

*Terrance Kelly and the*



*Present the*

# 38TH ANNUAL *HOLIDAY* CONCERT

WITH THE OAKLAND INTERFAITH  
COMMUNITY & YOUTH CHOIRS

**SAT | DEC 2 | 7 PM**

**PARAMOUNT THEATRE  
Oakland, CA**



HOST  
Kumasi Aaron



DIRECTOR  
Terrance Kelly



GUEST  
Half-N-Half



GUEST  
Mickala Cheadle  
Josey



GUEST  
Rev. Reggie Finley



GUEST  
JaCoree Prothro



GUEST  
Jackie Tolbert

[www.oigc.org](http://www.oigc.org)





The mission of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir is to inspire joy and unity among all people through Black gospel and spiritual music traditions.

## WELCOME TO THE DIGITAL PROGRAM!

Links, QR Codes, and some logos in this program can take you directly to their website. Try it out!



[oigc.org](http://oigc.org)



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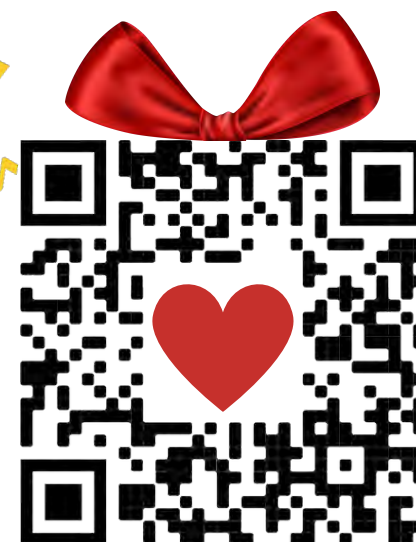
[youtube.com](https://youtube.com)



**GIVE THE**

*Gift of Music*

[www.oigc.org/gift](http://www.oigc.org/gift)





# Welcome Back to the Paramount!

We are thrilled to welcome you to the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir's 38th Annual Holiday Concert! After three years away from the Paramount, tonight feels like an incredible homecoming, and we're so glad you're here to celebrate it with us!

Each voice you will hear, both on stage and behind the scenes, celebrates the power of music, unity, and the spirit of the Holiday Season. This evening showcases the incredible talent of our choir members, echoing the rich tapestry of Oakland's diverse communities.

Our 38-year history is one of shared melodies and a commitment to fostering understanding and love. In a world that sometimes feels divided, our choir stands strong as a symbol of unity, weaving people together through the transformative power of Black gospel music.

As you join us, experience the harmonies that bind us together. This holiday season, let the universal language of music inspire joy and togetherness, transcending differences.

Thank you for supporting the Arts in Oakland, and for giving the gift of music to our community. Tonight, thank you for creating lasting memories in the embrace of these uplifting melodies.

*Terrance & Maren*





**LIVING IN HARMONY**

**There are so many  
ways to scoop up  
joy with us this  
December!**



**Dec 2**

38th Annual Holiday  
Concert

**Dec 16**

Yuletide Youth Concert

**Dec 22**

15th South Bay Holiday  
Concert

**Dec 24**

34th Christmas Eve Concert

**Discover all of our  
holiday performances at  
[oigc.org/holiday](http://oigc.org/holiday)**







# 38th Annual Holiday Concert

**SAT, 12/2/23, 7PM – Paramount Theatre Oakland**  
**Hosted by Kumasi Aaron**

## **INVOCATION & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

### **OAKLAND INTERFAITH YOUTH CHOIR**

SATIN DOLL..... Duke Ellington  
BLESS ME..... Kirk Franklin  
*Ensemble: Zeppelin Aissa, Cynthia Joseph, Eden Lewis, Henry Reid,  
Anin Rice, Julian Rosenthal, Kiyomi Treanor*

### **OAKLAND INTERFAITH COMMUNITY CHOIR**

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL..... Traditional, arr. Terrance Kelly  
*Soloist: JaCoree Prothro*  
TROUBLE DON'T LAST ALWAYS..... Timothy Wright  
*Soloist: Reverend Reginald Finley; Directed by: Jenni Simpson*

### **OAKLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR**

AVE MARIA..... Bach-Gounod, arr. Terrance Kelly  
*Directed by: Jeff Landau*  
RIDE DE CHARIOT..... William Henry  
*Soloist: Isa S. Chu*  
STEAL AWAY..... Traditional, arr. Terrance Kelly  
DONE MADE MY VOW TO DA LAWD..... John Wesley Work Jr.  
*Soloist: James Powell*  
JESUS O WHAT A WONDERFUL CHILD..... H. Carney  
*Soloist: Loretta Winchester; Trio: Cheryl Garner, Linda Mack, Teresa Mack*  
LIVIN'..... The Clark Sisters  
*Soloist: Mickala Cheadle Josey*



# 38th Annual Holiday Concert

**SAT, 12/2/23, 7PM – Paramount Theatre Oakland**  
**Hosted by Kumasi Aaron**

## **INTERMISSION**

- LOVE CAN BUILD A BRIDGE . . . . . The Judds  
*Soloist: Donald Lang*
- WE THREE KINGS. . . . . J. Henry Hopkins, arr. Terrance Kelly  
*Trio: David Cogswell, Vernon Staggers, Daniel Strauss*
- MY LIFE, MY LOVE, MY ALL . . . . . Kirk Franklin
- HALLELUJAH! A SOULFUL CELEBRATION. . . . . G.F. Handel  
arr. Warren, Jackson, Kibble & Chinn  
*Soloist: Jacoree Prothro*
- OH HOLY NIGHT . . . . . Placide Cappeau, arr. Terrance Kelly  
*Soloist: Terrance Kelly; Directed by: Isa S. Chu*
- EMMANUEL. . . . . Norman Hutchins  
*Soloist: Jackie Tolbert*

## **TUTTI**

- KINGDOM . . . . . Kirk Franklin  
*Soloists: Maria Long, Carter Neblett*  
*Ensemble: Cheryl Espinosa-Jones, Jennifer Grace,  
Tamar Leveson, Jennifer Little, Erin Murray*
- JOY TO THE WORLD. . . . . G.F. Handel; arr. Terrance Kelly  
*Featuring: Kumasi Aaron*  
*Quartet: Maria Long, Isa S. Chu, Jeff Landau, Daniel Strauss*



# Shop OIGC

**OIGC gifts make great stocking stuffers!**

Available in the main lobby.

For sale individually  
or in bundles!

## **Pocket Bundle: \$5**

- Sticker, Mintbox, Chapstick

## **Cards Bundle: \$5**

- 2 cards

## **CD Bundle:**

- 3 for \$35

- 4 for \$45

## **Holiday Bundle: \$15**

- Ornament, Santa Hat

## **Singer Bundle: \$30**

- TShirt & Singer Mask



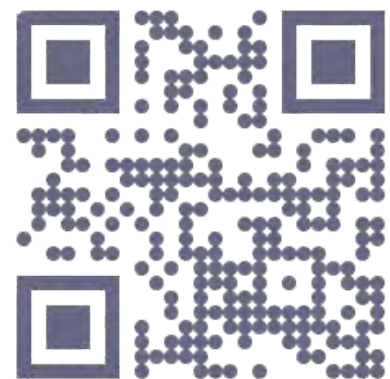


# Join Us!

## THE OIGC FAMILY OF CHOIRS

- **Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir (1986)**
- **Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir (1997)**
- **Oakland Interfaith Community Choir (2013)**
- **Oakland Interfaith Kids Choir (2022)**
- **Oakland Youth Chorus (1974)**
  - Chamber Singers
  - Concert Chorus
  - Miracles

Find out which  
ensemble fits  
you best at  
[oigc.org/ensembles](https://oigc.org/ensembles)





# Our Host

## KUMASI AARON



Kumasi Aaron, named after the West African city in Ghana, fondly reflects on her journey from a Florida childhood to studying accounting at Florida A&M University. Despite a brief detour into accounting, a transformative summer internship led her to journalism, where she discovered her passion for creative storytelling and meaningful connections.

Her on-air career kicked off in Fayetteville, Arkansas, as an anchor and reporter, and she later returned to Florida, proudly showcasing her natural hair on air in Jacksonville. The move west to Denver saw Kumasi as a National Correspondent and Anchor, covering impactful stories across the nation, from Hurricane Irma to the Ghost Ship Fire in Oakland.

Now, in the Bay Area, Kumasi is excited to build local connections and share the stories of diverse communities. Accessible via email at [kumasi.m.aaron@abc.com](mailto:kumasi.m.aaron@abc.com), she encourages people to reach out with their stories or just to say hello. Whether outdoors, by the water, or enjoying live music and good food, Kumasi sees the Bay Area as the perfect backdrop for her next chapter.



# Guest Artist

## **HALF-N-HALF**

Sherry Hicks, Michael Velez



Sherry Hicks and Michael Velez are Children of Deaf Adults (CODA) performers who collaborate and tour around the world. This dynamic duo delights audiences with their original multimedia American Sign Language (ASL) performances, combining music and storytelling. Using improvisation and various poetic

styles, they perform entertaining excerpts of Deaf and CODA life. Half-N-Half was originally formed in 1994 by four CODA members: Sherry Hicks, Sheila Jacobs, Pam Johnson, and Michael Velez. They were called the Bay Area Coda Performers.

Their first performance was for students at the awards banquet at the California School for the Deaf at Fremont. For the entertainment, musical selections were choreographed and presented in ASL. The crowd went wild, with students jumping onto the stage and joining in with the rhythm and beat.

Since then, Half-N-Half has put together decades of CODA-based material. Signing songs and performing for mixed audiences, they share the gift of ASL that their families, community, and culture have instilled in them.



# Guest Artist

## **MICKALA CHEADLE JOSEY**



Mickala began her formal musical training at age 10 when she auditioned and was accepted into the Prestigious Young Musicians program at the University of California Berkeley. Cheadle was the youngest vocal musician ever selected, staying in the program for eight years, studying classical voice, piano, jazz, musical theater, composition, theory and operatic theater. A solid foundation that separates her from other singers. Mickala went on to receive a degree in music/vocal performance from the California State University at Fresno.

Mickala has had the honor of performing for actor Delroy Lindo, and with recording artists such as Patrice Rushen, Fred Wesley and Tom Browne. Mickala also performed for The Chancellor of U.C. Berkeley, and the NBA's Golden State Warriors. She has also worked with some of today's most talented artists, singing background vocals for N'Dambi, Dave Hollister, and Ledisi; Braxton Brothers, Dwayne Wiggins of Tony Toni Tone, and Mint Condition.

Mickala is a force, with a wide range and the ability to paint a vivid picture through song for every listener who experiences her vocal prowess.



# Guest Artist

## REVEREND REGINALD FINLEY



A dynamic vocalist from Oakland, California, Reverend Reginald Finley's soul-stirring voice blends his rich cultural heritage with a contemporary flair. A prominent figure in Oakland's music scene, he seamlessly intertwines spirituality with his performances, creating an authentic and captivating experience. Rooted in faith his dynamic presence on stage reflects years of dedication to his craft.

Rev. Reginald Finley remains deeply committed to both his community and his spiritual journey, making him a respected and beloved figure. In every note, he leaves an indelible mark on those fortunate enough to experience the transcendent power of his voice.



# Guest Artist

## JACOREE PROTHRO



A singer-songwriter with roots in the church and numerous talent shows, JaCoree has achieved notable recognition, including being a finalist in the Gospel SuperFest National Showcase and winning the 2016 Victory VoCals Competition.

He has shared the stage with renowned artists on BET's "Bobby Jones Gospel Show" and performed at prestigious venues like Yoshi's with saxophonist Donald Hayes. JaCoree is a six-year veteran of the "Soulful Christmas Holiday Concert" and a background vocalist for various gospel artists.

Founder of the "#LiquidLove Movement" addressing gun violence, JaCoree serves as a praise and worship leader for Bay Area churches. His powerful vocal ministry aims to inspire and uplift, transcending pain and fear. Currently, he hosts the Better2gether show on FreeDem Radio and promotes Bay Area creatives through #1stReactions videos. JaCoree's ultimate goal is to touch the Heart of God, declaring victory for all.

*Check out JaCoree's #LiquidLove merchandise in the main lobby!*



# Guest Artist

## **JACKIE TOLBERT**



Jackie was born in Baton Rouge, LA, the second youngest of 9 children. Her family moved to Zachary, where she received her formative education. Other educational experiences include Southern University, the Christian Bible College of Louisiana, the A.P. Clay Christian Theological College and the National Bishop Theological University. Jackie relocated to New Orleans and began singing and holding workshops. Besides the United States she has toured Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Brazil, Spain, Morocco, Zimbabwe and Jamaica. She has recently put out her first CD *God Keeps His Promise*. Jackie has one daughter, Sierra Trenese. She now lives in Oakland CA, where she is a member of the Market Street SDA Church.



# 2024

## FEB

- 11 Black History Month at the Freight
- 17 Black History Month at SFJazz
- 24 All-Youth BHM Concert

## MAR

- 2 OIGC General Auditions
- 2 OIGC Singers' Showcase
- 23 All-Youth Spring Recital

## APR

- 27 Annual Free Spring Concert  
*(with Workshop Choir)*

## MAY

- 10 All-Youth Spring Concert
- 18 Senior Sending Awards Ceremony

## JUN

- 15 Juneteenth at the Freight
- 21 Juneteenth at Bankhead
- 28 OICC 10th Summer Gospel Concert



Discover all of OIGC's  
events at [oigc.org/events](https://oigc.org/events)

\*Dates subject to change



# Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir

## **SOPRANOS**

Abbe Anderson, Brenda Bailey Powell, Megan Barnett, Rachael Bigelow, Meliney E. Brooks, Leola Clark, Heather Figueroa, Mary Ford, Jennifer W. Grace, Colleen Grimes, Lynne Gurewitz, Ranwa Hammamy, Asha Howard, Aurora Lionée Jeffrey, Christine Rachel Joseph, Tamar Noa Leveson, Maria Long, Linda Mack, Teresa Mack, Kellie Morlock, Valeria Scott, LaTara Taylor, Sian Wittke

## **ALTOS**

Ashley Anderson, Mattie Armstrong, Isa S. Chu, Annette Coffey, Liz Colt, Lindsay K. Elam, Cheryl Espinosa-Jones, Cheryl Garner, Katherina Guido-Respicio, Sharon P. Hymes-Offord, Jennifer Little, Mallory Loomis, Dawn Martin, Aida Mukharesh, Emily Neigel, Vanessa Warheit, Becky Watson, Danielle Yvonne White, Loretta Winchester, Christina Zou

## **TENORS**

Don Bonner, Arthur Bowling-Dyer, Mykel Dicus, Cyril Drame, Christian Heppinstall, Lara Hermanson, Eugene Ho, Gracie Jones, Donald Lang, Tessa Loehwing, Manuel Mendoza, Erin Murray, Jae Phoenix, Austin Putman, Carl Resnikoff, Patrick Siewe, Vernon Staggers, Daniel Strauss, Chao Xue

## **BASSES**

David Cogswell, Aaron Draper, Jim Fisher, Jafar Green, Jason Horlador, Jeffrey Landau, Tony Lewis, Dan Nazarian, James Powell, Benjamin Schleifer

## **NEXT GENERAL AUDITIONS**

SAT, March 2, 2024 – 10AM to 3PM

[www.oigc.org/oigc](http://www.oigc.org/oigc)





# Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir

## **SOPRANOS**

Tucker Amdal, Reba Gamson-Knight, Eden Lewis,  
Kestrel Shellenberger, Kiyomi Treanor

## **ALTOS**

Maddy Gamson-Knight, Cynthia Joseph, Jayden Reid,  
Ari Worsley

## **TENORS**

Derek Aoki, Arthur Bowling, Henry Reid,  
Nina-Marie "Anin" Rice, Malcolm Senegal

## **BASSES**

Zeppelin Aissa, Julian Rosenthal

**Learn more about the Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir and  
their upcoming 2024 Summer Tour to Vancouver B.C.!**

**[www.oigc.org/oiyc](http://www.oigc.org/oiyc)**

## OIGC Band

Tina Bryant, *Keys*  
Louis Burrell, *Keys*  
Caleb Phair, *Keys*

Miles Lathan, *Drums*  
Ryan Mainess, *Bass*  
Jae Phoenix, *Tambourine*



# Support the Youth Choir Tour

Hi! I'm Liz Colt of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir. I made these pouches to raise funds for our youth choirs' upcoming tour to Canada. Each youth has to pay their own way. For some, this is a challenge. 100% of your purchase will go to those who need help affording the trip! Please help ensure that no youth gets left behind for lack of funds.

Thank you! Liz ❤️



**Available in the Main Lobby  
at the Merchandise Table**



# Oakland Interfaith Community Choir

## **SOPRANOS**

Andrea Alpine, Rachel Altman, Janie Amdal, Maren Amdal, Nahid Aria, Molly Arthur, Lila Bailey, Armi Berry, Melanie Berzon, Elinor Buchen, Susan Burns, Wendi Chiong, Suzanne Clement, Althea Cummings, Ursula Currie, Gwen Edwards, Sarah Fisher, Brenna Galvin, Melani Gantes, Jenny Gillette, Matti Gold, Julie Golde, Amie Gregory, Jennifer Grieves, Amanda Hajj, Juliet Hannafin, Margot Hanson, Natalie Keane, Allison Kent, Melissa Lee, Gracia Logue-Sargeant, Glenda Lovell, Catia Lund, May Maduka, El Mark, Denise Means, Katie Mechem, Marjorie Molmen, Hallie Montoya Tansey, Kathleen Murphy, April Oertwig, Danielle Parish, Yindi Pei, Sylvia Perry, Merideth Ranahan, Xine Redor, Annette Roman, Melissa Ryan, Erica Seidman, Louise Selin, Kate Sims, Diana Stasko, Sue Stewart, Mildred Washington, Jill Wetzler, Denise Williams, Marie Wilson, Eniyah Wilson, Leslie Winick, Allison Woodruff, Adena Young

## **ALTOS**

Mary Akech, Mary Austin, Susan Brooks, Jude Brownbill, Letitia Burton, Tammy Button, Bernie Byrd, Anita Carse, Susan Clark, Shari Clark-Anokye, Sam Coffey, Hilary Craddock, Christina Creveling, Kathy Davis, Deborah Doctor, ReEllis Dotson-Newman, Emily Eliash, Karen Engel, Kate Fenech, Linda Fox, Angela Freitas, Jenna Goodward, Sandra Guerra, Dina Hirsch, Jean Ihm, Cassandra Inocencio, Kay Joe, Hannah Katzman, Sally Kaye, Caitlin Kent, Hannah Kirwan, Andrea Knowlton, Marla Leech, Hui Li, Tanya Lieberman, La Tronda Lumpkins, Ruth Mankin, Carol Mann, Cassie Marshall, Pauline Marx, Melissa Matosian, Lily Mavrellis, Laurie McWhorter, Linda Meldman, Laurel Balyeat Morrison, Rebecca Musyoka, Cailin Notch, June Pangelinan, Jae Phoenix, Jennifer Pigza, Flora Rosillette, Meagan Rosser, Wafaa Sabil, Kara Smith, Karen Sorensen, Dani Spees, Karen Talioaga, Evelyn Thorne, Sophie Volpp, Christy Walker, Taylor Wallace, Vanessa Warheit, Sharon Washington, Cheryl White, Ricka White, Amy Whittle, Emily Wight, Kyoko Yamashita

## **TENORS**

Hildy Agustin, Solange Arantes de Silveira, Elie Asmar, Joy Bouvier, Gleoria Bradley-Sapp, Juliana Chase, Toni Clark, Amy Defibaugh, Bernard Dixon, Anthony Driver, Laura Finkler, David Fisher, Genevieve Frisch, Cheryl Garner, Jeff Gentile, Christi Grossman, Nathan Hobbs, Johnstone Ingonga, Todd Jersey, K-Lee Kemp, Marc Kim, Elina Linna, Kaz Lust, Mal May, Kimlin McDaniel Keith, Karen McElroy, Scott Meltzer, Carter Neblett, Richelle Paoli, Nicky Silver, Diana Sottile

## **BASSES**

Katrina Babb, Eleanor Dunnigan, Matt Elkins, James Fisher, Sagesse Graham, Lenon Humphrey, Olivia Kistler, Steve Lehman, William Lewis, Anthony Lewis, Jack Mahan, Amar Mukunda, Jim Nielsen, David Page, Susan Remley

**Join the Community Choir in February!**

**[www.oigc.org/oicc](http://www.oigc.org/oicc)**



# Acknowledgments

## EVENT CREDITS

Stage Manager, *Cecilia Engelhart*

Asst Stage Manager, *Cadence Myles*

Lead Audio Engineer, *Paul Knight*

Asst Audio Engineer, *Christopher Forte*

OIGC Production Manager, *Nevin Inthirath*

OIGC Production Associate, *Hatuey Hernandez*

OIGC Production Associate, *Wil Wright*

Volunteer Coordinator, *Ruthanne Williams*

Merchandise, *Sayron Stokes*

Photography, *Karen Goldman*

Archival Videography, *Nick Kasimatis*

ASL Interpretation, *Half-N-Half*

Program & Graphics Design, *Isa S. Chu*

Catering, *PINX*

Dinner Space, *Oakstop*

**THANK YOU!**





# Our Friends

Hildy Agustin  
Janie Amdal  
Maren Amdal  
Kristen Andersen  
Bea Andrade  
Dan Ankenman  
Greg Ankenman  
Jerrilyn Ankenman  
Charles Ankenman  
Shari Anokye  
Thomas Anthony  
Nicolia Bagby  
Patricia Bahia  
Peter Balogh  
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Lauren Becker  
Karen Begg  
Rikki Bell  
Cynthia Benson  
Susan Bernstein  
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Walter & Cindy Carroll  
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Rudy and Pearl Cavitt  
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Tiff Dressen  
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Vera Franklin  
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Carolyn Gauthier  
Winnifred Gin  
Matti Gold  
Joseph Goldberg  
Charles Goldberg  
Esme & Constance Gooding & Eller  
Patrecia Graham  
Joan Granato  
Katherina Guido-Respicio  
Lynne Gurewitz  
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Dana Hansen  
Mark Hanson  
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Shani Hatcher  
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Julia Hing  
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Anthony Hughes  
Sandy Jaeger  
Yolanda Jenkins  
Todd Jersey  
Nancy Johnson  
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Terrance Kelly  
Meryl Kelso  
Linda Klein  
Chana Kronfeld  
Tracy Kumaishi  
Germaine LaBerge  
Monica LaBoskey  
Vicki LaBoskey  
Lisa Lacayo  
Sally Lagle  
The Lappen Family  
Nancy Lazarus  
Derrick Lee  
Lindsay Lee  
Sandra Lee  
Theresa Leech  
Steven Lehman  
Hui Li  
Tessa Loehwing  
Kirk Long  
Kathleen Loscocco



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Skye Weir-Mathews  
Yvette White  
Leslie Winick  
Janiele Worswick  
Wil Wright  
Sharon & Olujimi  
  
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Diana Bell  
In Memory of Chizuko &  
Eugene Coffey  
Elizabeth Colt  
James Fisher  
Mr. Ford  
Farae Strickland  
Merry & Patrick Ross & Zimski  
Carl Resnikoff  
Mary Ford

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**The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir and its programs are supported in part by:** Alameda County Arts Commission, The Barrios Trust, Bill Graham Memorial Foundation, Bridge Association of Realtors, California Arts Council, City of Oakland Cultural Fund, East Bay Community Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, Kapor Center, Koret Foundation, Morris Stulsaft Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, San Francisco Foundation, Zellerbach Family Foundation, and with support from individual donors from around the world! -

[www.oigc.org/donate](http://www.oigc.org/donate).





**A very special thanks** to Annette Coffey; VBO Tickets staff; Paramount Theatre Staff - Vince Thomas, Cecilia Acejas, & Jason Blackwell; & the Williams Family!

**And a SUPER SPECIAL THANKS to our volunteer brigade, the HARMONY HELPERS!**

thank you

**OIGC STAFF**

Terrance Kelly, *Founding Artistic Director*

Maren Amdal, *Executive Director*

La Nell Martin, *Artistic Director of OYC; Youth Programs Director*

Isa S. Chu, *Marketing and Programs Manager*

Nevin Inthirath, *Production Manager*

Ruthanne Williams, *Office & Community Relations Manager*

Nikole Wilson-Ripsom, *Development Manager*

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Mary Ford

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Carl Resnikoff





# 38TH ANNUAL *HOLIDAY* CONCERT

## TELL US HOW WE DID!

Your feedback helps to secure funding for and to improve concerts, programs, and outreach events. Results are never individually attributed.



## THANK YOU!

Please drop your paper feedback form into any of the red buckets or complete the form online.

[oigc.org/feedback](https://oigc.org/feedback)

