

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Holiday Performances at the Green Music Center**

**Performances include**

**Vienna Boys Choir – *Christmas in Vienna***

***All Is Calm – The Christmas Truce of 1914***

**Boston Brass and the Brass All-Stars Big Band: *Christmas Bells are Swingin'***

**San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus: *Holiday Spectacular***

**American Bach Soloists and American Bach Choir: *A Baroque Christmas***

(Sonoma County, CA) — The Green Music Center at Sonoma State University rings in the 2022 holiday season with a variety of shows in November and December. Part of its yearlong 10th Anniversary Celebration, the Green Music Center's five holiday performances feature both popular artists from past seasons as well as performers making their Weill Hall debuts.

The first of five holiday performances this year **Vienna Boys Choir – *Christmas in Vienna*** is perhaps the most anticipated concerts of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season. Delighting music lovers across the globe for six centuries The Vienna Boys Choir come to Weill Hall showcasing their purity of tone, distinctive charm, and popular repertoire. Their holiday program *Christmas in Vienna* features Austrian folk songs, classical masterpieces, popular songs, and, of course, holiday favorites (Nov 27).

In December, audiences will witness the inspiring true story of the World War I Christmas Truce told in the words and songs of the men who lived it. The *New York Times* calls ***All Is Calm – The Christmas Truce of 1914***, “A beautiful musical recounting of a World War I cease-fire of gifts, poetry, and melody” (Dec 9). The next day, **Boston Brass and the Brass All-Stars Big Band** present *Christmas Bells are Swingin'*, a set of fiery big band arrangements of classics like the Stan Kenton Christmas Carols, “Greensleeves,” and “Motown Jingle Bells” with an energy that will delight audiences of all ages.

The following weekend, the **San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus** return to Weill Hall with the entertaining flair, fun, and heart that they always deliver with holiday favorites; light-hearted originals, including a holiday-themed Cher medley; and classical choral works. This will be the 31st year the Chorus has traveled north at the holidays to benefit Face 2 Face, AIDS services of Sonoma County.

December concludes with a performance from the **American Bach Soloists and American Bach Choir**. Presenting their hit program *A Baroque Christmas*. This renowned San Francisco based ensemble of vocalists and period-instrumentalists will perform the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah* along with music of the season by other renowned Baroque composers.

View the full listing of performances in the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season and purchase tickets visit [gmc.sonoma.edu](http://gmc.sonoma.edu) or call 707.664.4246.

**Green Music Center – November 27–December 18, 2022**  
**Weill Hall | Schroeder Hall | Weill Hall Loft**

**Vienna Boys Choir**  
***Christmas in Vienna***  
**Sunday, November 27, 2022 | 3 p.m.**  
**Weill Hall**  
**\$45–\$105**

The Vienna Boys Choir can trace its history as far back as the 13th century but it was formally established at Vienna's Imperial Chapel in 1498 by Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I. The many incarnations of the group have been performing continuously ever since. The modern Vienna Boys Choir represents quite a departure from the composition of the original medieval choir of six boys. Today's Vienna Boys Choir is comprised of talented young singers from all over the world who are admitted by audition. The choir visiting the U.S. has included boys hailing from Austria, Cambodia, China, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, the Philippines and the U.S.

The Vienna Boys Choir has been delighting music lovers across the globe for six centuries with their purity of tone, distinctive charm, and popular repertoire. These gifted musicians with voices of unforgettable beauty are part of four touring choirs that hail from dozens of nations and together give over 300 concerts a year around the world. The Fort Worth Star Telegram raves “There’s no more gratifying sound than that of children singing. And there’s no more polished ensemble of children’s voices than the Vienna Boys Choir.”

*Christmas in Vienna* showcases these gifted musicians with voices of unforgettable beauty in an extraordinary program featuring Austrian folk songs, classical masterpieces, popular songs, and, of course, holiday favorites.

[Watch video](#)  
[More Info](#)

*Supported in part by The Press Democrat and Redwood Credit Union*

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***All Is Calm***  
***The Christmas Truce of 1914***  
**Friday, December 9, 2022 | 7:30 p.m.**  
**Weill Hall**  
**\$25–\$75**

The Western Front, Christmas, 1914. Out of the violence a silence, then a song. A German soldier steps into No Man’s Land singing “Stille Nacht.” Thus begins an extraordinary night of camaraderie, music, peace. A remarkable true story, told in the words and songs of the men who lived it.

“A beautiful musical recounting of a World War 1 cease-fire of gifts, poetry, and melody.”  
– The *New York Times*

“This extraordinary event took place in 1914, the first year of the war, and was never repeated. Thousands of men put down their guns and left their trenches to meet their enemies in No Man’s Land. They exchanged gifts of tobacco, rum and chocolates; even photographs of love ones. They sang songs, played a game of soccer, and buried each other’s dead. Upon orders from above, they eventually returned to their trenches and re-instigated a war that would last four more years. So why did I not learn of this remarkable event? The propaganda machine of war is powerful, and news of soldiers fraternizing across enemy lines would put a human face on the Germans and readily undermine public support for the war. The heroes of this story are the lowest of the ranks — the young, the hungry, the cold, and the optimistic — those who acted with great courage to put down their guns, overcoming a fear that placed a gun in their hands in the first place. Their story puts a human face on war, and that’s the story I hope to tell.”

– *Peter Rothstein, director*

*Supported in part by The Oxford Suites*

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**Boston Brass and the Brass All-Stars Big Band**

*Christmas Bells are Swingin’*

**Saturday, December 10, 2022 | 7:30 p.m.**

**Weill Hall**

**\$25–\$75**

Boston Brass and the Brass All-Stars Big Band will light a fire for your holiday season. The ensemble of all brass (trumpets, French horns, trombones, and tubas with jazz rhythm section) features fiery big band arrangements of classics like the Stan Kenton Christmas Carols, Greensleeves, and Motown Jingle Bells with an energy in a setting that will delight audiences of all ages.

For 31 years, Boston Brass has set out to establish a one-of-a-kind musical experience. Performing exciting classical arrangements to burning jazz standards, the ensemble’s lively repartee, touched with humor and personality, attempts to bridge the ocean of classical formality to delight audiences in an evening of great music and boisterous fun. The philosophy of Boston Brass is to provide audiences with a wide selection of musical styles in unique arrangements, provided in a friendly and fun atmosphere.

*Supported in part by Balletto Vineyards and Sally Tomatoes*

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**San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus**

*Holiday Spectacular*

**Saturday, December 17, 2022 | 5 p.m.**

**Weill Hall**

**\$25–\$85**

This December, SFGMC rings in the holiday season with its much-anticipated annual tradition, *Holiday Spectacular*. ‘Tis the season for the warm, familiar traditions of years gone by—and for resolutions new and audacious. Audiences can expect the entertaining flair, fun, and heart that the Chorus always delivers with

holiday favorites, including Jingle Bells and I'll Be Home for Christmas; light-hearted originals, including a holiday-themed Cher medley; and classical choral works—including Sure on this Shining Night. This will be the 31st year the Chorus has traveled north at the holidays to benefit Face 2 Face, AIDS services of Sonoma County.

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## **American Bach Soloists**

### *A Baroque Christmas*

**Sunday, December 18, 2022 | 3 p.m.**

**Weill Hall**

**\$35–\$95**

**American Bach Soloists** (“ABS”) was founded in 1989 with the mission of introducing contemporary audiences to the cantatas of Johann Sebastian Bach through historically informed performances. Under the leadership of co-founder and Music Director Jeffrey Thomas, the ensemble has achieved its vision of assembling the world’s finest vocalists and period-instrument performers to bring this brilliant music to life. For over three decades, Jeffrey Thomas has brought thoughtful, meaningful, and informed perspectives to his performances as Artistic Director and Conductor of the American Bach Soloists. Recognized worldwide as one of the foremost interpreters of the music of Bach and the Baroque, he continues to inspire audiences and performers alike through his keen insights into the passions behind musical expression.

American Bach Soloists bring together the best specialists in Baroque music from far and wide to focus on the music of Bach, and to promote the enjoyment of the music that each and every member of ABS loves so deeply. The ABS Academy has led to an expanded roster that now includes some of the brightest and most engaging new talent in the field of Early Music. As we embark on our fourth decade of brilliant and insightful performances, we are as proud as ever of each individual musician who is a part of American Bach Soloists.

In this special performance, you’ll hear the Christmas portion (Part I) of Handel’s Messiah along with music of the season by Baroque composers Giovanni Valentini, Johann Christoph Pez, and Marc-Antoine Charpentier.

### **Program**

Handel: Messiah (Christmas portion – Part I)

Valentini: Sinfonia per Il Santissimo Natale

Pez: Concerto Pastorale

Charpentier: La Nuit

Handel: “Hallelujah Chorus”

*Supported in part by Oliver’s Market*

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### **About the Green Music Center**

The Green Music Center is the performing arts center at Sonoma State University, a regionally serving public university committed to educational access and excellence. As a cornerstone of Sonoma State University's commitment to the arts, the Green Music Center is a place to witness artistic inspiration through year-round programming, serving as home to the Sonoma State University Music Department, the Santa Rosa Symphony, and Sonoma Bach.

The mission of the Green Music Center is to present the most compelling artists of our time, to investigate ideas, and to provide access to diverse artistic experiences that educate, connect, and inspire Sonoma State University and neighboring North Bay communities.

Built to bring together artists, students, families, music-lovers, and more, the Green Music Center at Sonoma State University is a gathering place for our diverse communities in Sonoma County to explore and enjoy the things that move and inspire us. The center includes the 1,400-seat Weill Hall, with a rear wall that opens to lawn seating for a unique summertime experience, and the intimate 240-seat Schroeder Hall.

### **About Sonoma State University**

Located in California's premier wine country one hour north of San Francisco, Sonoma State is a small campus with big ideas. With a tradition of promoting intellectual and personal growth, leadership opportunities and technological proficiency, SSU offers its students a friendly, safe and informal atmosphere on a beautiful campus setting. One of the most requested campuses in the CSU system, SSU is regularly named a "Best Regional University" by U.S. News & World Report.

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