



Choir



The choral program at University of Jamestown is committed to the liberal arts and development of the whole individual. Students from all academic disciplines are welcomed to all ensembles. Each member demonstrates unwavering dedication to the musical goals through exemplary attendance, rehearsal discipline, and individual vocal development. As a member of the University of Jamestown Choir or Chapel Choir, you will grow as a performer, act as an ambassador for the College on national and international tours, and become a part of a long-standing tradition of excellence.

Ensembles

University of Jamestown Concert Choir
Chapel Choir

Performances

The Choirs perform during Homecoming, at the Home Concert and for Baccalaureate and Commencement. The annual Christmas Concert, held in the beautiful Basilica of St. James in downtown Jamestown, is a special presentation with three performances that are well-supported by the community and attended by hundreds of audience members. The Choirs also perform frequently during the College's weekly Chapel services held in historic Voorhees Chapel.

Concert Tour

The Spring Tour offers an opportunity for Choir members to travel and perform for alumni and friends of the College around the country, and European tours are organized every four years. Touring allows ensemble members to share their talents and increase awareness of University of Jamestown. Most recently, the 2015 Spring Tour took the Choir to the Pacific Northwest. The Choir will travel overseas again in 2018.

About the Conductor

J. Aaron McDermid, director of choral activities, conducts the University of Jamestown Choir and Chapel Choir and teaches courses in music education, conducting, and choral methods. He earned his master's degree from the University of Michigan and is completing his doctorate at the University of Arizona. Professor McDermid came to University of Jamestown in 2006 from Tucson, Ariz., where he was the conductor and artistic director of the Tucson Masterworks chorale. He was also the assistant conductor of the internationally acclaimed University of Michigan Men's Glee Club and director of choral activities at Northfield High School in Minnesota.

Music Scholarships

Any student interested in participating in a choral ensemble is welcome to audition during a campus visit, especially any student wishing to apply for a Music Participation Scholarship.

For prospective students who are interested in pursuing studies toward an applied music or music education degree, University of Jamestown offers Music Major Scholarships. To be eligible for these substantial scholarships, applicants should complete an online application and then arrange for an on-campus audition and interview. Specific scholarships will be awarded to students who demonstrate excellence in performance as well as a substantial desire to prepare for a teaching career or advanced graduate studies in music following graduation.

Reiland Fine Arts Center

As a member of a University of Jamestown ensemble, you will rehearse and perform in the impressive Reiland Fine Arts Center, the home of University of Jamestown's music, theatre, and art programs. The 41,000 square foot facility includes:

- DeNault Auditorium with seating for 700
- Kenneth A. Meier Lobby and Gallery featuring works by art students
- Furness Multipurpose Room
- Lemm Band Rehearsal Hall
- Smith Choral Rehearsal Hall
- Sheldon Music Library
- DeKrey Computer Studio with workstations, keyboards, and a wide range of music software
- An extensive instrument collection (including a nine-foot Steinway concert grand piano, a Roland electronic keyboard lab and the Black-Schlossman Memorial Pipe Organ located in Voorhees Chapel)

Faculty

Aaron McDermid, M.M., *University of Arizona*, is Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor, teaches conducting, choral arranging, secondary methods, and other related courses.

Richard Valentine, D.M.A., *University of Colorado at Boulder*, is Professor and Department Chair, teaches applied voice, diction, song and opera literature, vocal pedagogy, performance workshop, opera history, harmony/theory, and music appreciation.

Laura Zamzow Lynch, D.A., *University of Northern Colorado*, Associate Professor, is Director of Bands and teaches instrumental music and other related courses.



Adjunct Faculty

James Adams

Jesse Braunagel

Brooke Carroll

Rachel Dizon

Thomas Geffre

Ken Jimenez

Carrie Kraft

Cheryl McIntyre

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