

OCTOBER 2022

# ENCORE EXTRA

*Celebrating Creativity for Older Adults*



## Dear Singers,

I hope this note finds you well and enjoying the beginning of another semester. I want to say a huge thank you to all our chorale masters for their phenomenal work in helping us launch a successful semester. As of today, we have 1,082 singers registered and participating and most of our groups saw an increase in numbers. This is exciting for Encore as we start a new chapter and as we continue to navigate COVID.

**Read More On Next Page** →

We are busy planning future events like donor receptions, summer camps and tours, and our Kennedy Center performance. You'll find lots of information in this newsletter that'll give you the latest updates on all those happenings and more. I also would encourage you to tune into the Town Hall each month to hear questions from your fellow singers.

We will be launching a ticketing system for our fall concerts that will be a pay-what-you-will model. There will still be a FREE option for any person, as we are committed to this for our mission of accessibility, but now an audience member has the ability to assign a gift as a thank you for the performance. We'll be very understanding in the first year and make sure anyone who shows up will be able to attend the concert. The process will be simple, and we'll assist in anything you might need as we start this journey.

As we shared in the State of Encore address, we are doing this for several reasons:

1. Your concerts are amazing and we want our audience to be able to see the value and to place value by sharing a donation to Encore.
2. We want to instill a commitment and dedication for audience members to secure a seat for your concert.
3. We want to broaden who we can engage with about Encore by collecting data and demographics of people who attend Encore performances.

The link to secure tickets will be available in the November newsletter.

As always, please reach out to me or our team if we can do anything to make your experience more wonderful.

I approach my one year anniversary as CEO on October 18 and I could not be more excited and grateful. We have great days ahead as singers and as Encore Creativity!

*Joshua Vickery*

Chief Executive Officer, Encore Creativity for Older Adults



## Dear Encore Creativity Singers,

I hope you've had a fabulous opening to our 2022-23 season!

It's been wonderful visiting with so many of you in rehearsals these last few weeks. Your progress on this season's programming is quite impressive! Well done to all!

There are so many opportunities to broaden your musical experience here at Encore Creativity and we have an incredible team of conductors ready to support you! So, if you're registered to sing with a Chorale, I encourage you to visit and rehearse with any other Chorale—just show up, check in with the Chorale Master, and sing!

Similarly, if you're registered as a ROCKer, you can visit and rehearse with any other ROCKS ensemble. All you'll need to do is provide proof of your COVID-19 vaccination and first booster to sing with a new ensemble. Think of your COVID documents as your passport to our expansive Encore programming throughout the season.

So, why not fill your whole week with great choral music? Our entire [in-person and online-only rehearsal schedule](#) is available now.

I look forward to visiting (and singing!) with each of you in rehearsals soon!

Sincerely,

*Brian J. Isaac*

Artistic Director, Encore Creativity for Older Adults



A THREE-DAY MUSICAL RETREAT AT  
**OMNI BEDFORD  
SPRINGS RESORT**

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Join our retreat for a weekend of joyful singing! You'll enjoy spirited rehearsals and engaging voice/music skills workshops in preparation for a performance on Saturday, with ample time for sightseeing and socializing.

[Register](#)



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 | February 3

After checking in at 12 p.m., you'll enjoy a two-hour choral rehearsal with Brian Isaac. Explore historic Bedford, relax at the resort, and enjoy a meal with your Encore family in the evening.

### DAY 2 | February 4

Rehearsals begin at 10 a.m. Enjoy a relaxing lunch and get ready to shine for our performance in the late evening. After our stellar show, you'll share a celebratory meal and have free time to explore.

### DAY 3 | February 5

Take in the historic landscape around Bedford before our return to Washington D.C. at 4 p.m.

## COSTS & RATES

**Single Rate\***: \$850/person

**Double Rate\***: \$675/person

**Bus Transport**: \$125/person

*\*Includes room, all meals, resort fees, taxes, parking, rehearsals, workshops, and performances.*

Spouses, partners, and guests are warmly welcomed to attend.

# COVID-19 Update | September 19, 2022

FROM THE ENCORE CREATIVITY COVID TASK FORCE

**Encore Creativity COVID Task Force:** Sandra Quinn, Jacob Bueno de Mesquita, Robin Mockenhaupt, Karen Doyle, Tony Tambasco, and Arthur Karpas

Many of us have heard about long COVID, and some of us may be experiencing it. We're sharing some basic information for those who want to learn more.

## What is long COVID-19?

Most people who get COVID-19 recover within a few days to weeks. Some people, however, continue to have symptoms that last a long time afterward. These ongoing health problems are sometimes referred to as long COVID-19 or post-COVID condition. People with post-COVID conditions can have a wide range of symptoms that can last more than four weeks after infection. Sometimes, the symptoms can even go away or come back again.

Post-COVID conditions may not affect everyone the same way. People with post-COVID conditions may experience health problems from different types and combinations of symptoms happening over different lengths of time. Most patients' symptoms slowly improve with time. However, for some people, post-COVID conditions may last months, and potentially years, after COVID-19 illness and may sometimes result in disability. Because this is a new phenomenon, researchers are actively trying to understand what causes post-COVID conditions.

[Read the Full Letter from the COVID-19 Task Force](#)







## Dear Encore Singers,

I just wanted to let you know that I have resigned from my position at Encore, and my last day was Wednesday, September 28. I decided to stay on through the transition with the new management team to ensure that you are in good hands. I believe in Joshua's vision and the direction that he and the rest of the team are going to take you.

I remember so vividly sitting at Jeanne Kelly's dining room table during my interview thinking is this job really for me? Wow...how this adventure has changed my life in so many ways. I thank you and the rest of the singers for being a huge part of my Encore journey.

I have truly loved working with all of you and will miss you all immensely.

Best regards,

*Kelli Williams*

[klwilliams64@gmail.com](mailto:klwilliams64@gmail.com)



# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CHARITABLE GIFTS



**ENCORE PRESENTS:  
PABLO ALVARADO  
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER**

**BONUS TO  
UPCOMING TOWNHALL**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20  
AT 4:30 P.M. ET ON ZOOM**

**[Join Us](#)**

According to the National Philanthropic trust, America is a country of givers. In 2021, U.S. residents donated \$326.87 billion. But how we give matters not only to the organization receiving the gift, but to us as the grantors of the gifts. In this workshop, you'll learn ways to maximize the impact of those gifts and how they can affect your bottom line.

Pablo Alvarado brings experience, transparency, and professionalism to his career as a financial planner with LPL Financial. He is passionate about providing individualized retirement planning for everyone, and especially Baby Boomers. Pablo recognizes that as Boomers approach retirement, they may not know if their finances will fit the lifestyle they wish to enjoy. Awareness and planning can help people understand their financial needs for the future, and Pablo can help them chart the course. Putting his client's needs first is his primary focus.

Tune in to this broadcast to learn more. Join us!



# Chautauqua Summer Institute Registration Now Open

AUGUST 27 TO SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

Whether you have sung your entire life, or have not sung for quite a few years—whatever your level of experience is—you will love this fun and educational camp. Our conductors will mold their singers into polished choral ensembles, ready to perform a truly grand finale at the end of the week! Encore Summer Camps combine the rigor of a music conservatory with the relaxation of a summer getaway.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to work with one or more of Encore's dynamic faculty. Secure your spot today!

[Register](#)





# Save the Date

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Encore Open House in Redmond, Washington

Join conductor Dr. Natalie Lerch to perform holiday favorites with this Chorale November 10, 2-3:30 p.m. PT

[Register](#)



### Scholarship Cabaret

A night of fundraising and talented performances from our conductors, instructors, and singers February 18, 2023 at 6 p.m ET. Proceeds will benefit Encore's scholarship fund. Stay tuned for ticketing information soon!



### Encore Chorale of Cape Fear Info Session

Join us at our open house at the Cameron Art Museum October 18 at 10 a.m ET for info on Chorales and Sentimental Journey Singers.

[Join Us](#)



### Next Town Hall October 20 4:30 p.m. ET

Tune into our next Town Hall to learn about everything happening at Encore and to hear questions from your fellow singers.

[Join Us](#)

# FALL 2022 PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE



## DECEMBER 9

**Encore Chorale of Frederick,  
VA & Encore Chorale of Asbury  
Methodist Village, VA**

7 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Frederick

**Conductor:** Deb Int Veldt

## DECEMBER 10

**Encore Chorale of Frederick,  
VA & Encore Chorale of Asbury  
Methodist Village, VA**

3 p.m. at Asbury Methodist  
Village

**Conductor:** Deb Int Veldt

**Encore Chorale of Southern  
Maryland, MD**

3 p.m. at Patuxent Presbyterian  
Church

**Conductor:** Joey  
Hoopengardner

**Encore Chorale of Baltimore,  
MD & Encore Chorale of  
Columbia, MD**

7 p.m. at Towson Presbyterian

**Conductor:** Stephen Harouff

## DECEMBER 11

**Encore Chorale of Baltimore,  
MD & Encore Chorale of  
Columbia, MD**

4 p.m. at Owen Brown Meeting  
Hall C

**Conductor:** Stephen Harouff

**Encore Chorale of Reston, VA;  
Encore Chorale of Fairfax, VA;  
Encore Chorale of Ashburn, VA  
& Sentimental Journey Singers**

4 p.m. at Heritage Fellowship  
Church in Reston

**Conductors:** David Lang, Elaine  
Rendler, and Mary Ann East



## **DECEMBER 12**

**Encore Chorale of Washington,  
DC**

7 p.m. at Church of the Epiphany  
in D.C.

**Conductor:** Stephen Harouff

**Encore Chorale of Goodwin  
House Bailey's Crossroads, VA;  
Encore Chorale of Arlington,  
VA & Encore Chorale of  
Alexandria, VA**

7 p.m. at Goodwin House Bailey  
Crossroads

**Conductors:** Mary Ann East,  
Ingrid Lestrud, and Jacquelynne  
Fontaine

## **Annapolis ROCKS**

7 p.m. at Woods Memorial  
Presbyterian

Church in Annapolis

**Conductor:** Ethan Lolley

## **DECEMBER 13**

**Alexandria ROCKS, Fairfax  
ROCKS & DC ROCKS**

7 p.m. at George Washington  
Masonic Memorial in Alexandria

**Conductors:** Jeff Dokken, David  
Lang, and Ethan Lolley

## **DECEMBER 14**

**Encore Chorale of Annapolis,  
MD**

7 p.m. at Woods Memorial  
Presbyterian Church in  
Annapolis

**Conductor:** Stephen Harouff

## **DECEMBER 15**

**Encore Chorale of Goodwin  
House Bailey's Crossroads, VA;  
Encore Chorale of Arlington,  
VA & Encore Chorale of  
Alexandria, VA**

7 p.m. at George Washington  
Masonic Memorial in Alexandria

**Conductors:** Mary Ann East,  
Ingrid Lestrud, and Jacquelynne  
Fontaine

**Encore Chorale of Wilmington,  
DE**

7 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal  
Church

**Conductor:** David Simmons





## **DECEMBER 17**

**Encore Chorale of New York  
City, NY**

3 p.m. at Broadway Presbyterian  
Church

**Conductor:** Bernadette Hoke

**Encore Chorale of Schweinhaut  
Center, MD & Encore Chorale of  
Washington Conservatory at  
Glen Echo Park, MD**

4 p.m. at Georgetown Visitation  
Preparatory School

**Conductors:** Kathryn Harsha and  
Ingrid Lestrud

**Encore ROCKS at Washington  
Conservatory at Glen Echo  
Park, MD**

7 p.m. at Georgetown Visitation  
Preparatory School

**Conductor:** Ethan Lolley

**DECEMBER 26**  
**Kennedy Center**



## Media Spotlight



### **Newsy | Sentimental Journey Singers Story**

Sentimental Journey Singers rehearsals are about family, healing, and hope. Encore Director of Arts for Life Mary Ann East and the Sentimental Journey Singers were featured in a Newsy report on how the power of music can help patients with Alzheimer's.

[Read More](#)

## Recent Recordings



### **September Town Hall**

The latest updates and information from September.

[Watch](#)



### **Cruise Info Zoom**

Catch up on the info for our Great Rivers of Europe cruise!

[Watch](#)



### **State of Encore**

CEO Joshua Vickery talks Encore's past, present, and future.

[Watch](#)



# Chorale Masters Highlight



## **Tony Gryzmala & Mary Dodd** Encore Chorale of Fairfax

### ***“A Little Joyful Thing”***

For Tony Gryzmala and Mary Dodd, chorale masters of the Encore Chorale of Fairfax, singing is as deep a part of them as their genes, a fond history of family memories.

“Music has been everywhere in my life,” Tony began. “On Saturdays, I would put on a record and sing while cleaning the house.” His turntable tendencies were influenced by his storied history as a singer growing up in the St. Louis area: from a member of the boys’ choir in his church, to a chorus singer in high school, all the way to a member of his university’s chorale. When he saw an Encore Creativity article in the Beacon Newspapers, it was a natural draw. Singing, he said, brings delight to his spirit and joy to his soul.

Music is a family affair for them both. Mary described her mother singing in the car and around the house during her childhood in Jacksonville, Florida—a piece of her that she will never forget, and the influence for her love of singing. Though she doesn’t read music, her musical sense and good ear for tunes helps her feel at home in Encore. From her first rehearsal fourteen years ago in Lorton to her role as chorale master in Fairfax, Encore has been a source of joy, camaraderie, and consistency.

Tony and Mary both recall their performances at the 10th and 15th anniversary concerts fondly. “Those were special moments of singing with Encore,” Mary said: warm-ups, rehearsals, and showtime at Strathmore and the Kennedy Center. Tony spoke fondly of Encore’s travel excursions, highlighting the summer trip to Canada and aboard the Queen Mary.

**Read More On Next Page** →



As chorale masters, they consider themselves facilitators—an aid from conductor and musical director to chorale. “Just call me Tony, not chorale master. Our mission is not to be stars, but to fulfill Brian and David’s vision,” Tony said. “We’re here to help singers fine tune the expressiveness and interpretation of the music.”

Their experiences with Encore cannot be summed up in a single sentence. Tony quoted a poem—in musical verse—to express his feelings: “A song is but a little thing, but oh, what a joyful thing.” Music, to him, is about the joy it can bring to himself and others: the emotional side that warms the soul and heart. Mary concurred, and their shared laughs and memories recalled one more element: friendship. The tight-knit groups that Encore creates brings something to look forward to every week.

Together with their conductor David Lang, Mary and Tony described their roles as a musical triumvirate: a trio of translators connecting singers and conductors. The relationships that music creates guides them. Mary described it with warmth and sincerity, to which Tony agreed: “Being able to be with a group, having something to fall back on—singing has kept me together.”



# Support Us This Summer

MAKE A GIFT TO ONE OF OUR FUNDS

[Make a Donation](#)



## Annual Fund

Each year Encore must raise dollars to offset the costs of operating this amazing organization. This year we need \$200,000 in charitable contributions and are 4% to our goal with \$8,594 in donations. If you would like to give to the annual fund please consider helping us reach that goal.



## Scholarship Fund

We've raised \$3,600 (36% to goal) for this fund supporting singers who may need financial assistance with program tuition. \$190 helps one singer with full season tuition, \$185 covers tuition for an Encore University season, and \$800-\$1,600 can assist a singer with a summer camp program.



## The Jeanne Kelly Fund

We're 3% to goal with \$1,596 in donations for this year and need your help! In honor of our founder and her legacy, this fund supports initiatives in the following areas of focus:

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Expansion of Sentimental Journey Singers and other arts and wellness related programs
- National Expansion of Encore Chorales
- Talent Recruitment and Retention of leadership support and artistic personnel
- Expansion of Encore University and our online presence

# Volunteer Opportunities with Encore

We need you! Please check out our volunteer opportunities and let us know if you or your friends and family can help.

## Office Support

We are looking for people to help with administrative projects at the Encore office including music packing, mailings, and answering telephones.

## Marketing & Promotions Committee

We are looking for people who have a passion or background in marketing and promotions to help us spread the word about Encore in your community. We are looking for at least one person per Encore program who would meet with our team and then reach out to media, libraries, senior centers, community centers, and other outlets in their areas to promote our mission.

## Development, Fundraising & Events Committee

We are looking for people who have a passion for fundraising and events to help us strategize and execute plans to raise dollars for our annual fund, Jeanne Kelly Fund and scholarship fund. This includes brainstorming for corporate support, grant opportunities, fundraising events and donor receptions and recognition.

## Concert Support

We are looking for volunteers who are willing to assist at concerts with set up, ushering, and greeting patrons and guests.

If you or someone you know is interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please reach out to Joshua Vickery at [joshua.vickery@encorecreativity.org](mailto:joshua.vickery@encorecreativity.org).





# Summer Camp Survey Report

This spreadsheet contains a representative collection of responses received from Encore's Summer 2022 programming: choral institutes, ROCKS camp, and Chautauqua. We appreciate your feedback, and we hope to make 2023 an even better summer than the last!

[View Report](#)

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## Thank You to Our Supporters

