



**Albany Pro Musica's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Choral Festival  
With Renowned Composer & Conductor  
Bradley Ellingboe**

**Sunday, January 27, 2019**

Dear High School Choral Director,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying your time away from school after a successful year. As you begin to turn your focus towards the year ahead, we are excited to present the 2019 Albany Pro Musica High School Choral Festival as an opportunity for you and your students. This festival will continue to offer the experience for choirs across the capital region to perform in historic Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. This year we are thrilled to offer the opportunity for students to work with composer and conductor Bradley Ellingboe, whose works will be rehearsed and performed during the concert. Bradley Ellingboe has led a wide-ranging career in the world of singing, including accomplishments as a choral conductor, soloist, composer, scholar and teacher. He served on the faculty of the University of New Mexico for 30 years and has led festival choruses in 35 states and 14 foreign countries. As a composer, his music has been performed and recorded by the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Philip Brunelle's VocalEssence, the Saint Olaf Choir, the Harvard Glee Club, Craig Hella Johnson's Conspirare, and the choirs of the University of Michigan and Luther College, among others. Visit his website to learn more: <http://bradleyellingboe.com/>.

**THE 2019 FESTIVAL**

Please take a look at the preliminary schedule for the festival:

<b>12:30-1:00pm</b>	<b>Students arrive</b>
<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Welcome, instructions, etc</b>
<b>1:10pm</b>	<b>Group vocal technique / Warm Up session – students seated in auditorium</b>
<b>1:30pm</b>	<b>Student Rehearsal Clinic with Bradley Ellingboe – students seated in auditorium</b>
<b>2:30pm</b>	<b>Alternating Onstage Sound Checks / Snack Breaks for each school – this is a chance for groups to practice entering/exiting the stage as well as brief sound check</b>
<b>3:30pm</b>	<b>Group Q&amp;A Session with Bradley Ellingboe – students and chorus members seated in auditorium</b>
<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Open Tutti Rehearsal – all students and APM on stage with Bradley Ellingboe / Doors open to the public</b>
<b>4:45pm</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Concert Begins</b>

The combined students will rehearse and perform the following music, all composed by Bradley Ellingboe:

- Rise Up My Love - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=17&v=SLvRXOWmptc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=17&v=SLvRXOWmptc)
- This Is a Good World - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQ5r4fvgi-k>
- How Can I Keep From Singing - <https://kjios.com/index.php/how-can-i-keep-from-singing-5551.html>
- Psalm 47 - [https://soundcloud.com/bradley\\_ellingboe/psalm-47?in=bradley\\_ellingboe/sets/sacred-satb-satb-divisi](https://soundcloud.com/bradley_ellingboe/psalm-47?in=bradley_ellingboe/sets/sacred-satb-satb-divisi)

The first half of the concert will feature each ensemble performing their own selections. These performances should be limited to 10 minutes for each ensemble.

Choral directors will be expected to chaperone their students and/or provide additional chaperones. At a later date we will forward you important guidelines for rehearsing and performing in Troy Savings Bank Music Hall.

You will be expected to provide your own music for the combined chorus pieces.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL FESTIVAL:

1. Fill out the enclosed application form and return it by email to [Brendan@albanypromusica.org](mailto:Brendan@albanypromusica.org).
2. On your application please include the names of awards, distinct performances, or choral honors received in the past year, e.g. NYSSMA levels and ratings your auditioning chorus has earned during the 2016-2017 School year.
3. If you have NOT performed at the APM HS Choral Festival recently, **submit ONE digital recording of your choir** singing a single unedited performance of a song. \*Record it in a digital format, like an mp3 format, or an unedited video with digital audio that can be emailed. Email your file, or an URL link, to [Brendan@albanypromusica.org](mailto:Brendan@albanypromusica.org). This file will be reviewed by a panel of APM conductor-singers as part of your application process for participation in 2019. If you have performed in a recent APM Choral Festival we have audio of those performances so you do not need to submit an audio or video file.

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#### \*AUDIO RECORDING SPECIFICATIONS

Submit a digital recording of one of your 2017-2018 songs performed in a concert, rehearsal, or other performance. The piece should be approximately one to six minutes in duration. A recording device like an iPhone, a smartphone or an MP3 recorder should suffice. If you have a video file, please send the complete and specific URL address that you may have uploaded to YouTube, Dropbox, or Google Drive.

Due to staging space we will limit the combined-chorus size to 200 students. Ensembles will be accepted on the basis of an evaluation of your newly submitted or archived audition file, by an evaluation of your performance experiences as seen or listed on your application, and by previous experiences in the Festival. Consideration will also be given to schools and ensembles who have not yet participated in an APM High School Choral Festival.

There is an **Entry Fee of \$100** to be paid to Albany Pro Musica **AFTER** you are accepted.

*\*No school or ensemble will be denied due to inability to pay this fee. Please contact us with any issues.*

We look forward to reviewing your application and the opportunity to make music with you and your students in the coming school year!

Sincerely,

# Brendan Hoffman

Brendan Hoffman, Director of Education  
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Dr. José Daniel Flores-Caraballo, Artistic Director  
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