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Edina High School marks 50 years of Current Jam

All Current Jam alumni invited to sing in May 20 matinee performance; Edina grandmas recall creating the first show in 1973

**EDINA, MN** (April 18, 2023) – Current Jam, Edina High School (EHS) Concert Choir's iconic spring concert of song and dance, is marking its 50th anniversary this spring. Concert dates are May 17–19, 2023 at 7 p.m., and May 20, 2023, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. All shows will be held at Edina High School Fick Auditorium, 6754 Valley View Rd., Edina, MN 55439.

To mark the 50th anniversary, a special invitation has been sent out to all Current Jam alumni to participate in the May 20, 1 p.m. matinee performance. Alums will sing the song, "Thank You for the Music," a 1970s show tune by ABBA. A fundraising effort, "50 for 50," is also underway to raise money for unique choral music opportunities for future EHS choral music students, as well as EHS student scholarships for those intending to



Left to right: Laurie Wilson Spencer, Bill Hughes and Mary Carlsen Lilja reminisce about 1973 show.

pursue a music career in higher education. To RSVP or for more information, alumni should "like" or "follow" the Edina High School Choirs Facebook or Instagram page. Tickets will be available to the general public beginning May 4 at www.edinachoirs.org.

Current Jam began in 1973 under the direction of Choir Director Bill Hughes to showcase student talent in individual and small group performances, as well as to provide the opportunity for the choir to perform arrangements of pop tunes. Many of the arrangements were created by the

students themselves.

"I remember deciding on a song and my friend, Bob Guberud, wrote the arrangement and pulled together the band," said Mary Carlsen Lilja, now an Edina grandmother of eight who sang "Thunder and Lightning" in the first concert. Together with others, like Laurie Wilson Spencer (also an Edina mom/grandma) who sang the Roberta Flack classic, "Killing Me Softly," the students – with the help of Hughes – started what has become a "go-to event" every spring.

The name "Current Jam" came from Hughes' initial inspiration (a wordplay on "currant jam," a fruit jam, and "current jam," a musical jam) with input from a small group of students including Wilson Spencer. "Laurie drew a jam jar tipped on its side to create the first poster and her artwork brought the concept to life – just one example of my

philosophy that the program was always about the kids, their talent, creativity and personalities," Hughes said.

"Current Jam opened the door for me and others to do fun solo work and harmonies of contemporary music, and take these skills to college," said Wilson Spencer, who minored in vocal



music performance, and whose son, *A ticket from the first Current Jam on May 31, 1973.* Mikey, performed in the 2008 and 2009 Current Jam shows.

To date, more than 4,000 students have participated in Current Jam, including opera singers Liv Redpath (EHS '09) and Tommy Glass (EHS '09), who is currently performing in Minnesota Opera's production of "Don Giovanni." But for many students, including Lilja and Wilson Spencer in the 1973 show, it was a singular experience to be on stage, singing songs that they loved.

After Hughes' tenure, Current Jam was overseen by the late Dr. Robert Peterson, 1977-1998, who brought new ideas and technology into the show, including video projection and lighting. In 1999, Current Jam was turned over to Dr. David Henderson, who had spent many years working with Dr. Peterson on the show. During Henderson's tenure, Current Jam continued to remain "current," not only through its modern popular repertoire, but also with state-of-the-art sound, lighting, choreography and video integration.

Following Henderson's retirement, Christopher Piela took over direction of Current Jam in 2019. He and colleagues Scott Lehrke and Serina Jolivette work collaboratively on an annual spring concert series that also includes Spring Sing and Happenin' shows. These performances allow all EHS choir members, grades nine through 12, to participate in the student-driven pop format established 50 years ago by Hughes and his students, while simultaneously preparing them to one day be part of Current Jam.

While Current Jam has evolved over half a century, it has remained faithful to its roots as a well-balanced, entertaining show of large-group choral numbers as well as special acts performed by a wide variety of solo groups. Tradition is a key element of the production. The senior video – introduced in 1977 – has had the choir singing "Times of Your Life" each year.

#### About Edina High School Choral Program

More than 500 students sing in the Edina High School Choral program, a department comprised of seven curricular choirs meeting during the day, four extra-curricular ensembles providing students an additional singing opportunity outside the school day, and an early-morning, weekly Men's Chorus open to all male singers in the high school and local community. The curricular choirs include 9th Grade SSA (soprano/alto), 9th Grade TTB (tenor/bass), Hornet Chorale (soprano/alto, grades 10-12), Cougar Chorus (tenor/ bass, grades 10-12), Bel Canto (advanced soprano/alto, grades 10-12), Cantemus (advanced tenor/bass, grades 10-12) and Concert Choir (advanced mixed chorus, grades 11-12). A close partnership between middle and high school programs ensures the development of comprehensive, lifelong musical skills for all singers.

Welcome! There is one 15-minute intermission in Current Jam 2023. Restrooms are located in the halls on the sides of the theater: Women's - house left. Men's - house right.

*Current Jam: The Beginnings-* video interview featuring Bill Hughes (founding director), Mary Carlsen Lilja & Laurie Wilson Spencer (members of the first Current Jam Concert Choir)

years!

Uptown Funk...... Ronson, Bhasker, Mars, & Lawrence, arr. Andy Thompson CONCERT CHOIR It's All Coming Back ......Jim Steinman Sophia Azmi, vocals ......Greg Holden & Drew Pearson Home..... David Cepek, Mikey Mason, Grant Olson, Jackson Parrish, Charlie Sandven, Jacob Toren, & Matt Vander Vort, vocals; Mitchell Mahlum, guitar Careless Whisper ...... George Michael & Andrew Ridgeley, orch. Ilan Blanck CONCERT CHOIR: Gabriela Nowak, soloist I Want You Back...... Mizell, Perren, Richards, & Gordy Annie Carpenter, Greta Kerekes, Shelby Northrup, & Charlotte Smith, vocals Bryce Zeuli, guitar; Hannah Owens Pierre, drums; Rowan Nordin, piano Rivers and Roads ...... Hensley, Johnson, Russell, Thielen, Williams, & Zasche Casey Campion, vocals; Harry Otteson, guitar & vocals Seven Bridges Road ......Stephen T. Young, arr. Kirby Shaw CHAMBER SINGERS The Evolution of Current Jam- video interview featuring Bill Hughes (Founding CJ Director '73-'76), David Henderson (CJ Director '91 & '99-'18), Pat Peterson (wife of CJ Director Bob Peterson '77-'98), Diana Leland (VVMS & EHS Choir Director '75-'05), & Christopher Piela (CJ Director '19-present) Build Me Up, Buttercup ...... McCauley & D'Abo, arr. Mac Huff **MEN'S CHORUS** Never Gonna Give You Up...... Stock, Aitken, & Waterman, arr. Lehrke MEN'S CHORUS Rumour Has It ..... Ryan Tedder & Adele Adkins Anna Clark, Evangelia Karoussos, Lauren Maloney, Nora McConnell, Jamie Pierce, Naomi Smith, Aubrey Van Liere, vocals; Y Nguyen, percussion Landon Nebel, vocals; Harry Otteson, piano Blame It On the Boogie ......Jackson-Clark, Jackson-Rich, Meyer, E. Kampschroer, H. Kampschroer, arr. Mac Huff CONCERT CHOIR **15-MINUTE INTERMISSION** 



<b>Current Jam Choreography</b> - video interview featuring Tom Amundson (Choreographer '76-'84), John Command (Choreographer '85-'18), & Megan Kelly Hubbell (Choreographer '19-present)
Cruisin' for a Bruisin' Allan, Evigan, Miller, & Leonti, arr. Mac Huff CONCERT CHOIR
Smile
I Want It That Way
Mason Sill, drums UmbrellaCarter, Harrell, Stewart, & Nash, arr. Piela TREBLE CHORUS; Jamie Pierce, soloist Choreographed by Jenny Jones, Charley Nasiedlak, & Jamie Pierce
Perfect
Take It EasyJackson Browne & Glenn Frey Bella Avila, Meryl Doster, Layla Hayes, Sami Hankinson, Ingrid Koehler, Annie Lund, Lauren Maloney, & Chloe McMahon, vocals; Mitchell Mahlum & Clayton Brown, guitar; Mark Kaiser, bass
Times of Your LifeBilly Lane and Roger Nichols, arr. Lou Hayward CONCERT CHOIR; the annual pictorial tribute to Concert Choir seniors
<i>Saturday at 1:00pm only:</i> Thank You for the MusicBjorn Ulvaeus & Benny Andersson, arr. Jerry Estes CONCERT CHOIR & CURRENT JAM ALUMNI
Great Balls of Fire Otis Blackwell & Jack Hammer Daniel Portz, vocals & piano
Faithfully
<b>'Everyday'</b> - video interview featuring Chuck Beeson (alum, arranger of 'Everyday') <b>The Future of Current Jam</b> - video interview featuring Laurie Wilson Spencer (alum, choir parent, & booster), & Scott Lehrke (EHS Choir Director on behalf of the Edina Choir Boosters)
You Give Love a Bad Name Bon Jovi, Sambora, & Child, arr. Thompson CONCERT CHOIR
You Give Love a Bad NameBon Jovi, Sambora, & Child, arr. Thompson CONCERT CHOIR EverydayThe Archers, arr. Chuck Beeson, Class of '82 CONCERT CHOIR



#### Soprano:

Sophia Azmi Hailey Bergeson Josephine Gerlach\* Meredith Goldman Sara Guy Samantha Hankinson Jennifer Jones\*^ Greta Kerekes Suzanne Lund Chloe McMahon\* Gabriela Nowak Natalia Quintana Sydney Raley\* **Delaney Schutts** Elizabeth Semington^ Charlotte Smith\*

#### <u>Alto:</u>

Serena Arisian\* Gabriela Avila^ Ann Carpenter Anna Beth Clark Meryl Doster Isabela Engle Layla Hayes Eleanor Kachmarzinski Evangelia Karoussos\* Ingrid Koehler Siri Larson Lauren Malonev Nora McConnell Charlotte Nasiedlak Shelby Northrup Jamie Pierce^ Naomi Smith\* Aubrey Van Liere Lacianne Wagner

#### **Tenor:** Luke Aadalen Bennett Crater Soren Epple Grant Geisler Peter Hannan Ryne Kebhart\*^ Joseph Matysik\* Landon Nebel\* Jaedon Nygaard\* Grant Olson Harold Otteson\* Daniel Portz\* **Reid Sprenkle** Maxwell Swenson Alexander Thompson Jacob Toren John Weiby

#### Bass:

Thomas Blum Casey Campion^ David Cepek Charles Fenske Connor Huston Patrick Kiely\* Michael Mason Lewis Meyer Jackson Parrish Andrew Piela Landen Sanders\* Charles Sandven Jacob Tietz\* Matthew Vander Vort **Conner Vaughn** \* = Chamber Singers ^ = Dance captain

#### ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF MEN'S CHORUS:

Kirk Aadalen Andy Beaton Richard Duncan Elijah Engstrom Daniel Fenske Andrew Gump Eric Hansen David Henderson Ryan Hunt Tom Kouchoukos Tommy Kouchoukos Andy Matysik Todd Molldrem Tommy Molldrem Jeff Northrup Bill Otteson Pedro Pacheco Brian Page Joe Portz Tim Portz Benjamin Solsvig Mark Sprenkle Tony Succio Clayton Weiby

#### ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF TREBLE CHORUS:

Evelyn Albright Margaret Donovan Libby McFarland Abigail Peterson

Ruby Tarbox Madigan Webb Stella Weber



Elise Huber (11) Trumpet Michael Van Panhuys (12) Trumpet Henry Molhoek (12) Trombone Armaan Jain (11) Alto Sax Mitchell Mahlum (12) Tenor Sax Margaret Shane (11) Bari Sax Hannah Owens Pierre (12) Drums Sam Rogers (12) Guitar Nick Gaudette (faculty) Bass Guitar

### THE CREW:

Ben Franske

Production Manager Systems & Monitor Engineer

**Grant Ashling** Production Manager Visual Design & Operation Will Weyrens Front-of-House Sound Engineer Nick Benson Live Stream & Recording Sound Engineer Jackson Zirbel Video Director

Student Crew Members:

Tom Kouchoukos Elsa Monsen Ian Page Jacob Wohlrabe

#### CURRENT JAM STUDENT VOLUNTEERS:

Evelyn Albright Presley Bartling Daniella Bisson Sylvie Burt Claire Bushaw Ava Foley Andrew Gump Madeline Jensen Addie Knier Christian Kuehl

Ava Loop Alexis McGrorty Emma Meyerhofer Gabby Monnot Frannie Orr lan Page Joe Portz Ava Seymour Johnny Sprague Izzy Wieden



#### **CHRISTOPHER PIELA**, *Director*

**Concert Choir, Treble Chorus, Chamber Singers, Hornet Chorale, 9TTB Choir** Christopher is in his 18th year at Edina High School and his 28th year in the District. He is also honored to be directing his 5th Current Jam! He earned his B.A. in Music Education from Gustavus Adolphus College and his M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from Minnesota State University, Mankato. He has served in various leadership positions for the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota and was an original member of World Voices/ Singers in Accord. In addition to directing, he is an active composer and arranger. He resides in Edina with his wife Melissa and their two children Lauren, 20, & Andrew, 17.

#### SCOTT LEHRKE, Director

**Men's Chorus, Cantemus, Cougar Chorus, 9TTB Choir, TTB Ensemble** Scott is in his nineteenth year directing vocal music in Edina Public Schools, where he teaches choirs at EHS, and serves as a vocal director for EHS musical theater productions. He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from St. Olaf College and earned a Master of Arts in Music Education from the University of St. Thomas. Scott's teaching expertise and research is in the changing male voice, with particular interest in development of tenor-bass choirs. When not at EHS, he's probably at home in St. Louis Park doing yard work, drinking coffee, and enjoying the kitten antics of Hazy and Charleston.

#### SERINA JOLIVETTE, Director Treble Chorus, Bel Canto, 9SSA Choir, SSA Ensemble

Serina is in her fifth year with Edina Choirs, her fourteenth year teaching high school choirs. Previous posts include Edgewood High School (Madison, WI), Sioux City East High School (Sioux City, IA), and Madison West High School (Madison, WI). In addition to traditional classroom choirs, Serina has worked with festival choirs, a cappella groups, show choirs, and musicals. Originally from Onalaska, WI, she received her Bachelors of Music Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she majored in both Choral/General Music Education and Spanish Language. She earned her Masters of Music Education with an emphasis in choral conducting at the University of St. Thomas. When not directing choirs, Serina enjoys spending time with friends and family, and her mini-goldendoodle, Jovie.

#### DIANA PAVLYUK, Choir Associate & Piano Accompanist

This is Diana's second year working with the choirs at Edina High School. She earned her B.A. Piano Performance degree from the University of Minnesota. Playing piano from an early age, she found a passion for music at her church where she ended up accompanying choirs for 15 years. Along with that, she loved singing, participating in ensembles, collaborating with other musicians, arranging music, and of course, performing. When not working with the lovely directors and students of EHS, she teaches at her home piano studio. She loves all kinds of exploring and being outdoors with her husband David and kiddos, William (6) and Giavanna (2).

#### MEGAN KELLY HUBBELL, Choreographer

Megan Kelly Hubbell is a musical theatre graduate of Millikin University with a dance minor. She recently became the Events and Volunteer Manager at Mission Animal Hospital in Eden Prairie. She continues to work as a voiceover talent, on camera, and on stage throughout the Twin Cities. You might recognize her as Jennifer from Rogers who recently bought a new car or the lady in that My Pillow commercial. She directs and choreographs for many schools and theaters across the state including Benilde-St. Margaret schools, Eden Prairie HS, Eagan HS, and Children's Theater Company. While managing volunteers is fun, she is thrilled to be celebrating her 11th year choreographing for Edina HS choirs.

**DR. BEN FRANSKE**, *Production Manager & Systems Engineer* Ben is excited to be back and continuing his own spring Current Jam tradition which started at CJ 2000! He is the primary audio engineer and systems designer for the audio, video, and computers used in the show. Ben is a professor of computer networking & cybersecurity, a technology and production consultant, and the lead instructor teaching rock n' roll roadies production networking at Rock Lititz. Along with other volunteer work, Ben is active in the Minnesota Streetcar Museum at the Como-Harriet Streetcar Line! He and his wife Patricia welcomed Hannah, their first child, to the CJ family last September and he especially wishes to thank Patricia for all her support and patience with his myriad of interests and putting up with a house full of equipment!

**GRANVILLE P. ASHLING,** *Production Manager, Lighting & Design* Granville is happy to be returning to Edina High School for another spring concert season, including his 30th Current Jam! He is the lighting designer and assistant production manager for the show. He started his career here at Edina as a student and now is a production designer for Crescent Moon Productions IIc. He has also done lighting work with the NFL, Prince, Wynonna Judd, The Office of the Dalai Lama, while locally he has worked with Minneapolis Downtown Council, Cloud Cult, and Living Word.

Thank you to the 50th Anniversary Alumni Advisory Committee who provided helpful input and guidance: JENNIFER DONNELLY '96

JENNIFER DONNELLY '96 NINA LEWIS PEHLER '03 ANDY MATYSIK '91 BILL OTTESON '86 LAURIE WILSON SPENCER '73

Gratitude to the participants of our Current Jam 50th Anniversary video interviews:

TOM AMUNDSON GRANT ASHLING ANDY BEATON JOHN COMMAND DR. BEN FRANSKE DR. DAVID HENDERSON JIM HOVLAND MEGAN KELLY HUBBELL BILL HUGHES DIANA LELAND MARY CARLSEN LILJA PAT PETERSON LAURIE WILSON SPENCER DR. STACIE STANLEY

## SENIORS





Luke Aadalen played on the Varsity soccer team this past year with some of his favorite memories from choir being the New York trip, Current Jam, and messing around with Mr. Piela during room checks. He plans on attending Auburn University in the fall studying Business.



**Serena Arisian** was on the Edina Cheerleading team and participated in Concert and Chamber Singers. Her memories include going on tour in Chicago and and participating in Current Jam. She is enlisting in the United States Air National Guard as a combat medic, and will attend the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.



**Bella Avila** held leadership positions within Edina Girls United, Model United Nations, Peer Tutors, and Hornet Mentors. She was on the Edina Dance Team and Varsity Hornettes. Memories include performing at Winter Jubilee and the New York City choir trip. She will study Political Science and Public Policy at the University of Michigan.



**Sophia Azmi** has done theatre and choir all of high school. She's a hornet mentor and enjoys weightlifting. Some of her favorite memories include hanging out with her friends and going to New York with choir! She will be pursuing acting and vocal performance after high school.



**Tommy Blum** played hockey and ultimate frisbee and has been in an Edina High School choir the past 4 years. Memories include singing in Happenin '22 and singing *Homeward Bound* for the Veterans Day programs. He will attend Grand Canyon University next year.



**Casey Campion** has been involved in many clubs in school and at church. His memories include traveling to New York his junior year and performing in Current Jam. He plans on attending University of Denver in the fall.



Annie Carpenter played basketball, ran track & field, and served as copresident of the EHS Key Club. Memories include Winter Jubilee, NYC Tour, and CJ '22. She will attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall to study Journalism and Economics.



**David Cepek** played on the Varsity hockey team and won a championship in basketball theory. His memories include singing the national anthem at the Homecoming football game. Next year he plans to attend Miami University.



**Anna Clark** played Varsity volleyball and golf, was a member of Student Council, Model UN, Girls United, Hornet Mentors, and is a Edina Reads Writing Contest Committee Member. Her memories include choir tour and having fun with her other Alto 2's! She will attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall and plans on studying Elementary Education.



**Meryl Doster** has been involved in student leadership at church and clubs at Edina. Memories in choir include the Chicago tour trip this year, the Bel Canto retreat from last year, and lastly, Current Jam. She will study Interior Architecture and Design at Arizona State University.



**Soren Epple** played baseball and participated in alpine skiing all four years of high school. Memories include Winter Jubilee and singing with all of the grown men in Men's Chorus. He will attend Penn State in the fall to study Computational Data Science.



**Charlie Fenske** played Junior Gold Hockey and was on the school newspaper, Zephyrus. Memories include Men's Chorus and last year's Happenin' concert. Next year he will attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.



**Grant Geisler** has been in Edina Choirs since 7th grade. He has a good ear for all music and is an up-and-coming talented producer and songwriter. His other passion includes playing hockey for Edina.



**Sara Guy** was a Model UN member, the Edina Girls Volleyball Manager, and a proud member of the French Immersion community. Memories include Winter Jubilee and the choir trip to New York City. She will attend the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities to study Chemical Engineering in the fall.



**Sami Hankinson** played Varsity hockey, tennis, and golf all throughout high school and was a member of Hornet Mentors, the Student Activities Advisory Committee, and Girls' Book Club. Memories include the Choir Trip to Chicago and Winter Jubilee. She will study Marketing and Real Estate at Indiana University.



**Layla Hayes** was an Edina cheerleader for six years. Memories include choir tour to New York and Chicago, and performing in the Winter Jubilee. She will attend the University of Kansas.



**Jenny Jones** was active in Edina Choirs all throughout high school. She has been in Concert Choir for two years, and participated in Treble Chorus and Chamber Singers. She was a dance captain both years for Current Jam. She was also on the Edina Hip Hop Dance Team during her junior and senior years. She will be attending Gustavus Adolphus College in the fall to study Exercise Physiology.



**Ella Kachmarzinski** played three years with the Varsity soccer team and participated in choir since 6th grade. Memories include Winter Jubilee and singing with friends every day at school! She will be studying Biology next year at Indiana University.



**Ryne Kebhart** participated in choirs and performed in Edina Theatre through his high school years. He also performed in multiple special acts during the spring concerts. Memories include the New York tour, singing in a special act at Happenin' and Current Jam, and performing with his friends over the years. He plans on continuing his performing career and studying music arts in New York.



**Greta Kerekes** was a Level 10 Gymnast and Captain, Edina Rotary Global Scholar, Key Club Co-President, and SMATH Peer Tutor. Memories include Strawberry Fields, bus rides on the NYC tour, and Current Jam season. She will study Neurobiology and Spanish at University of Wisconsin - Madison.



**Patrick Kiely** sang in Concert Choir and Chamber Singers for the past two years, being a student director for the latter. Outside of choir, he is a three time Varsity Lacrosse letter recipient, founder of the EHS Lego Club, and a soccer referee with seven years experience. In the fall, Patrick will attend William and Mary where he will study Biology.



**Ingrid Koehler** is a singer and section leader in the Cathedral Choir at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. Memories in Edina Choirs include the New York City and Chicago tours, and Current Jam. After high school, she is taking a gap year at Elverum Folk School in Norway and will study Global Health at McGill University in 2024.



**Siri Larson** participated in Edina Cheerleading, theater, and was a member of the French Immersion community. Her favorite memories include the New York City tour and Winter Jubilee. She plans to attend Minnesota State Mankato next fall to study Biology.



**Annie Lund** played hockey, was a 212 leadership cabinet member, involved section leader for Mt. Olivet Cathedral Choir, and wrote for the school newspaper. Memories include Winter Jubilee and singing with her best friends over the past 6 years. She plans on attending the University of Kansas and studying Journalism in the fall.



**Lauren Maloney** played soccer, ultimate frisbee, was a manager of the alpine ski team, a Hornet Mentor, as well as a student ambassador and a proud member of the French Immersion program. Memories include Winter Jubilee and singing the National Anthem on the streets of NYC spontaneously with a bunch of her choir friends. She will study Psychology and Nutrition at Miami University in Ohio.



**Mikey Mason** played hockey for Edina High School and has been in Edina Choirs since 6th grade. Memories include singing in a small group at Current Jam and being on the Wall of Fame at Valley View Middle School. He will attend Creighton University.



**Joey Matysik** played soccer, hockey, and ran track, sang in chamber singers, and was also on student senate and student council. Some of his favorite memories include his group special act in Current Jam last year and the Chicago and New York choir trips. He will attend Indiana University this fall to study Finance.



**Chloe McMahon** loved theater, having participated in six shows, and was in Chamber Singers. Memories include the 2022 Choir New York trip and growing musically with her peers over the years. She will be taking a gap year and will attend YWAM U of N Kona.



**Lewis Meyer** played baseball and was a captain his senior year. Memories include Happenin' 22 and Winter Jubilee. He will attend Miami University in Ohio to study Business.



**Charley Nasiedlak** played hockey and tennis, and was the founder of the Ethics in Science club. Memories include choir trip to NYC, Winter Jubilee, and getting to experience Jamie's energy in class. She will attend Duke University majoring in Molecular and Cellular Biology.



**Landon Nebel** is a wrestler and will be attending the University of Augsburg to continue his wrestling career. His memories include the tour in New York and Current Jam 2022.



**Shelby Northrup** was the editor-in-chief of the yearbook and served as the VP of both Science Club and Key Club. Her memories include the New York choir trip and CJ '22. She will attend Texas Christian University to study Marketing.



**Gabriela Nowak** was involved in Theater throughout all of her high school experience. Her memories include the New York choir tour and Current Jam '22. She will attend Stella Adler Academy of Acting in the fall.



**Jaedon Nygaard** was a football player and will be continuing his football career. His favorite memory is going on the New York City choir tour. He will be attending Augsburg University.



**Grant Olson** played hockey for EHS, and his best memories include the great times in 9TTB and Happenin' '22. He will attend Indiana University to study Business.



**Harry Otteson** played on the Varsity golf team and participated in jazz band and Chamber Singers. His favorite choir memories were New York City choir tour, Current Jam special acts, and the national anthem at Homecoming. He will attend Indiana University - Bloomington next year to study Finance.



**Jackson Parrish** was Captain and All-State soccer player. He also lettered in community service. His memories include the New York tour and watching *Aladdin* on broadway. He will attend the University of Colorado - Boulder.



**Jamie Pierce** loves all things music from Choir to Band to Orchestra. Her favorite memories include Winter Jubilee, the soup debate from the NYC Trip, and being Jay Z (CHEEYA). She plans to attend the University of Minnesota - Duluth.



**Daniel Portz** played rugby and football, and was a student co-director of Chamber Singers. His memories include the New York choir tour, Current Jam, and Winter Jubilee. He will attend the University of Iowa to study Business.



**Charlie Sandven** played hockey. His favorite choir memory was when he sang in the Happenin' concert his junior year. He will be playing junior hockey next year.



**Laney Schutts** has been the student costume, hair, and makeup lead for EHS theater. Memories include the NYC choir trip and making great friends. She plans on attending North Dakota State University for Wildlife Conservation Biology and Pre-Veterinary Medicine.



**Lizzie Semington** is SO PUMPED for her last ever Current Jam. It's been so cash money and she is so grateful to have participated in choir since elementary school. Lizzie has been part of The EHS Thespian Club since her freshman year, and has also served on the student theater board since sophomore year. She will be pursuing her BFA in Musical Theater at Montclair State University in the fall.



**Charlotte Smith** was one of the leaders of Edina's Key Club and was also a Concert Choir Chamber Singer. Memories include the choir tour in Chicago, caroling with Chamber Singers, and meeting many amazing friends. She will study Marine Biology at The University of Tampa.



**Reid Sprenkle** was captain of EHS alpine ski team and boys volleyball team. Memories include choir trips to New York and Chicago and singing with great small groups in Current Jam. He will attend Indiana University to study Finance and Data Analytics.



**Max Swenson** played rugby and sang in Mount Olivet Church's Cathedral Choir. His favorite memories include the Happenin' concert, the Chicago tour, and Current Jam. He will attend the University of Minnesota - Duluth.



**Alex Thompson** played rugby and participated in Theater For All. He also sang in the Cathedral Choir at Mount Olivet Church. Memories include great trips to New York City and Chicago. He will attend the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire in the Fall.



**Jacob Tietz** played Ultimate, competed in Model UN, and sang with Chamber Singers. Memories include caroling at the 50th-and-France tree-lighting and choir tour in NYC. He will study computer science at UMN.



**Jacob Toren** played hockey and golf. His favorite memories include singing and dancing during spring concerts, and singing during the Homecoming football game. He will be attending Indiana University in the fall to study Business.



**Matt Vander Vort** played 3 years of hockey for the Edina Boys Varsity team. His memories include singing the National Anthem on homecoming and participating in the spring concerts. He plans to play junior hockey in Lincoln, Nebraska next year.



**Conner Vaughn** played hockey and golf. His memories include the Happenin' concert and singing with friends over the years. He will attend lowa State University.



**Jack Weiby** ran track, played hockey, and was a Hornet Mentor. Favorite memories include the New York and Chicago choir tours, Current Jam, and Winter Jubilee. He will be attending Colorado State University in the fall.





In 1973, as the first year at the new Edina-West High School drew to a close, choral director Bill Hughes and his Concert Choir students established a tradition that has become one of the most beloved institutions in the community:



To mark the 50th Anniversary of Current Jam in 2023 and the countless treasured memories created, Edina Choir Boosters announces a very special campaign called **\$50 FOR FIFTY**, and your participation is needed! The vision is simple yet profound:

- If every C.J. alum from the past fifty years made a one-time contribution of \$50 to honor their treasured memories in Current Jam, that amount of giving alone would establish an endowment of about <u>\$200,000</u>!
- Imagine if parents, grandparents, and perennial fans of Current Jam also donated \$50! Current Jam has impacted so many of us!

The funds raised through your generosity in the **\$50 FOR FIFTY** campaign will be used for two purposes:

- 1. Establishing an annual local scholarship to be awarded to a senior in the EHS Choral Program who plans to pursue singing and music study at the post-secondary level.
- 2. Funding unique and specific choral music learning experiences for future EHS choir students and ensembles, such as the commission of new music, artist residencies, workshops, and masterclasses with guest clinicians.

#### **TWO WAYS TO DONATE \$50 FOR FIFTY TODAY!** 1. Make a check payable to **Edina Choir Boosters** and write **\$50 FOR FIFTY** in the memo line. Mail to:

Edina High School Choirs



6754 Valley View Road Edina, MN 55439

2. Scan one of these QR codes or any located around the auditorium and make an instant online donation. Please include **\$50 FOR FIFTY** in the memo.



venmo

As our **\$50 FOR FIFTY** campaign is ongoing, we will publish a list of donors in Fall 2023. Thank you to those who have already contributed!

#### EDINA HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR BOOSTERS 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR MEMBERSHIPS MEMBER (\$45-\$79):

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#### -ROSTERS AS OF APRIL 22, 2023

## WE SING YOUR PRAISES!

#### BENEFACTOR (\$130-\$249):

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#### EDINA HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR BOOSTERS MEMBERSHIP

The generosity of our Choir Boosters makes concerts like this one possible! If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please use the QR codes below to contribute via PayPal or Venmo.

Edina Choir Boosters is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Thank you for your support!









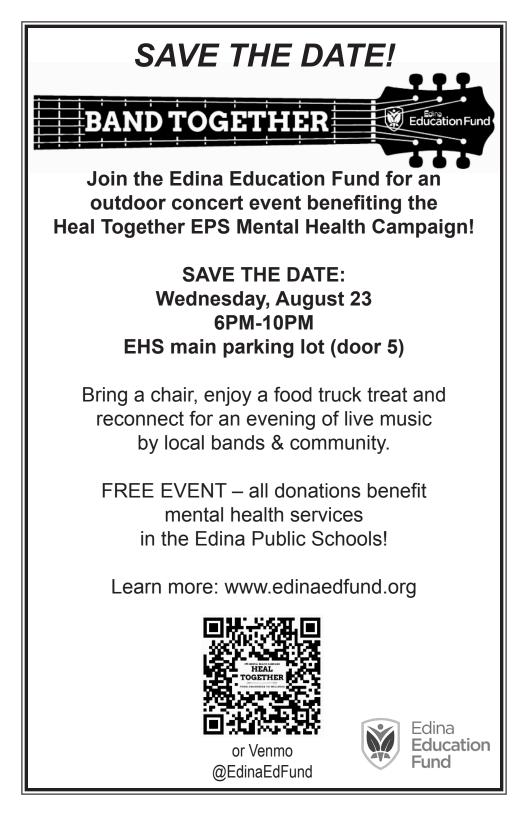


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**Catherine Gump, Gail Jones, Jeff Northrup** 

Sarah Biderman Beth Brandt Kyrsten Darby Sarah Fincham Carah Hart	Michael Moeller Matthew Peterson Shandra Prowell Brenda Rolando Emma Tewes Middle School Music Facultur	John Visel Maxwell Voda Charles Weise Elizabeth Werness Katherine Widen
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Sing With Us! The Edina Chorale, a nonprofit community choir comprised of mixed voices of all ages, performs three concerts per season featuring a broad repertoire of traditional, classical, contemporary, and pop choral music.



The Chorale rehearses weekly for two hours on Tuesday evenings from September to early June in Edina. Auditions will take place in early August 2023.



#### Learn More





### Edina Chorale



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