



RAGAZZI BOYS CHORUS PRESENTS

To Italia – and Beyond!

4pm PST Sunday, June 5, 2022

Globetrotting concert spotlights repertoire from Ragazzi's upcoming tour to Italy and Austria

REDWOOD CITY, CA (16 May 2022) —**Ragazzi Boys Chorus** will take audiences on a globetrotting adventure with its spring concert *To Italia – and Beyond!* Featuring singers from Ragazzi's Young Men's Ensemble, Concert Group, Choral Scholars, and Avanti ensembles, this afternoon of glorious song features repertoire from Ragazzi's upcoming international performance tour. This summer, Ragazzi will travel to Italy and Austria for a highly anticipated tour that includes collaboration with the acclaimed Vienna Boys Chorus, in addition to concerts and masterclasses in Venice, Padua, Lake Como, Salzburg, and Vienna. Led by Artistic and Executive Director **Kent Jue**, *To Italia – and Beyond!* will perform at **4pm PST Sunday, June 5, 2022** at Hillsdale High School in San Mateo. For tickets (\$20-\$40) and more information the public may visit **Ragazzi.org** or call **(650) 362-4425**.

Audience members of *To Italia – and Beyond!* will be required to wear a mask. At the door, they must show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination (either the physical card or a digital copy their phone) with photo ID or must provide digital or physical proof of a medically-administered COVID-19 test with a negative result taken within 48 hours of entry. They must be prepared to show proof of ticket purchase to our volunteer door checkers. Audience members who are not able to provide these at the door will not be permitted to enter the performance space. For more information the public may visit **Ragazzi.org**

To Italia – and Beyond! will begin with songs performed by Avanti, including Judith Herrington's celebratory *Awake, My Soul, and Sing*, Christi Jones' artful arrangement of the traditional spiritual *Poor Wayfaring Stranger*, and Rollo Dilworth's gospel-inspired *One Mile*. Concert Group (CG) will perform Richard Oswin's fervent *Sanctus*, Camille Saint-Saëns's

RAGAZZI BOYS CHORUS PRESENTS “TO ITALIA – AND BEYOND!” 2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2
stunning *Ave Maria*, and Alessandro Grandi’s rich, resonant *Hodie, nobis de caelo*, edited by Tortolano. CG will join with Choral Scholars (CS) to sing Richard Ewer’s exquisite *Beati Omnes*, Paul John Rudoi’s rhythmic piece with Sanskrit text *Gamaya*, Pepper Choplin’s magnificent a cappella *You Will Reap What You Sow*, and J. David Moore’s soulful a cappella arrangement of the traditional Appalachian song *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*.

During this performance, Young Men’s Ensemble (YME) will perform Franz Biebl’s breathtaking *Ave Maria*; Tomas Luis De Victoria’s flowing a cappella motet *Verbum Caro*, arranged by Jeb Mueller; Ludwig van Beethoven’s picturesque *Wir Haben Ihn Gesehen* from “Christ on the Mount of Olives,” arranged by Alexa Doebele; Robert Schumann’s sprightly *Die Minnesänger* from “Sechs Lieder Für Vierstimmigen Männerchor,” edited by Matthew D. Oltman; and Romanian-Hungarian composer György Orbán’s dramatic *Daemon Irreperit Callidus*. CG will join YME to sing Kevin Memley’s resplendent *Ave Maria* and Carly Simon’s vibrant hit *Let the River Run*, arranged by Craig Hella Johnson. The concert will close with all four ensembles joining together to perform Leon Dubinsky’s *We Rise Again*. Originally written about a 1980s economic crisis in Nova Scotia, this anthem of hope and resilience remains relevant in times of uncertainty.

Peninsula-based **Ragazzi Boys Chorus** is one of the San Francisco Bay Area’s premiere music and performance organizations for boys. Ragazzi has returned to in-person rehearsals and performances. The award-winning chorus kept busy during the past two years with virtual and in-person streaming rehearsals and performances, utilizing groundbreaking remote music-making technology from JackTrip Labs. During the 2019-2020 school year, more than 250 boys from over 100 schools in 30+ Bay Area communities participated in the program. Ragazzi means “boys” in Italian and is the term used in opera to refer to children’s voices. Ragazzi has performed with the San Francisco Opera, San Francisco Symphony, Opera San Jose, West Bay Opera, Symphony Silicon Valley, Masterworks Chorale, and the Stanford University Symphonic Chorus among others. The group has toured throughout the United States and internationally. Ragazzi was honored for its contribution to the San Francisco Symphony’s triple Grammy Award-winning recording of Stravinsky’s *Perséphone*, and has five CDs available: *A Holiday*

RAGAZZI BOYS CHORUS PRESENTS “TO ITALIA – AND BEYOND!” 3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3
Collection, Canciones de Alabanza, Magnificat: My Spirit Rejoices, Splendors of the Italian Baroque, and I Dream A World.

For Calendar Editors:

WHAT: **Ragazzi Boys Chorus** will take audiences on a globetrotting adventure with its spring concert *To Italia – and Beyond!* Featuring singers from Ragazzi’s Young Men’s Ensemble, Concert Group, Choral Scholars, and Avanti ensembles, this afternoon of glorious song features repertoire from Ragazzi’s upcoming international performance tour. This summer, Ragazzi will travel to Italy and Austria for a highly anticipated tour that includes collaboration with the acclaimed Vienna Boys Chorus, in addition to concerts and masterclasses in Venice, Padua, Lake Como, Salzburg, and Vienna

WHEN: 4pm PST Sunday, June 5, 2022

WHERE: Live concert at **Hillsdale High School**
3115 Del Monte Street, San Mateo, CA

TICKETS: \$20 general admission for those 12 years-old and younger
\$30 general admission
\$40 reserved seating
Free admission for current Ragazzi choristers wearing a Ragazzi shirt with a paid general admission companion

INFO: For information or to order tickets the public may visit **Ragazzi.org** or call **(650) 362-4425**.

SAFETY: For this concert, audience members:

- Will be required to wear a mask
- At the door, must show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination (either the physical card or a digital copy their phone) - OR - must provide digital or physical proof of a medically-administered COVID-19 test with a negative result taken within 48 hours of entry. Full vaccination is defined as completion of the two-dose regimen of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, one dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine, administered two weeks or more in advance of the concert.
- At the door, must show an ID that matches their vaccination card to our volunteer door checkers
- At the door, must be prepared to show proof of ticket purchase to our volunteer door checkers
- Audience members who are not able to provide these at the door will not be permitted to enter the performance space.

-30-

MEDIA: High resolution photos of **Ragazzi Boys Chorus** can be downloaded from:
<http://cbpr.co/press/ToItaliaAndBeyond>

PRESS: Contact Lauren Goldfarb, Carla Befera & Co.
lauren@cb-pr.com