John was involved with the 1st Annual Winnipeg BBQ and Blues Festival held in Exhibition Park, he met Fred Dugdale, who was also a member of Blues Manitoba and

was there playing blues harp (cross-harp [2nd position] harmonicas). Fred also adds vocal experience and harmonies.

"We play the 60/70's music we grew up with. A lot of Eric Clapton, some Animals and Kinks, The Doobie Brothers, some Tom Petty. Music is a common denominator among us all and we as a band are blessed to be able to perform the music we love. It's been a wonderful journey so far."

Keep on Rocking in the Free World!¹

<http://www.facebook.com/papajohnsblues>

OUR BENEFIT



REFUGE is a group of faith and secular community members organized in June 2014 to sponsor refugees and resettle them in Winnipeg. In October 2015 we welcomed three families (6 adults and 18 children) from Deir ez-Zur, Syria, who had fled their war-ravaged homeland to live precariously in Beirut, Lebanon. This sponsorship was coordinated by Westworth United Church (and the United Church of Canada, a

Sponsorship Agreement Holder with the government of Canada).

Like all private sponsors of refugees, REFUGE provides financial and practical support for our newcomers' first year in Winnipeg: housing, food, clothing, furniture, transportation, school enrolment, language training, health care, banking, shopping, social and recreational opportunities. Beyond the first year, we maintain frequent contact to offer encouragement and solve problems.

Refugees who are resettled in Canada receive a transportation loan to cover their travel to Canada and their immigration medical exams. The funds raised at this concert will be used to help our families repay their transportation loans of \$10,000 each.

No one chooses to be a refugee. Together, we do what we can to alleviate the suffering of the more than 65 million displaced persons worldwide. REFUGE sincerely thanks you and the members of Margaret's Choir for your generous support. *Debby Lake*

THANK YOU!

MBCI staff and technicians

First UU church for the use of their rehearsal space

Margaret's Choir Dream Team

Refuge Winnipeg

**Rehearsals for Margaret's Choir next season begin on Sunday, January 7th, 2:30 PM.
Interested in joining? Check out our website! Margaretschoir.ca No experience needed.**