



Happy holidays, everyone!

I am so proud of our Durango Choral Society family of singers and Board members, who have already produced two sold out LIVE concerts this season! We are now preparing to offer our beloved community the gift of beautiful and joyous holiday music.

This year we will break "tradition" and perform on Sunday, December 5 in the lovely acoustics at Summit Church on Aspen drive, with selections ranging from sweet lullabies to jazz, Hanukkah joy, lots of percussion, and even our children's choirs serenading you with carols in the parking lot!

Yes, we still have to wear masks, but you will be surprised at how well our talented performers have learned to make the necessary adjustments in diction, volume, and facial expression.

Yes, we are all vaccinated. Yes, your health and safety is foremost in our planning.

And, YES, we hope to see you, greet you, and share the sheer joy of live music with you. It has been a wild, adventurous, daring ride, but we are still galloping forward with glee.

Thank you so much for hanging in there with us, for your encouragement and support, for your generous donations, and (especially) for your appreciative attendance at our events.

Check out our website for a fantastic online GALA for all of your shopping needs, and please consider a contribution to our efforts by donating to Colorado Gives.

Happy Holidays to all, and I hope to see you soon!

Cheers, Linda

November, 2021



Many thanks to our season sponsor, TBK Bank

SPOTLIGHT ON ROBIN RANDOLPH

(aka the Frybread Queen)



Music has always been a vital part of my life, and a continual source of joy and creativity for me. Although my parents were not themselves musicians, they had a true appreciation of music of all types. Our record player was well employed, filling our home with classical, opera, folk, big band, and popular music of the day. As soon as I was able to read, I began taking piano lessons, and continued through high school. During that time, I also picked up clarinet and guitar and began singing. As a young adult, I decided it wasn't too late to learn flute. I have played flute in the Southwest Civic Winds since 2012. I consider myself a dabbler, but my music gives me incredible enjoyment, and THAT is why I stay involved with it.

When I was in my twenties, for a time I was in charge of children's music at my church. I taught children ages 3 to 12 different songs for a yearly performance, and for fun. I don't recall too many of the kids, but I do remember one little girl who always sat in the front row at the edge of her seat, smiling and SO eager to learn. She was a standout even then! That little 7-year-old was Amelia (Amy) Burns.

Fast forward about 12 years, and she became the director of the Durango Barbershoppers, with whom my husband has sung for 35 years. As a Barbershopper's wife, I had the opportunity over the next years to get reacquainted with Amy Burns, now Amy Barrett. In 2011 I received a phone call from Amy asking if I would like to be her administrative assistant for the Durango Children's Chorale. I readily agreed, and for the past 10 years I have enjoyed working alongside Amy, working with the kids, being a liaison with the parents, and even tending a Barrett baby or three during rehearsals. In 2014 Amy started the Durango Youth Chorus to provide a greater singing opportunity for middle school aged kids, and some continued singing with NYC through high school. Having the opportunity to work in this group has been rewarding for me also!

Through my work with the two youth groups as part of the Durango Choral Society, my interest in singing with the adult DCS choir was re-piqued (I sang with them for a while in 1986-7), and the timing was right to join that group. I have sung with the Choral Society since 2015. The happiness I have felt in working with these groups, being inspired by Amy Barrett and Linda Mack as well as other performers, is difficult to adequately express. I feel deeply fortunate and grateful for these opportunities.

I am originally from rural Santa Fe, New Mexico. I came to Durango to attend Fort Lewis College. I received a BA in English in 1979 and never really left the area. My husband and I have lived in Vallecito, CO for forty years. We raised three children, and have 7 grandchildren. Besides music, I enjoy watercolor painting, hiking, writing, reading, our animals, family, and lots of other stuff!



The kiddos performed on Tuesday, October 19th for family and friends at the LDS Church basketball court in Durango.

They were accompanied by our amazing pianist
Christi Livingston.

Everyone was impressed by their enthusiasm and their talent. I mean, we are talking 4-part harmonies, choreography, and memorized music!



On December 7, 2021, Coloradans will come together with the common goal to strengthen our community by helping nonprofits, including the Durango Choral Society.

Colorado Gives Day makes good things happen for more than 3,000 local nonprofits. What began in 2010 has grown to one of the largest giving days in the U.S. Last year, the annual statewide movement raised more than \$50 million in 24 hours.

Studies show that being generous makes us happier, it can make a difference in our communities, and it inspires generosity in others. It lets us come closer together and build stronger communities. Now, more than ever, we need to magnify and celebrate these values that bring us together and create joy.

Colorado Gives Day. It's more than just a day. It's a movement that inspires and unites thousands of donors to "give where they live" and support Colorado nonprofits.



**HO HO HO!
HOLIDAY JOY!**

Sunday, Dec. 5 at 3 pm
Summit Church
2917 Aspen Drive
Tickets \$20/\$5


Durango Choral Society

This year, after such a long time apart, we will present a very unique and special concert in a more intimate location and with a focus on love, hope, and JOY. Join the Durango Choral Society and the Durango Women's Choir, along with soloists and special guests, to ring in an especially grateful holiday season with beautiful lullabies, traditional carols, and a sprinkling of laughter and glee.

Special thanks to our
Season Sponsor!

TBK BANK
durangochoralsociety.org

AND, the Durango Choral Society GALA is back this year, bigger and better than ever.

*It's a little bit different,
but still supports the DCS Children's Choirs*

Starting **Cyber Monday, November 29th through December 10th**, visit the DCS Gala sale site online and purchase beautiful gifts that will appeal to everyone on your holiday list.

Sneak peek on the next page!



You might have to arm wrestle me for this.



Welcome to the Durango Choral Society Holiday Gala, benefitting the Durango Children's Chorale and the Durango Youth Chorus. This is our traditional gala that you have come to know and love, in a brand-new online format! You have the benefit of browsing our lovely items at your own convenience. All items are 'Buy It Now', so there is no bidding to navigate. Each item is presented in a lovely gift-ready basket or bag unless otherwise noted on very large items. Let your holiday shopping give a double gift by supporting our kids through the Holiday Gala, 2021!

All funds from this gala go directly to benefit the Durango Children's Chorale and the Durango Youth Chorus, the younger choirs of the Durango Choral Society.

The mission of the Durango Choral Society is to enhance the musical and cultural development of our community through the promotion of choral activities and concerts for the enjoyment of the public. Emphasis is placed on providing educational opportunities for both singers and audience members.

The Durango Children's Chorale and the Durango Youth Chorale provide opportunities for children ages 5-18 to audition for a professional quality choir that enhances the music education they receive in school. The program teaches and reinforces reading music, singing in harmony, tone quality work, accurate pitch, simple choreography and teamwork. This gala supports the Fall (2022) DCC/DYC Music Camp. This one-of-a-kind camp provides three very full days of intensive music instruction, movement and rhythm games, and social bonding of the choir. We truly appreciate your support, thank you! Happy Shopping for great gifts and a great cause!

Cyber Monday, November 29th through December 10th

<https://www.32auctions.com/durangochoralsociety>

The first ever internet Gala would not have been possible without the leadership of Dianne Pratt and the photographic skills of Richard Pratt. But foremost we couldn't have done this without Ellie Cline's generous and continued use of her space. She offered her craft room and we took over her house! It took a village to put together these wonderful gifts and we would like to thank the committee for their time, talent, and enthusiasm.

Jeanne Bandy

Sandy Brooks

Ellie Cline

Louanne Crawford

Julia Dodd

Gay Grossman

Gisela Lott

Mary Moorehead

Jan Patton

Dianne Pratt

Richard Pratt

Robin Randolph

Dawn Spaeder

Sue Weber



We hope you were able to join us for the magnificent Vivaldi Gloria on October 23 in Roshong Hall. It was postponed from March of 2020! Wearing a singer's mask felt strange at first, but Linda assures us we looked and sounded beautiful.

Well, maybe not EVERYONE looked beautiful.



Durango Choral Society

Joyful Reunion Concert Schedule

December 5, 2021

Ho Ho Ho Holiday Joy

March 11 & 12, 2022

How Can I Keep From Singing

April 29 & May 1, 2022

An American Journey: Songs of our Land

May 21, 2022

A Choral Society Cabaret

www.durangochoralsociety.org