

THE JOURNEY YOUTH CHOIR  
PRESENTS

DESSERT THEATER

2023

**DEEP  
IN THE  
HEART**

A Celebration of Country, Gospel,  
Bluegrass, and Old Time Favorites

MARCH 4, 3P & 7P

WORSHIP & ARTS CENTER

FUMCR





# **WELCOME**

**We are so excited that you have joined us on this journey!**

**This production marks our tenth year of Dessert Theater shows with The Journey Youth Choir. Thank you for joining us for the 2023 show “Deep in The Heart.” We’ve been preparing for two months to bring this production to life and we’re thrilled that you are here to experience these incredible songs with us.**

**Thank you first and foremost to the students of The Journey Youth Choir and Jubilation Choir. Without your hard work and dedication this show would not be possible. Thank you as well to the parents and volunteers who have made it possible to have delicious desserts and incredible items to bid on at the auction.**

**It is such a blessing to be back at FUMCR working with these amazing young singers. The level of talent and enthusiasm that these youth have for music is inspiring and they are such a joy to be around. I look forward to every Sunday that we get to tell of God’s love, grace, and mercy through music.**

**ENJOY THE SHOW!**

**Caitlin Molechat  
Director of Student Music**



**THANKS FROM THE JOURNEY YOUTH CHOIR TO OUR  
WONDERFUL SUPPORTERS!**

We would like to extend a Texas-sized **THANK YOU** to everyone involved with the 2023 Dessert Theater Silent Auctions. Thank you to the volunteers and to all who donated an item for one or more of the silent auctions.

Amanda Micknal, Youth Choir Parent Council Leader

**DESSERT THEATER COMMITTEE CHAIRS**



Christyann Bennet, Costumes

Emily Winnenberg, Table Decorations

Shelley Taylor, Desserts

Candice Singleton, Tickets

Amanda Micknal, Recognition

Kevin Burns, Photographer

Katrina Gray, Rehearsal Food

Patti Otte, Kelly Pemberton and Katrina Gray, Silent Auction Co-Chairs

**DESSERT THEATER VOLUNTEERS AND ASSISTANTS**

Jenny Patton and Heidi Lindh - Silent Auction

Kristen Waidler, Meredith Casey, and Susan Twilley - Costumes

Amy Linscheer, Tracie Brugge, Susan Watson, Erin Warms - Desserts

Cindy Haley, Wendy Eklof, Zara Bashir, Laura Evans, Audrey Garnett, Katie

Barron, Tom Pemberton, John Kimble, Joel Barron, Tom Winnenberg - Stage

Amy Linscheer, Shelley Taylor, Erin Warms, Katie Barron, Cindy Haley - Tickets

Amanda Micknal, Katie Barron, Cindy Haley, Pam Harris - Photos and Display

Katie Barron, Trisha Trcka, Tracie Brugge - Rehearsal food



## **IN-KIND DONORS**

Aaron Drake, Graphic Design  
Lewellyn's Print Shop, Shirts

## **FUMCR**

Youth Ministry Staff

Hawana Townsley, Events Coordinator

Drew Presley, Sam Asmah, and Building Services

Eric Czechowski, Lighting Design

Clayton Oliphint, Senior Pastor

Lynnita Jessen, Executive Director

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FUMCR Young Adults

Francy Collins, Communications Associate

The Communications Staff - Publicity, Programs, Headshots

Stachia Brothers, Tickets

Jubilation Children's Choir and Parents

The Journey Youth Choir Parents, Friends, and Family

## **FUMCR MUSIC MINISTRY**

Michael Lightfoot, Director of Music Ministry

Ian Gill, Associate Director of Music

Caitlin Molechat, Director of Student Music

Kim O'Neil, Director of Children's Choirs & Administrative Assistant

Mary Lightfoot, Music Associate/Organist

Antoine Spencer, The Journey Youth Choir Accompanist

Kathleen Parsons, Children's and Youth Handbells



# CAITLIN MOLECHAT DIRECTOR

Caitlin Molechat has been a choral director, soprano soloist, and professional choral singer in the Dallas area for twenty-one years. She is very excited to be back at First UMC

Richardson working with students of all ages.

Caitlin conducts The Journey Youth Choir, Jubilation Choir, Young Adult Choir, and works with the Modern Worship Choir and various Chancel Choir Ensembles. Caitlin also currently sings with the professional choir, Orpheus Chamber Singers. Other groups have included Project Eve (as Artistic Director and singer), Texas Choral Artists, Dallas Bach Society, and the Collegium Early Music Singers, among others.



She graduated summa cum laude with an M.M. in Choral Conducting and a B.M. in Music Education from the University of North Texas, where she studied with Jerry McCoy and served as Associate Conductor of the UNT A Cappella Choir. She has done post-graduate self-study in England, Germany, and the Netherlands. While living overseas in Amsterdam, she conducted a semi-professional choir of twenty-four singers. She has taught secondary choral music and has worked as the Associate Director of Music and Arts in Dallas churches for many years. She currently lives in Dallas with her husband and three children.



# **ANTOINE SPENCER**

## **Accompanist**



Mr. Spencer is a graduate of Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, where he received the Law Sone Outstanding Graduate Award, played for numerous ensembles, received the Elizabeth Means Armstrong scholarship in music, and was named a Presser Scholar. Antoine holds a Master's Degree in Public School Administration from the University of North Texas. Mr. Spencer has served in public schools for thirty-five years as a teacher and principal, and currently serves as the Director of Research and Accountability for Plano ISD.

Antoine has accompanied various choral ensembles in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, played at Carnegie Hall, the Meyerson Symphony Center, on many recordings, and traveled extensively with choruses in the U.S. and Europe. Serving as church pianist for most of his life, Antoine currently accompanies the Journey Youth Choir at FUMC Richardson.

Antoine Spencer was recognized by the Texas State Legislature in 1997 for outstanding accomplishments, and has received numerous awards including the Texas Legislative Black Caucus Outstanding Texan Award, Red Oak ISD Support Professional of the Year, Dallas ISD Teacher of the Year, Rick Alford Award of Excellence in Music Ministry, and two Honorary Texas PTA Life Membership Awards.



# **KYLE O'NEIL**

## **Assistant Director**

Kyle is excited to be a part of Dessert Theater this year as an Assistant Director! He has done productions such as Urinetown, Dream Team X-Treme, and The Music Man. His favorite country foods are some Down Home Ribs and Mac n' Cheese. Kyle is dedicating this performance to his favorite American Idol host, Mr. Ryan Seacrest.



# **MICHELLE LEVALL**

## **Choreographer**



Michelle Levall is no stranger to the FUMCR stage, last Fall she directed and choreographed The Music Man. She is very excited to have had the opportunity to work with the Youth Choir and choreograph Dessert Theatre this year. Michelle works full time as a choreographer, dance teacher and musical theatre director. When not creating theatre Michelle loves to spend her time with her husband and four children.





# FUMCR JOURNEY YOUTH CHOIR







**Alex Barron “Alexander the Great” – Alex is a 7th grader at West Junior High; he plays soccer, the saxophone, and enjoys art. He would like to dedicate his performance to his mom and dad.**

**Fun fact: He has broken 5 bones.**

**Playlist: Bruno Mars**

**Drew Barron – Drew is a sophomore at Richardson High School where he is in the Golden Eagle band. He would like to dedicate his performance to his parents who made him stick with choir and music.**

**Fun fact: He plays 3 instruments: oboe, trombone, and piano.**

**Playlist: Paul Simon, The Cars, and other various artists**



**Elizabeth Bennett – Elizabeth is a homeschooled 8th grader; her extracurricular activities include Scouts, swim team, 4-H, and theater. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family.**

**Fun fact: She is really good at hula hoop.**

**Playlist: Recently has included songs from: Mean Girls, The Lightning Thief, and The Sound of Music**





**Courtney Brugge – Courtney is a senior at Plano East Senior High. When not in school she can be found working out and working at Chick-Fil-A.**

**Fun fact: She did gymnastics for 10 years.  
Playlist: Taylor Swift**

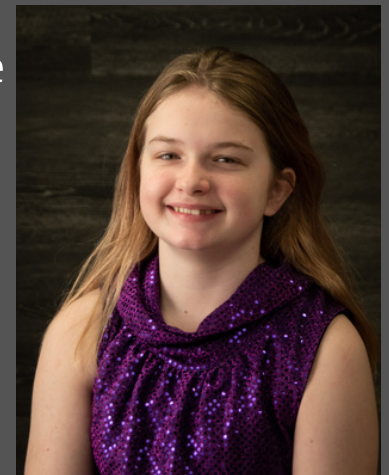


**Claire Casey – Claire is an 8th grader at Parkhill Junior High where she is involved in band, cross country, and art. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family. Her parents inspire her to work hard and be her best every day and her brothers are very supportive. She loves them all so much!**

**Fun fact: She has never lost a hula hoop contest.  
Playlist: Soft rock, country, and Taylor Swift**

**Eva Cash “E-Money” – Eva is a 7th grader at Frankford Middle School. She enjoys Taekwondo and playing handbells, guitar, and percussion instruments. She would like to dedicate her performance to Becca, Claire, Grace, Logan.**

**Fun fact: She’s a first-degree black belt in Taekwondo!  
Playlist: The Cramps, AC/DC, and the Doom soundtrack**





**Brooklyn Ceaser – Brooklyn is a sophomore at JJ Pearce High School where she is a member of the Pacesetter drill team, Best Buddies, National Honor Society, and Hearts of Servants.**

**Fun fact: Her dad was in the military, so she was born in a small town in Georgia!**

**Playlist: Old Justin Bieber songs, Rihanna, and Taylor Swift**

**Emily Eklof – Emily is a junior at Richardson High School where she is on the varsity soccer team, is a member of the National Honor Society, is a member of the Golden Eagle band. She is also a member of the FUMCR Bells of Bronze handbell choir.**

**Fun fact: She has a playlist for just about every situation.**

**Playlist: Zach Bryan and other country music**



**Josh Eklof – Josh is a junior at Richardson High School where he is a member of the Golden Eagle band, colorguard and in communications. He would like to dedicate his performance to his parents.**

**Fun fact: He is a teen helper with the FUMCR children's choir.**

**Playlist: Pop**





**Sydney Evans – Sydney is a freshman at Richardson High School where she is member of the Eaglette drill team; she is also involved with theater through North Texas Performing Arts. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family and friends for their continuous support.  
Fun fact: She has performed in 26 theater shows!**



**Abby Garnett – Abby is a freshman at Shelton School; she is involved in volleyball, theater, and volunteering at the animal shelter. She would like to dedicate her performance to her mother.**

**Fun fact: She wants to become a veterinarian.  
Playlist: Jon Pardi, Kenny Chesney, and Maroon 5**

**Sarah Gipson – Sarah is a sophomore at Richardson High School where she is a cheerleader and involved in choir. She would like to dedicate her performance to her choir teachers.  
Fun fact: She has a twin sister.  
Playlist: “Daylight” by Taylor Swift**





**Evan Gray – Evan is a junior at Richardson High School. He is involved in soccer, Scouts and plays the piano. He would like to dedicate this performance to the Chick-Fil-A workers on Arapaho and Coit because they always make that good chicken.**

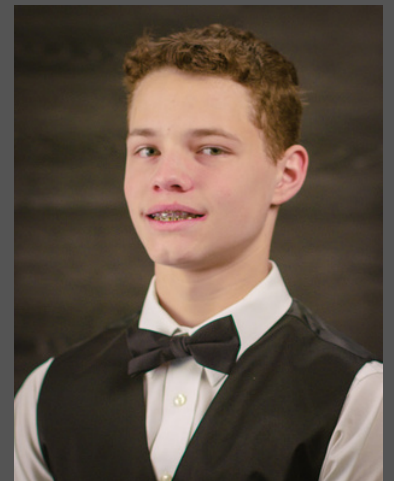
**Fun fact: He loves lake activities.**

**Playlist: A lot of different things (country, pop, and rock)**

**Joel Gray – Joel is a freshman at Richardson High School. He plays soccer, runs track and is involved in Scouts. He'd like to dedicate his performance to God.**

**Fun fact: "He's better than Evan."**

**Playlist: Rap and pop**



**Jack Haley – Jack is a 7th grader at Carpenter Middle School where he plays trombone in the band, is a member of the National Junior Honor Society, and FFA. He plays lacrosse and video games. He would like to dedicate his performance to his mom (so she'll stop asking these questions).**

**Fun fact: He likes to collect and build Lego sets.**

**Playlist: Queen, Imagine Dragons, and video game soundtracks**





**Mara Haley – Mara is a senior at Plano Senior High School where she is involved in FFA. Her house is filled with fur since she has a cat, a Corgi, a Great Pyrenees and 2 New Zealand rabbits. She is also an Ambassador Girl Scout. Fun fact: She likes reptiles – especially hognose snakes.**



**Anna Harris – Anna is a senior at Richardson High School where she is involved in theater. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family. Fun Fact: Anna is a big follower of pro-wrestling and at her first event met Thunder Rosa. Playlist: Olivia Rodrigo, Billie Eilish, Maneskin**

**Taylor Hopkins – Taylor is a junior at Richardson High School where she is a varsity cheerleader, is in theater, is a member of National Honor Society, the RHS show choir “Legacy”, and PALS. She is also a member of NCL and the Carousel of Roses committee. She would like to dedicate her performance to family and friends and wants to send a SUPER BIG THANK YOU to Mrs. Caitlin.**

**Fun fact: She is currently serving as this year’s choir co-president.**

**Playlist: Anything and everything Taylor Swift**





**Samantha Kimble “Sammi”** – Sammi is a junior at Richardson High School and is involved in theater, is a peer helper, is a member of National Honor Society, Carousel of Roses, and plays varsity/club soccer. She would like to dedicate her performance to her amazing family and to Caitlin for being so supportive.

**Fun fact:** She loves concerts! She went to 6 last year and her favorite of those was Harry Styles.

**Playlist:** SZA, Tyler the Creator, Daniel Caesar, Taylor Swift, and Harry Styles

**Clara Lindh** – Clara is a freshman at JJ Pearce High School where she is a member of the Acapella choir, plays softball and is theater; she also enjoys songwriting and painting. She would like to dedicate her performance to her parents.

**Fun fact:** She plays 3 instruments.

**Playlist:** Just about everything! She especially loves listening to Morgan Wallen and Lauren Daigle though!



**Isaac Lindh** – Isaac is a junior at JJ Pearce High School where he is on the varsity swim team and a member of the Mighty Mustang Band drumline. He would like to dedicate his performance to Jesus.

**Fun fact:** He likes to water ski.

**Playlist:** “Songs”





**Melina Linscheer** – Melina is a junior at Plano East Senior High School and is a member of National Honor Society, the Eco club, the Student Athletic Leadership Team, and plays on varsity and club swim teams. She would like to dedicate her performance to friends, family, and especially Sammi, Taylor, and Courtney who convinced me to join choir and of course Caitlin for being amazing!!

**Fun fact:** She can say the alphabet backwards.

**Playlist:** Tyler the Creator, Tame Impala, Frank Ocean, SZA, The Smashing Pumpkins



**Ava McCook “Ava Kate”** – Ava is a sophomore at June Shelton School and Evaluation Center where she is on the swim team. She would like to dedicate her performance to her mom and dad.

**Fun fact:** Her favorite ride at Disney World is “It’s a Small World”.

**Playlist:** Country, musicals, and pop music

**Kayley Pate** – Kayley is a 7th grader at Parkhill Junior High where she is involved in choir. She would like to dedicate her performance to her Gram.

**Fun fact:** She has 5 pets.

**Playlist:** CG5, The Living Tombstone, and Or30







**Becca Patton – Becca is an 8th grader at Forest Meadow Junior High School where she is involved in cheer, volleyball, band and theater. She also helps with the FUMCR children’s choir. She would like to dedicate her performance to her dad who shared his love and passion of music with her to do what she loves. She is thankful for her church friends and the community I have made with these people.**

**Fun fact: She was born on Long Island.**

**Playlist: Elvis and Taylor Swift**

**Will Patton – Will is in a junior at Lake Highlands High School where he is on the football team, a member of the National Honor Society, and the Young Men’s Service League. He would like to dedicate his performance to his dad who let him do his first solo with Slim 57.**

**Fun fact: He was born on Friday the 13th.**

**Playlist: Rock music**



**Hannah Pemberton – Hannah is a freshman at JJ Pearce High School; she is involved in youth and plays tennis. She would like to dedicate her performance to Caitlin Molechat.**

**Fun fact: Her cousin Audrey is also in Dessert Theater.**

**Playlist: Any Taylor Swift song**





**Taylor Pingleton – Taylor is a senior at JJ Pearce High School; she enjoys acting, singing, writing, reading, and watching Netflix. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family.**

**Fun fact: She has written a book and was a wildflower finalist 8th grader.**

**Playlist: Pop, country, and musical theater**



**Audrey Singleton – Audrey is a 7th grader at Parkhill Junior High where she is in the choir and plays tennis. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family and her best friends, Claire and Colleen.**

**Fun fact: She is obsessed with Marvel.**

**Playlist: Taylor Swift**

**Aiden Spence – Aiden is a freshman at Woodrow Wilson High School and enjoys band, choir, and playing the handbells. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family and friends.**

**Fun fact: She has been on tv twice. Once a few years ago on an episode of Diners Drive-Ins and Dives and the second time in the Dallas Holiday Parade this past December as part of the Woodrow Wilson High School marching band.**

**Playlist: A lot of different things – she says her music taste is all over the place. Recently, she has been listening to a lot of Paramore, Thomas Day, and Eminem.**





**Laine Taylor-Warms “Lala”** – Laine is a 7th grader at Classical Center at Brandenburg Middle School and is involved in band (any music related thing), gaming, and learning about animals. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family and all the people in this church!  
**Fun Fact:** She’s good with navigation and plays 4 instruments.  
**Playlist:** Hip-hop, Christopher Escalante

**Logan Taylor-Warms “Lolo, LoJack, LoloMon, Logiebear, and Lo”** – Logan is an 8th grader at the Classical Center at Brandenburg Middle School and enjoys softball, volleyball, singing, dancing, and listening to music. She would like to dedicate his performance to her grandma, Doty Warms.  
**Fun Fact:** She’s really good at facial recognition. Her family calls her Logan the Locator because she can find items they have misplaced.



**Playlist:** Pop, A\$AP Rocky, NLE Choppa



**Reagan Tinajero** – Reagan is an 8th grader at Austin Academy; she’s involved in dance and theater workshops. She would like to dedicate her performance to her church friends and to her parents and sister who always drive her to church.

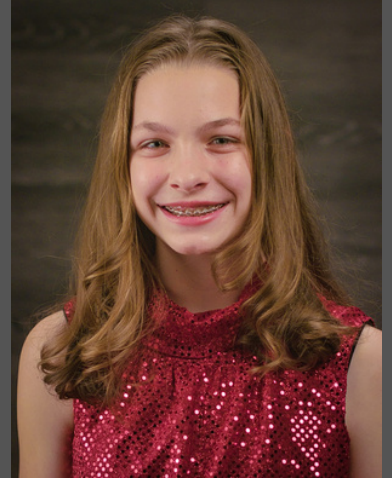
**Fun fact:** She plans to be a lawyer like her parents.  
**Playlist:** Kendrick Lamar, The Weeknd, Sza, J Cole, Bryson





**Ashlyn Trcka – Ashlyn is an 8th grader at Westwood Junior High; she’s involved in tennis, softball, 4-H, and plays the clarinet.**

**Fun fact: She loves to play dominoes at the Dixie Chicken!  
Playlist: “She Had Me at Heads Carolina”, “All the Gold in California”, and “Song of the South”**



**Trevor Trcka – Trevor at an 8th grader at Westwood Junior High; he’s involved in baseball, tennis, basketball, 4-H, and enjoys skeet shooting. He would like to dedicate his performance to his parents.**

**Fun fact: I won the mutton bustin’ event at the Houston rodeo.  
Playlist: “Buy Dirt” by Jordan Davis and “Freedom was a Highway” by Jimmie Allen**

**Grace Twilley – Grace is an 8th grader at Parkhill Junior High. In addition to the Journey Youth Choir, she is involved in dance. She would like to dedicate her performance to Sasha Niddam.**

**Fun fact: She has chickens!  
Playlist: Taylor Swift**





**Ruby Magnolia Waidler “Maggie” – Maggie is a junior at Richardson High School where she is on the varsity swim team, a member of the Eagle guard, and involved in the RHS theatre collective.**

**Fun fact: She has been swimming for 15 years.  
Playlist: “Oklahoma Smoke Show” by Zach Bryan**

**Amy Watson – Amy is a freshman at Richardson High School where she is a member of the Golden Eagle band. She would like to dedicate her performance to the children’s choir teachers.**

**Fun fact: She takes apart and remakes jewelry.  
Playlist: “The Run and Go” by 21 Pilots**



**Lily Weidenbach – Lily is an 8th grader at Frankford Middle School where she is involved in art and choir and enjoys being with friends. She would like to dedicate the performance to her family.**

**Fun fact: She has a dog.**





**THANKS  
FOR  
COMIN' Y'ALL**

