The Department of Performing Arts Presents...

Drexel University Gospel Choir

# Trusting Praying Believing

Saturday, December 7th 7:00 PM

Mandell Theater 3220 Chestnut St, Philadelphia, PA





# Letter from the Department

Welcome to this concert presentation by the Music Program in the Department of Performing Arts. We are delighted to have the wonderful support of great families and friends. A very special welcome goes out to our visitors from the community who may not have any affiliation to our students, and simply come to hear spectacular musical performances by these talented student musicians. We hope everyone in our audience is pleased with the musical selections; and proud of the achievement of the students involved.

The students you will hear at this performance are not music majors. They do this for their love of music and dedicate their time and energy to cultivating their passion for this art form. They are as dedicated to their studies and career pursuits as they are to this intrinsic passion they have within them. The program is fortunate to have a bounty of students with this yearning. We would not exist without them!

The Music Program and Department of Performing Arts is dedicated to providing robust opportunities in the performing arts while students are at Drexel. Our goal is to provide a positive and supportive environment for our students. It is our hope that students and audiences alike feel they are represented in the selections being performed. The human connection is most important to us all.

Thank you for attending this performance. Being here is the greatest show of support for the students, the Music Program, and the Department of Performing Arts. Thanks to the dedicated leadership of the faculty ensemble directors and staff, we are pleased to present you with the following program.

Sincerely,
Luke Abruzzo, Music Program Director
Miriam Giguere, PhD, Department Head, Performing Arts

# Acknowledgements

The Drexel University Gospel Choir would like to thank Dr. Miriam Giguere, Luke Abrusso and Westphal College of Media Arts and Design Staff and Faculty, Caroline Leipf, Lauren Tracy, Christopher Totora, and Mandell Theater Staff, Denise Marie Snow- Program Director for Bridges, Drexel University Gospel Choir Alumni, Rev. Gregory Ross - Senior Pastor and Rev. Beatrice E. Ross, First Lady, Vashti T. Gorham, Founder, Drexel University Department of Alumni Relations, Rev. Brian Musser – Campus minister DUBAC Program

Drexel Performing Arts would like to thank Senior Vice President for Student Success, Dr. Subir Sahu, for his continued support of Performing Arts at Drexel.



## About the Ensemble

The Drexel University Gospel Choir is an open group that performs contemporary gospel music. No audition is required and all interested singers are encouraged to join. The group performs frequently in churches throughout the Delaware Valley.

### **About the Concert**

Welcome to our Drexel University Gospel Choir Fall Concert! Tonight, as we gather in the spirit of joy and unity to celebrate our theme: "Trusting, Praying, and Believing." As we lift our voices, we invite you to join in not just as listeners, but as a part of this musical worship experience. Let the songs marinate and inspire you to put your trust in God, renew your spirit through prayer, and deepen your belief in His promises. Together, let's create an atmosphere filled with gratitude, hope, and praise. Feel free to sing along, clap your hands, and let your heart rejoice with us. May this evening bring you closer to the love and peace that faith in Him brings!



# Program

# The Drexel University Gospel Choir Ross Browne, Director

Prayer: Angelina Lugo

Welcome: Grayson Owens

Glory
He Reigns
Trust and Obey
Hallelujah, Oh Lord We Bless Your Name
Go Tell It
What a Friend
How Excellent
All of my Help
Emmanuel



#### Ensemble Members

#### Ross Browne

Ensemble Director

#### Soprano

Natalie Cleri
Promise Nkhono
Angelina Lugo
Rachel Peterkin
Lois Ayitevie
Symphony Leftwich

#### **Tenor**

Daniel Attai

Jamal Stewart

Henry Ofoegbu

James Ronald Worthy

Brandon Brooks

#### Alto

Raina Brooks
Tamia Chuderski
Viza Freeman
Jada Flowe
India Jones
Tekuam Kassa
Me'Aira Nuni
Maame Adwoa Ocron
Grace Wolde

#### **Bass/Baritones**

Kwabena Anokurang-Budu Grayson Owens

#### Musicians

Piano: Robert Ladson

Keyboard: David Carlisle

Drums: Eugene Ross

Bass Guitar: David Henfield

Cello: Raina Brooks

#### Interested in a Music Minor?

Drexel offers four different music minors:

<u>Music</u>: requires 26 credits, including work in Music Theory, History, private lessons, ensemble performance, and 9 credits of music electives.

<u>Music Theory and Composition:</u> aimed at people who are writing their own music or who would like to begin doing so. You will take courses in Music Theory, Arranging, Composition, and Digital Composition, and end with a portfolio of several completed pieces.

<u>Music Performance:</u> requires two years of private lesson studies with our artist faculty culminating in a recital. The Music Program will provide support for the recital venue and accompanist.

<u>Jazz & African-American Music:</u> includes course work in Jazz History, African-American Music, Jazz Theory, private study in Jazz performance, and ensemble work in several ensembles devoted to jazz.

# Support Great Performance

Dance, Music, and Theatre are a vital, central part of the Drexel academia and student life. Donations support performing arts ensembles and programs, as well as the operation of our performing arts venues, including the Mandell Theater and URBN Annex Black Box Theater.

# Celebrate the arts with a gift to Drexel Performing Arts today!

Giving.drexel.edu/PerformingArts



# Drexel University Department of Performing Arts Staff

#### **Department Head**

Dr. Miriam Giguere

#### **Program Directors**

Luke Abruzzo Music

Nick Anselmo Theatre

Jennifer Morley
Dance

#### **Administrative Staff**

Ellie Ebby Department Assistant

Hannah Burke Department Administrator

Caroline Leipf
Mandell Theater Managing Director

Cece Hill
Performing Arts Graduate Assistant

Liv Shoup Audience Services Coordinator

Lauren Tracy Ensemble Production Associate

#### **Production Staff**

Paul Jerue
Theatre Production Manager/Black Box Theater Technical Director

Asaki Kuruma Costume Shop Manager

Chris Totora

Mandell Theater Technical Director

# Upcoming Performing Arts Events

#### **UNIVERSITY CHORUS AND CHAMBER SINGERS**

December 8, 2024 | 3:00 PM | Main Auditorium

#### DREXEL UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND

December 8, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Mandell Theater

Learn more about our upcoming events:

<a href="mailto:drexel.edu/performingarts">drexel.edu/performingarts</a>



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