

Fredericksburg Music Club, Inc. Presents The Trinity University Chamber Singers - In Concert
February 17, 2019

The Trinity University, Chamber Singers

The Trinity University Chamber Singers are comprised of 48 undergraduate musicians. With over 25 different academic majors represented, this ensemble truly epitomizes the liberal arts experience combined with a commitment to choral artistry of the highest quality.

In 2017, the Chamber Singers were one of only 12 choirs in the country selected to perform for the National Collegiate Choral Organization Conference in Baton Rouge, LA. They are frequent collaborators with the San Antonio Symphony, having recently performed Mozart's *Mass in C Minor*, Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloe*, and works by Verdi, Berlioz, and Brahms. They are also regularly invited to perform for the Texas Music Educators Association Convention, most recently in 2015. The Chamber Singers enjoy touring nationally, throughout the region, and abroad. They recently served as ensemble-in-residence for the 2018 Eisenstadt Classical Music Festival in Austria where they performed Haydn's *Die Schöpfung* and Beethoven's *Mass in C Major*. Next spring, they make their Carnegie Hall debut.

As advocates for new music, the Chamber Singers have introduced many new works to the choral repertoire including joint premieres with Grammy-nominated *New York Polyphony* and the renowned Minneapolis-based ensemble, *Cantus*. They premiered a composition at the 2017 College Music Society National Convention based on astronomical data from the NASA Kepler Mission and traditional melodies of the Coahuiltecan people indigenous to South Texas.

Other recent projects include a Spanish Baroque program with the Walden Chamber Players of Boston, Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* with period instruments, Tomás Luis de Victoria's 12-voice *Missa "Laetatus sum"* in Washington, DC, Aaron Copland's *In the Beginning* in Dallas, and the nationally-touring *Legend of Zelda: Symphony of the Goddess* multimedia concert at the Majestic Theatre.

Every December, Trinity's Christmas Concert and Vespers candlelight service draw audiences of over 4,000 people. Recognizing the power of the arts to serve an even greater purpose, Trinity's choral ensembles also engage in numerous service-learning projects benefiting causes in SA. Their latest CD album, *Vespers at Trinity: A Choral Celebration*, is available for purchase.

Gary Seighman is Director of Choral Activities at Trinity University where he oversees a comprehensive choral program and teaches courses in conducting and secondary methods. Under his direction, Trinity's choral ensembles have garnered regional and national accolades with invited performances at various professional conferences, tours throughout the United States and abroad, commercial recordings, and innovative collaborations with Cantus, Chanticleer, and major choral composers.

Dr. Seighman is in high demand as a clinician, guest conductor, and speaker. He has traveled to East Asia four times between 2015-2018 where he conducted the Peking University Summer Opera Program, led graduate masterclasses in Taiwan, and guest conducted throughout the Henan and Sichuan provinces. Other recent conducting engagements include the Arkansas Intercollegiate All-State Choir, various TMEA region choirs, Mozart's 'Great' *Mass in C minor* at the Tobin Center, Haydn's *Creation*, and the Children's Chorus of San Antonio. In 2018, he served as chorusmaster for the Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt and Vienna, Austria. His schedule this coming year includes workshops and guest conducting engagements in Missouri, New York City, Singapore, London, and Dublin.

Seighman is a regular panelist and grant evaluator for the Texas Commission on the Arts in Austin, TX. He formerly served on the board of the DC/MD Choral Director's Association and was editor of the state newsletter. Prior to Trinity, Seighman conducted the professional choir at Church of the Ascension and Saint Agnes in Washington, DC and several ensembles at the University of Maryland. He also enjoys working on his recently debuted choral music and lifestyle blog *ChoirCoffeeBean.com*.

Seighman holds degrees from Westminster Choir College, the University of Oklahoma, and the University of Maryland. His wife, Dr. Jennifer Seighman, is Director of Music at Our Lady of the Atonement Catholic Church and is Artistic Director of the San Antonio Choral Society. They have two children, Justin and Gabrielle.