

Phillips Exeter Academy
Music Department



Exeter Choral Union
Vocal Chamber Ensembles
Concert Choir

Kristofer Johnson, *director*

Thursday, May 28, 2026

7:00 PM

“the Bowld”

Forrestal Bowld Music Center

29 Tan Lan, Exeter, NH

Program

Go the Distance

Alan Menken and David Zippel
arr. John Leavitt

Take This Gift

Tracy Wong

Exeter Choral Union

Jacob Hiser, *collaborative pianist*

Linden Lea

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Down Among the Dead Men

Scrubby Thing

Luci serene e chiare

Claudio Monteverdi

Ecco mormorar l'onde

Gli Scalatori

Ave Maria

Jaako Mäntyjärvi

Balloon Flower (doraji kkot)

Jihoon Park

Unicornis Captivatur

Ola Gjeilo

A Boy and a Girl

Eric Whitacre

Let Evening Come

Brian Holmes

Concert Choir

Jacob Hiser, *collaborative pianist*



Congratulations to our seniors – you will be missed!

Elle Cohen, Lilia Fecteau, Elizabeth Flynn, Lauren Lee, Anushka Noori, Ayana Okuneye, Olivia Pierre, Ally Rubin, Mathilde Senter, Emerson Seymore, Natalie Sherman, Andy Song, Andrew Su, Harini Venkatesh, Karsten Vun, Enya Yu, Albert Zhu, Edward Wu



Elle Cohen

I'm a 4-year senior and day student originally from NYC. I have been singing since elementary school performing at Below 54, Carnegie Hall and Piano's. I also was a songwriting affiliate with SESAC. During my time at Exeter, I've continued to sing both musical theater winning 1st in state for NATS in Musical Theater and performing as a Great American Songbook Ambassador.

I've mostly focused on classical and was recognized with an All-State Award by Classical Singer Magazine and participated in opera programs AAMS Summer Music Institute in Todi, Italy and the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Young Artist Program. I've enjoyed teaching music therapy for Alzheimer patients for CVP and founding the Music & Memory ESSO.



Lauren Yuna Lee

I'm a 4-year senior from Hong Kong and New Jersey, and I've been singing soprano in Concert Choir since my lower year. This year, I've had the pleasure of co-leading the Concert Choir's Soprano section as well as Exeter's oldest and largest SATB

a cappella ensemble PEADQUACs. Singing has brought me immeasurable joy throughout my time at Exeter, and

I'm forever indebted to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Hiser, and Mr. Walker - thank you all for teaching me how to hone my craft, produce a precise sound, and how to "decorate time" in "community."



Anushka Noori

I am a four-year senior affiliated with Bancroft Hall. Singing with the Concert Choir has been one of the most transformative experiences of my time at Exeter; it quickly became a place where I could explore my love for music and build lasting friendships. I am grateful for the opportunity to study choral literature spanning a breadth of musical styles and composers, and for the community that Concert Choir has given me.



Ayana Okuneye

I am a three-year senior from Nigeria, and on campus I live in New Hall. I've been in the choir at every school I've attended, and I didn't want Exeter to be any different. I started in ECU (the Exeter Choral Union) my lower year, had a great time learning and performing with Mr. Walker, and met some great friends that I'm still close to today. My upper and senior years in Concert Choir with Mr. Johnson expanded on that experience. I've formed more lasting connections, grown as a singer, and even went on tour in Italy (this photo is from that trip!). I'm so grateful for the opportunities I've had to sing with such talented groups of people and to bring a little more joy into my life. I hope you enjoy tonight's concert!



Olivia Pierre

I am a four-year senior from Brooklyn, NY, but on campus I live in Dunbar! I've been singing and playing music ever since I was little, but I had not received any formal vocal training before coming to Exeter. I joined Concert Choir in upper year after the encouragement of a couple friends, not knowing how integral it would be to my Exeter experience. Outside of music, I enjoy playing crossword and writing.



Ally Rubin

I am a 4-year senior from New Castle, NH and am affiliated with New Hall. I have always loved music and began playing piano and saxophone when I was younger. As I grew older, I discovered a passion for singing through my middle school choir and voice lessons. After coming to Exeter, I

became involved with the Exeter Choral Union and, in my lower year, joined Exeter's Concert Choir. Being a part of this choir has been one of the most meaningful parts of my Exeter experience, and it has taught me so much about music and my place within it. Outside of music, I love playing basketball and spending time with friends.



Natalie Sherman

I am a four-year senior from Rye, NH. Music has been central to my life, starting with piano, but I soon realized I enjoyed singing too. Before Exeter, I had never sung in a choir before. Now, I can't imagine my life without it. Outside of singing in this choir, I am a co-head of PEADs a cappella group, I play volleyball, basketball, and lacrosse, and I love to surf and spend time at the beach.



Mathilde Senter

I am a three-year senior from outside of Boston. I have been singing in Concert Choir for all three years, and this past year I joined *The Tuesday Society for Singing* and *Gli Scalitori*. Singing has served as a grounding point for me at Exeter. Powell Hall is where I have met no shortage of musical challenges, but it is also where I have learned to overcome them. Music at Exeter has pushed me to learn what it means to grow in a non-academic sense. I will bring the growth-mindset to all singing groups I will join in college and beyond.



Emerson Seymour

I am a four-year senior from Newburyport MA. I am a day student affiliated with Dunbar hall, and I was the co-head of two a cappella groups in addition to Concert Choir. Music has always had such a big impact on my life, and I am incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to sing with this group and I have adored being their Alto section leader. Concert Choir is so special because of all the talented people who contribute so much to the program and make it what it is.



Andy Song

I'm a 4-year senior from Seoul, South Korea and on campus, I live in Ewald Hall. From a young age, I've always loved singing and have been part of choir and a cappella groups since middle school. At Exeter, I was part of the Exeter Choral Union my prep year and have been in Concert Choir for the past three years. Singing is how I've met friends and mentors, and through them, I've learned how to confidently find my voice within a group.



Andrew Su

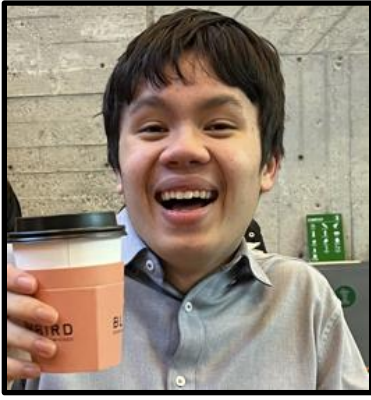
I'm a four-year senior from Boston, MA, perhaps better remembered as a day student from East Kingston, NH. I've been playing bagpipes throughout my four years at Exeter, having won dozens of medals as a soloist in the competitive scene. I joined the Concert Choir in my senior year, which has helped make this year quite the memorable experience, reminding me of my time singing as a member of the MMEA Junior District Festival back when I was in Boston Latin School.

Beyond singing and bagpipes, I also play the piano and saxophone and spend a lot of time composing soundtracks to help me sleep—or stay awake. To me, music is a language through which I explore thought and emotion. It is the vibrant blues and marigold hues streaking across somber skies and muted mornings, swirling into the deep mahogany of a roasted brew too bitter for me to sip.



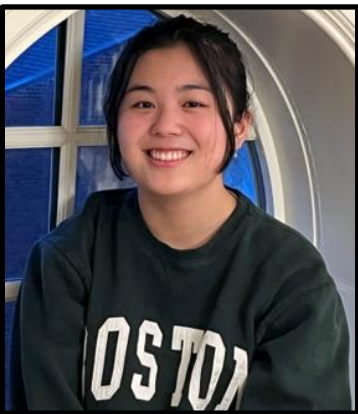
Harini Venkatesh

I'm a four-year senior day student affiliated with Lamont Hall (the best dorm). I've loved singing for as long as I can remember, and before I came to Exeter, I sang in school and community choirs whenever I could. Singing in the Exeter Choral Union, Concert Choir, and lots of chamber groups over the years has given me opportunities to grow both musically and as a person in ways that I could never have imagined. I'm so grateful for all of the experiences that I've had in Choir and for all the time I've been able to spend singing with my friends in the last four years, and I'm so excited to share that with you all tonight!



Karsten Vun

I am a five-year senior from Hong Kong, and on campus I live in Main Street Hall. I've been involved in music-making since early on in life, having learnt piano, violin, and singing; these gave me a good sense of pitch and reading ability, though I did this largely independently. Since joining the Concert Choir in 2022 (when I still sang as a tenor), I've immersed myself in the singing scene at Exeter, leading a cappella groups (Exeteras and PEADs), singing in ensemble groups (Singen mit Freuden, Tuesday Society for Singing, and Gli Scalatori), and even going on Concert Choir's Puerto Rico tour in '23. As the longest-serving member of Concert Choir, this year I'm pleased to say that I've deeply enjoyed working with this next generation of choral singers, and I hope you will share in our collective joy of music-making tonight!



Enya Yu

I'm a 4-year senior from Connecticut, but I moved to Exeter and am now a day student affiliated with Wheelwright. I've loved singing and played piano and cello since I was young. At Exeter, I've sang in Concert Choir since lower year and I played cello in a chamber music group in my prep and lower years. I also like robotics and Rubik's cubes!



Albert Zhu

I am a four-year senior currently living in Exeter, affiliated with Wentworth dorm. I've sung since I was four years old, singing folk tunes with my grandfather but coming to Exeter was the first time I participated in serious organized ensemble singing, including a cappella for the first time. My first memories of singing in an ensemble here will stay with me in all my future collaborative singing.

Personnel

ScrubbyThing

Tripp Dent '28, Amerson Liang '28, Alex Luo '28, Ezequiel Martinez '27,
Tobe Muoto '28, Axel Pena '27, Ved Reddy '28, Andy Song '26,
Simon Taylor '27, Max Wittayavanichai '28

Gli Scalatori

Bryan Cho '27, Kristofer Johnson, Ezequiel Martinez '27, Axel Pena '27,
Ava Salvator '27, Mathilde Senter '26, Harini Venkatesh '26,
Karsten Vun '26, Claire Xiao '27, Albert Zhu '26

Exeter Choral Union

Lola Agboola '27, Samuel Akaeze '29, Parthvi Bhaskar '29,
Daphne Crevier '29, Christopher Deoki '29, Jessican Fan '29,
Johanna Hillman '28, Bach Hoang '29, Evelyn Huang '29,
Gavyn Jones '28, Emma Lee '29, Tiger Mao '29, Kit McManus '28,
Ariana Metzger '29, Luke Mutooni '29, Ariale Osei '29, Matt Ou '29,
Izzy Racho '28, Carlos Rodas '29, Eddison Scotford '29,
Sally Shattuck '29, Luke Swamidoss '29, Willem Vaishville '29,
Gordon Wiafe '29, Ria Wilson '28, Edward Wu '26, Anna Yang '29,
Euphoria Yang '27, Gordon Zeng '29, Audrey Zhou '28

Concert Choir

Sopranos

Helena Brown '29
Elle Cohen '26
Lilia Fecteau '26
Lauren Lee '26
Anushka Noori '26
Ryan Ramos '28
Daphne Ryerson '27
Avika Shukla '29
Juliana Tavarez '28
Laurel Van De Water '28
Harini Venkatesh '26
Claire Xiao '27
Enya Yu '26

Altos

Shiloh Ffrench '27
Rezi Ifowodo '28
Annika Nystedt '28
Olivia Ojukwu '28
Ayana Okuneye '26
Ally Rubin '26
Ava Salvator '27
Mathilde Senter '26
Emerson Seymour '26
Natalie Sherman '26
Emi Southgate '28
Arisa Yoshino '28
Christina Zheng '28

Tenors

Elizabeth Flynn '26
Teddy Hosmer '27
Ezequiel Martinez '27
Tobe Muoto '28
Axel Pena '27
Olivia Pierre '26
Ved Reddy '28
Andrew Su '26
Rocco Valencia '28
Max Wittayavanichai '28

Basses

Bryan Cho '27
Gary Guo '29
Gabriel Kim '28
Amerson Liang '28
Alex Luo '28
Gavin Lyle '28
Anshul Noori '27
Andy Song '26
Simon Taylor '27
Karsten Vun '26
Max Webster '27
Henry Wise '27
Albert Zhu '26

Collaborative Pianist



Jacob Hiser

Jacob Hiser is a versatile pianist and violinist who performs and studies a variety of musical traditions. Born and raised in southern Missouri, he grew up playing bluegrass, blues, and classical music, eventually discovering jazz and graduating from Missouri State University with a bachelor's degree in Jazz Studies. In 2014, he moved to Boston to attend New England Conservatory's Contemporary Improvisation program, graduating with his master's degree in 2016. While there, he studied with Ran Blake, Bruce Brubaker, Joe Morris, and Frank Carlberg, and performed in ensembles and concerts coached/directed by John Zorn, Jason Moran, Tanya Kalmonovitch, Anthony Coleman, and Simon Carrington.

With jazz groups, country bands, choirs, Korean folk music ensembles, and classical cellists, Jacob has performed all over the United States, as well as Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, and Australia. In summer 2019, he was accepted into the International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music at Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta, Canada, where he spent 3 weeks creating music with 45 other improvising musicians from around the world and working closely with faculty Vijay Iyer, Steph Richards, Tyshawn Sorey, Okkyung Lee, and many others. Outside of Phillips Exeter Academy, he is a pianist for Boston Children's Chorus and a freelance musician. During the summers, he is a faculty member at Missouri Fine Arts Academy: a two-week summer residential program for high school student artists in visual arts, theatre, dance, creative writing, and music. He has released one album, "Seconds", comprised mostly of original jazz compositions for quintet and trio.

Concert Series Information



We have posted our fall term performance calendar. Click the QR code or visit www.exeter.edu/music-department-concerts for upcoming concert dates, livestream links and program details.

Join the PEA Performing Arts email list to be notified of upcoming events

Use this QR code to sign up for our email list to be notified of music, theater and dance performances.

