

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 2021

19, Friday, 4:00 PM, Recital Hour, Studio Theatre

December 2021

1, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, Vocal Studio Recital, Studio Theatre

4, Saturday, 7:30 PM, Sul Ross Tree Lighting, Lawrence Hall

5, Sunday, 5:00 PM, Music Program Recital, Studio Theatre

All student solo recitals are free and open to the public



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Sul Ross Choral Ensemble wishes to thank the following people and organizations:

Fort Stockton Panther Choir

Mr. Omar Guerrero - Fort Stockton Choir Director

Music Program Student Workers

Prof. Marjorie Scott - Chair of Fine Arts Department

Candes Ramon - Campus Activities Coordinator

SRSU Music Club

Big Bend Community Chorale

Victor Romero and the SRSU Physical Plant

SRSU Custodial Staff

Audience members are reminded to silence alarm watches and cellular phones before the performance. As a matter of courtesy and copyright law, no unauthorized recording or photography is allowed in the hall. Please do not bring food or drinks into any performance venue.



Music Program

Choral Ensemble “Blue & Green Earth”

Andrew D. Alegría, *conductor*

Omar Guerrero, *FSSH conductor*

Karrin Ford, *piano*

Thursday, November 18, 2021, 7:30 PM

St. James Episcopal Church

510 N 6th St, Alpine, TX 79830

WELCOME

I am delighted to share with you our second fall choral ensemble concert entitled “Blue Green Earth”. In keeping with tradition, the Fort Stockton High School Panther Chorale, under the direction of Mr. Omar Guerrero, will bring their amazing voices to this concert. I am sure you are going to enjoy this concert with its variety of colors, sensitive musicianship, and expressive language sung by these talented young singers.

The program focuses on the beauty of the earth given to us by God and Mother Nature. In 2015, I was fortunate to study a choral concept album entitled *Missa Gaia*, where I heard the song *The Blue Green Hills of Earth* by Kim Oler.

*For the earth, forever turning,
For the skies, for every sea,
To our Lord we sing, returning
Home to our blue green hills of earth.*

The concert begins with an early morning song proclaiming the joys in the rising of the sun. Eugene Butler’s *Give Me the Splendid Silent Sun* beautifully illustrates the splendid beams of light that shine down upon the animals and plants. With the sun rising into the sky, all of earth’s beauty is shown. John Rutter’s *For the Beauty of the Earth* proclaims a hymn of praise to God for all the joys the earth provides; from trees and plant to family and friends. It is through social interaction that our love is shown.

Tanzen und springen (Dancing and leaping), by Hans Leo Hassler, is a light vocal composition of the late 16th century. Originating in Italy, the madrigal is in a dancelike pattern that expresses the joy making music. *Down in the river to pray* is a traditional American song with connections to Christian folk hymnody, African-American spirituals, and Southern gospel music. The text focuses on the community as they travel towards the river to wash their sins away.

Both “Love Victorious” and “Live Today” are part of a set entitled *Three Choral Pastiches* by Daniel Helldén. Each song is composed in a modern madrigal style, that uses mix-meter to emphasize the playful sounds of Mother Nature. In contrast, *O Radiant Dawn* by James MacMillan is structured as a hymn with vehemence towards the light of God on the morning sun.

♪ ADA ♪

Karrin Ford is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Keyboard Studies at Sul Ross State University. She holds a Doctoral of Musical Arts degree in Organ from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and the PhD in Music History and Music Theory from the University of Connecticut. She has previously served as a full-time faculty member at Baylor University, Belmont University, and The University of The South.

Named to Who’s Who in American Music, her articles have appeared in *The American Organist*, *Piano Quarterly*, *Galpin Society Journal*, *Journal of Church Music*, and *American Music Teacher*. Her compositions for piano, organ, and children's voices have been published by Broadman Press, Harold Flammer, Brentwood Press, and Jubilate Music Group. She has presented lectures and lecture/recitals at national and regional meetings of The American Guild of Organists, Music Teachers National Association, American Musicological Society, and The College Music Society. Her principal research interests include feminist musicology and compositions by women composers.



Mr. Omar Guerrero, from Presidio, TX, is an up-and-coming choral director in West Texas. He is proud to have graduated in December of 2019, with his Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Sul Ross State University. Following his graduation, Mr. Guerrero began working with Fort Stockton Independent School District as the Head Director of the Middle School and the Assistant Director of the High School Choral programs. He is proud to have been promoted to the Head Director of both Middle and High School choral programs for the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Guerrero is looking forward to growing his choral program and working closely with his Alma Mater to provide opportunities for the students of Fort Stockton to experience collegiate-level music in their studies.

PERSONNEL

Andrew Alegría is an accomplished musician, choral director, soloist, and teacher. In 1998, he was accepted to Baylor University, where he furthered his music education. Dr. Alegría graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor of Music in Church Music. After graduation, he moved to Houston, Texas, where he taught private music lessons, sang with the Houston Grand Opera, and was the Director of Music Ministry at Westminster United Methodist Church.

His passion for music took him to New Mexico, where he studied under Prof. Bradley Ellingboe at the University of New Mexico. In 2012, he graduated with a Master of Music with distinction. While in New Mexico he stepped in during Professor Ellingboe's 2013 sabbatical as a Lecturer of Music and conducted the University Chorus and UNM Opera Chorus. While teaching at the university, he conducted several professional choral ensembles including Coro de Cámara, in Santa Fe, New Mexico; a children's chorus affiliated with the New Mexico Philharmonic Orchestra; and several musical theater companies in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Dr. Alegría also had the pleasure of conducting the Prague Orchestra and University of New Mexico Chorus at Dvořák Hall in Prague, Czech Republic.

Dr. Alegría completed his Doctorate of Musical Arts at Louisiana State University under Dr. John Dickson. His dissertation is on Ariel Ramírez's *Misa por la Paz y la Justicia*. While in Louisiana, he was the Director of Music Ministry at First United Methodist Church and Music Director at Ascension Community Theatre in Gonzales, Louisiana. Prior to moving to Alpine, he was an Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Clarke University in Dubuque, Iowa. While at Clarke University, he conducted the Collegiate Singers, Cantabile, Melos, and the Clarke Chamber Orchestra. He also taught voice lessons and lectured on American music history.

Currently, Dr. Alegría is the Director of Choral Activities and Vocal Studies at Sul Ross. At SRSU he conducts the Concert Choir and Musical Theatre Ensemble, teaches private voice, and lectures on vocal technique. He is also the artistic director of the Big Bend Community Chorale and the Big Bend Children's Chorus.

Choral Ensemble Program Sul Ross Concert Choir Andrew Alegría, *conductor* Karrin Ford, *accompanist*

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| Give Me the Splendid Silent Sun | Eugene Butler b. 1935 |
| For the Beauty of the Earth | John Rutter b. 1945 |
| Tanzen und springen | Hans Leo Hassler (1564–1612) |
| Down in the River to Pray | Traditional American arr. Sheldon Curry (NDF) |



Fort Stockton Panther Choir Omar Guerrero, *conductor* Karrin Ford, *accompanist*

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|-------------------------|--|
| The Lion Sleeps Tonight | Weiss/Peretti/Creatore arr. Alan Billingsley (NDF) |
| Ahrirang | Korean Folk Song arr. Robert DeCormier (1922–2017) |

Sul Ross Concert Choir
Andrew Alegría, *conductor*
Karrin Ford, *accompanist*

from Three Choral Pastiches
“Love Victorious”
“Live Today”

Daniel Helldén
(1917–1998)

O Radiant Dawn

James MacMillan
b. 1959



from Earth Mass
“The Blue Green Hills of Earth”

Kim Oler
(NDF)

SRSU Concert Choir and Fort Stockton Panther Choir
Andrew Alegría, *conductor*
Karrin Ford, *piano*

Concert Choir Roster
Andrew Alegría, *conductor*
Karrin Ford, *accompanist*

soprano

Kaitlin Blalack - Horizon, TX
Jaina Brooks - Odessa, TX
Carol Fairlie - Sleepy Hollow, NY ‡
Jenna Reyes - Alpine, TX
Valkyrie Strodthoff - Plymouth, MN

mezzo-soprano

Joanna Barnett - Los Fresnos, TX
Kelsie C. Hines - Abilene, TX
Noëlle Karleen - Alpine, TX
Emma Morales - Uvalde, TX
Ember Rutledge - Bellville, TX

tenor

Thomas Levire - Del Rio, TX

bass

Jonatha Guerra - El Paso, TX
Raul Rios - Presidio, TX

‡ SRSU Faculty



TRANSLATIONS

Tanzen und springen

*Tanzen und springen,
Singen und klingen,
Lauten und Geigen,*

*Dance and jump,
sing and sound,
lutes and violins,*

*Soll'n auch nicht schweigen,
zu musizieren und jubilieren
steht mir all mein Sinn.*

*All shouldn't be silent,
making music and celebrating
suits me all the time.*

Fort Stockton Panther Chorale
Omar Guerrero, *conductor*

soprano

Jahel Encinas
Gabriela Galindo
Angela Hernandez
Kali Pacheco
Alyssa Venegas

alto

Daeja Dominguez
Natalia Gaylor
Alexa Gonzalez
Melena Ramirez
Kaviorian Rodriguez
Adriana Trevino

tenor

Dominic Lopez
Ector Martinez
John Christian Napay
Cayetana Pacheco

bass

Zayden Garcia
Andre Quiroz
Bryan Rivera
Christian Soto