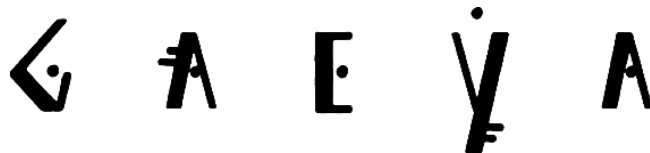


# Echoes of the Earth

FEATURING



Saturday, April 26, 2025  
3:00 PM

**Taylor Gonzales, Music Director**  
**Brenda Olmsted, Collaborative Pianist**

Presented by



*Foothills Community Choir believes in music's power to unite people of all walks of life. We welcome, value, and empower all to participate fully in our musical community.*

## GUEST ARTISTS

### GAEYA – A Voice for the Earth

Swedish artist **GAEYA** is a rising force on the international scene, known for her powerful voice, immersive soundscapes, and deep-rooted message of planetary connection. GAEYA crafts music that transcends genre—inviting listeners to rewild, reflect, and reconnect in an age of digital distraction and environmental urgency.

Her upcoming EP, **Growth**, marks a new chapter in her musical journey, featuring a series of new singles that expand her sonic universe while staying true to her mission as a messenger for the Earth.

GAEYA has collaborated with top-charting British DJs and written music alongside award-winning songwriter **Rob Davis** (Kylie Minogue, Fragma), among others. Her genre-blending sound, often described as cinematic and ethereal, is gaining global attention for its ability to stir both heart and conscience.

Whether on stage or in the studio, GAEYA delivers an experience that's as introspective as it is inspiring—a call to awaken and take part in collective healing for the planet.



### DR. CHAPPELL KINGSLAND

**Chappell Kingsland's** diverse professional activities share a common goal: to promote cross-cultural understanding and create emotionally rich experiences through music. He is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music teaching Aural Skills, Theory at the Keyboard, and Arranging. Dr. Kingsland's classes explore music from many different time periods, world cultures, and genres.

As a solo pianist and organist, his concerts and recordings weave together art music and popular music into a uniquely personal synthesis. The piano concert *Sgt. Pepper and the Magical Mystery Tour* includes intricate arrangements and spontaneous improvisations on songs by the Beatles. Chappell and his wife Jennifer are the founders of Strings of Brigid, a Celtic band which performs concerts, produces music videos, and is set to release an album in Summer 2025.

As a composer, Dr. Kingsland thrives at the intersection of musical worlds, drawing equal inspiration from the European/American tradition and from diverse musical sources ranging from Balinese gamelan and Japanese koto to Bulgarian dance and West African kora. His operas *Intoxication: America's Love Affair with Oil* and *The Firebringers* have been performed as mainstage and outreach productions in Colorado and Indiana. Dr. Kingsland's degrees are from Eastman (BM) and Indiana (MM, DM).

Dr. Kingsland is the Executive Director of the Wild Beautiful Orchestra (WBO), a collective of freelance and youth musicians in the Denver area. Founded in 2019, the WBO performs two to five concerts per year in venues ranging from concert halls and large churches to school auditoriums and outdoor Halloween festivals. The group has released a full album of music by Sorabji on BIS Records, an EP of popular song arrangements,

## MUSICAL DIRECTOR

**Conductor and pianist Taylor Gonzales** brings a vibrant blend of artistry and leadership to the Foothills Community Choir, where he began serving as Music Director in Fall 2023 following a successful guest conductor engagement in April 2023.

Taylor holds multiple prominent conducting roles in the region. He is the Music Director of the Wild Beautiful Orchestra, a dynamic collective of Denver-based musicians dedicated to creating transformative musical experiences for diverse audiences. He also conducts the Chancel Choir at Trinity United Methodist Church in downtown Denver and leads the Silver Singers Choir located in Lakewood, CO. Beyond conducting, Taylor is a dedicated piano teacher, sharing his passion for music with students of all ages. Previously, Taylor served as Associate Conductor of the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra and worked as a cover conductor for the Littleton Symphony Orchestra and Stratus Chamber Orchestra. He co-founded the Puget Sound Concerto Orchestra, where he served as the orchestra's first Music Director.

A native of Central Oregon, Taylor traded the High Desert for the lush, rainy landscapes of Washington State to pursue his passion for music. He earned his bachelor's degree in music from the University of Puget Sound and later completed a master's degree in orchestral conducting at the University of Denver. As a pianist, Taylor performed with orchestras including the University of Puget Sound Symphony Orchestra and the Sunriver Music Festival Orchestra.

When not on the podium or at the piano, Taylor enjoys exploring Denver's vibrant arts scene, dreaming up innovative musical projects, and spending time with loved ones.

## PIANIST

**Brenda Olmsted** is an accomplished collaborative pianist. She is the pianist for the Foothills Community Choir, she plays the piano for church services at her church, and is a piano teacher. She started taking lessons at the age of seven and fell in love! She played for the chorus in junior high school and then became head accompanist in the 10th grade. She loved playing for the concert and show choir and for the school musicals. She played the organ for her high school commencement ceremonies for several years. She played the piano and organ for the junior choirs at her church growing up. Brenda left Pennsylvania and relocated to Colorado with her family, and quickly found a church and a community choir that she became the accompanist for. She has been the accompanist for a Community choir for about thirty years, along with some weddings and senior community centers here and there. Brenda's love and compassion for music flows through her every single day! She is always humming and singing songs in her head all the time. She loves to sight read, play for fun, and teach students of all ages!

## PROGRAM

### **Apple Tree**

Words and Music by Aurora Aksnes, Odd Martin Skaalnes, and  
Magnus Skylstad  
Arranged by Katerina Gimon

### **Hanbleble (As In A Dream)**

Words and Music by Dr. Linthicum-Blackhorse

A pipe is being brought to  
you.  
Hold it properly.  
I warn that you might doubt  
me,  
even though I speak in a  
sacred manner

Father (to the West, North,  
East, South)  
I am standing.  
Behold me.  
The wind is blowing in my  
face.  
I am standing.  
I use these words

Being here with my relatives  
gives me life, and that is why  
I give you these offerings.

### **Earth Song**

Words and Music by Frank Ticheli

### **Water Fountain**

Words and Music by Nathaniel Brenner and Merrill Garbus  
Arranged by Kristopher Fulton

### **The Seal Lullaby**

Music by Eric Whitacre  
Text by Rudyard Kipling

Oh! Hush thee, my baby, the night is be-  
hind us  
And black are the waters that sparkled so  
green  
The moon, o'er the combers, looks down-  
ward to find us  
At rest in the hollows that rustle between

Where billow meets billow, then soft be  
thy pillow  
Oh weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease  
The storm shall not wake thee, nor shark  
overtake thee  
Asleep in the arms of the slow-swinging  
seas!

***Make Our Garden Grow***

Words by Richard Wilbur

Music by Leonard Bernstein

Arranged by Robert Page

***Big Yellow Taxi***

Words and Music by Joni Mitchell

Arranged by Chappell Kingsland

**Featuring GAEYA**

**Chappell Kingsland, piano**

***The Lucky Ones***

Words and music by Sandra Zachrisson/GAEYA and Anders Rane

**Featuring GAEYA**

**Chappell Kingsland, piano**

***Earth Song***

Words and music by Michael Jackson

Arranged by Chappell Kingsland

**Featuring GAEYA, Dustin Carlson, and Walter LaMendola**

***Down to Earth***

Words by Peter Gabriel

Music by Peter Gabriel & Thomas Newman

Arranged by Chappell Kingsland

**Featuring GAEYA and Timothy Osborn**

***What a Wonderful World,***

Music and Lyrics by George David Weiss and Bob Thiele

Arranged by Collin Cartwright

***Please join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall after the concert.***

## MUSICIANS

### Percussion

Chappell Kingsland  
Collin Cartwright  
Evan Prechodko  
Maurine Reed

### Bass Guitar

Trey Taylor

## SINGERS

### Sopranos

Amelia Rysavy  
Cheryl Martinez  
Clover Syzmanski-Bierman  
Emmi Taylor  
Gabriela Wenda-Collier  
Jaycee Chinn  
Kim Meyer  
Lauren Camacho  
Lisa Abo  
Lisa Dewane  
Madeline Hazelrigg  
Maurine Reed  
Sarah Gibson Daly  
Susannah Hazelrigg  
Tara Osborne  
Tracy Evanko

### Altos

AJ McKenzie  
Amy Bern  
Ann Hahn-Baiyor  
Ann Warren  
Apryl Brodersen  
Bekki Henthorn  
Carla Miller  
Kara Szymanski  
Kay Fullerton  
Mary Metropulos  
Norah Beatty  
Norie Aufdemberge  
Rhiannon Larsen  
Sandy Nance  
Sara Matlock  
Susan Turman  
Tricia Grace-O'Leary

### Tenors

Andrea Waner  
Jo Childers  
Kel Mosbey  
Martha Narey  
Timothy Osborn  
Trey Taylor

### Basses

Dustin Carlson  
Jim Kreidler  
Jim Wharton  
Walter LaMendola

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

**Jeri McCarthy**



## MUSIC SPONSORS

**Skip Quick** - *Big Yellow Taxi*

**Kara Szymanski** - *Hanbleble*

**With gratitude to Jefferson Avenue United Methodist Church for sharing  
this beautiful space.**

## WAYS TO SUPPORT

Thank you for attending our concert. Foothills Community Choir continues to grow thanks to the generous gifts from our donors, supporters, and volunteers. Please consider making a donation, signing up for our Raiseright and/or King Soopers Community Rewards, or purchasing merchandise. Please use the link below to connect to our website's "Support" page.

<https://www.foothillscommunitychoir.org/support/>



## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Foothills*  
COMMUNITY CHOIR  
*proudly presents*

# RAZZLE AT DAZZLE!

JUNE 1ST, 2025, 5:30 PM

Step into the spotlight with Foothills Community Choir as we present our musical revue and fundraiser at Dazzle! This supper-club event will feature music from Broadway classics and modern favorites! Join us for an evening of remarkable talent, delicious food and drinks, and help support our choir!

Tickets Available At:  
*[foothillscommunitychoir.org/Dazzle](https://www.foothillscommunitychoir.org/Dazzle)*

1080 14th Street, Denver CO 80202



<https://www.foothillscommunitychoir.org/dazzle/>