



ON **WINGS OF SONG**
PASKUHAN
CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD



7 PM | Saturday | December 7, 2024
Desautels Concert Hall, 150 Dafoe Rd.
(University of Manitoba)



MALIGAYANG PASKO MUSICA SINGERS!

Wishing you success
on your 24/25 concert season

"On Wings of Song"



TESS NEWTON
FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Musica Singers Family and Audience,

As we prepare for our upcoming concert and the beginning of our second season, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. This holiday season, we have much to celebrate and many people to thank.

To our supporters and volunteers:

Your unwavering support and dedication have been the backbone of our success. Your contributions, whether through time, resources, or simply cheering us on, have made it possible for us to thrive and grow. You are the heart and soul of Musica Singers of Manitoba Inc., and we couldn't do it without you.

To my fellow co-choir members and executive committees:

Your talent, hard work, and passion for music inspire me every day. As we embark on this second season, let's strive to elevate our performances to new heights and embrace every opportunity with enthusiasm and determination. Together, we can achieve incredible things and create unforgettable experiences for our audience.

This concert and the upcoming season are a testament to our collective dedication and love for the art of music. Let's make the most of every moment, support one another, and continue to inspire our community through our performances.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas filled with joy, peace, and harmony. Here's to a successful concert and an amazing second season ahead!

Musically Yours,

Jesse Alcasabas

Executive Director

Musica Singers of Manitoba Inc.



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Gumsie Alcasabas
John Pangilinan
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Emmanuel Dimatulac

Elmer Aquino
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Arlene Canseco
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MANITOBA SINGERS OF MANITOBA INC

S

OPRANO

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Milyn Armenio
Ymma Concepcion *
Katrina Dimatulac *
Vina Dimayuga *
Catherine Tomo
Storme Zapata
Ampy Arcos **
Isis Balagtas ***
Joan Ballester ***
Faith Briden ***

T

ENOR

Elmer Aquino *
Ren Bonifacio
Ariel Fernando
Lorenz Edward
Sarrondo
Carlos Arcos **
Patrick Arnuco ***
Keitopher Chacon ***
Raffy Padilla ***

A

LTO

Ira Alejo
Elizabeth De Leon
Jean Lopez
Ma. Ashley Medina
Rowena Sta. Ana
Jacqueline Unlayao ***

B

ASS

Dante Aviso
Emmanuel Dimatulac *
Jim Lopez
Ricardo L. Manalang
John Zedrick Reyes
Jay Aguilar **
Luis Manguerra ***

** On Leave ** Apprentice *** Trainee*

MUSICA KIDS

Javier Alcasabas, Jia Alcasabas, Juneaux Alcasabas, Amiel Arcos,
Sky Arcos, Benedict Dimatulac, Kenzo Dimatulac, Zion Figueroa,
Alijah Lopez, Jamie Lopez, Jeremiah Lopez

MUSICA SINGERS

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Lorenz Edward Sarrondo, Conductor

Hannah Cachero, Lorenzo Camus, Paolo Camus, Jim Lopez, and
Anica Warkentine, Collaborating Artists





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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Musica Singers of Manitoba is a registered non-profit organization with the mission to present outstanding performances across Canada, showcasing Filipino Canadians of Manitoba.

Jesse Alcasabas, Executive Director
Ma. Ashley Medina, Secretary

Committee Directors
Oscar Pantaleon Jr., Artistic Operations
Ariel Fernando, Production
Dante Aviso, Marketing & Sales
Carlos Arcos, Administration
Elizabeth De Leon, Finance

PROGRAM

A CHRISTMAS TRAVELOGUE

Jingle Bells Calypso (USA)	Leo Tellep Based on the song by James Pierpont
Iesous Ahatonnia' (Canada)	Traditional New text by Andrée Levesque Sioui Arranged by Sarah Quartel
La Virgen Lava Pañales (Mexico)	Traditional Arranged by Colin Matthews Lorenz Edward Sarrondo, tenor
He Kirihimete Karakara Kiwi (New Zealand)	Siu Williams-Lemi & Leah Williams-Partington Joan Ballester, ukulele
Betelehemu (Nigeria)	Via Olatunji & Wendell Whalum Arranged by Barrington Brooks Ariel Fernando, vocalist Jim Lopez, percussion
O Christmas Tree (Germany) Angels We Have Heard on High (France)	Traditional Arranged by Adam Podd & Matt Podd Musica Kids
Ya Viene la Vieja (Spain)	Traditional Arranged by Alice Parker & Robert Shaw
Carol of the Bells (Ukraine)	Mykola Leontovich Arranged by Peter Wilhousky
We Wish You a Merry Christmas (England)	Traditional Arranged by John Rutter
Joy to the World (England)	Isaac Watts, George Frideric Handel & Lowell Mason Arranged by Dan Forrest

DIWA NG PASKO

Kampana ng Simbahan	Serapio Ramos & Juan Silos Jr. Arranged by Ryan Cayabyab
Christmas in Our Hearts	Jose Mari Chan Arranged by Jimuel Dave Dagta
Munting Sanggol	Ryan Cayabyab

HOLIDAYS IN AMERICA

**It's Beginning to Look Like
Christmas**

Meredith Willson
Arranged by Mark Hayes

All I Want for Christmas Is You

Mariah Carey & Walter Afanasieff
Arranged by Mac Huff
Jesse Alcasabas, vocalist

**It's the Most Wonderful Time of
the Year**

Eddie Pola & George Wyle
Arranged by Chris Hansen
Ariel Fernando, Jesse Alcasabas,
Jim Lopez, Jean Lopez,
Lorenz Edward Sarrondo, Dante Aviso &
Ricardo L. Manalang, vocalists

PASKO NG PAG-IBIG AT PAG-ASA

Pasko Na Sinta Ko

Aurelio Estanislao & Francis Dandan

Paskong Anong Saya

Levi Celerio & Leopoldo Silos
Arranged by Anna Abeleda-Piquero

Ang Pasko ay Sumapit

Levi Celerio, Vicente Rubi & Mariano Vestil
Arranged by Jimuel Dave Dagta



Scan the QR code to view the
Paskuhan lyrics and translations



Sing Winnipeg Sing 2024



Manitoba Filipino Street Festival (Josel Media Photography)



Philippine Heritage Month Kick-off at the Legislative Building





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LIEZL BUENSUCESO

Administrative
Assistant



LEIZL CASTILLO

Accounting
Assistant

Berna Financial Services Inc. would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Musica Singers of Manitoba Inc. on another outstanding season of musical excellence and community impact!

Your unwavering dedication to preserving and promoting Filipino art and culture is truly inspiring. Through your exceptional performances, you not only highlight the incredible talents within the local community but also foster a shared sense of pride and appreciation for our cultural roots.

A special thank you to the passionate volunteers whose selfless contributions keep this mission alive. Your efforts enhance the cultural fabric of our community and leave a meaningful legacy for future generations.

May you continue to inspire, uplift, and unite through the universal language of music. Here's to many more seasons of success and artistic brilliance!

With admiration and best wishes,
Berna Financial Services Inc.



MUSICA SINGERS AND ARTISTS

MUSICA SINGERS OF MANITOBA is a non-profit organization and leading community-based vocal ensemble with a vision to promote and preserve Philippine art and culture in Canada. Our mission is to present outstanding performances that showcase Filipino Canadians in Manitoba. As volunteers, we share the same passion for music and strive to work hard to achieve this goal.



JAY AGUILAR, Bass (Apprentice)

Jay is a newcomer to Canada, landing on April 10, 2024. He sang Bass at SABM Chorale at Saint Louis University, Baguio City in his college years. Jay also sang Bass at Coro D'llera (formerly known as Maryknoll Sanctuary Choir) in Baguio City. At present, he is a member of Saint Edward's Tagalog Mass Choir in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



JESSE ALCASABAS, Soprano

Jesse is the Executive Director for the Musica Singers MB Inc. an International Medical Graduate - (Doctor of Medicine) coming from musically inclined family. Her love of for Music and Arts thrive to this day. She wears many hats as Mrs. A to her husband, Nanay to her 4 kids, Lady boss, healthcare provider, and now a musical entertainer.



IRA ALEJO, Alto

Ira is an internationally educated Architect from the Philippines, graduated from the University of Santo Tomas. She's currently working for a multinational engineering and design firm. She started to be in a choir in their Parish in the Philippines. Currently, she's an active member of two St. Peter's Parish Winnipeg choirs: the 5pm Mass Choir and the Petrus Chorus.



AMPY ARCOS, Soprano (Apprentice)

Ampy was a bass player and vocalist in a band, a choir member, and a theatre actress from elementary until high School. She received a cultural scholarship as President of the Lyceum Institute of Technology Choral. While working in Singapore, she was a member of the San Lorenzo Ruiz Parish choir. Ampy is an Engineer working towards licensure in Manitoba while working as a Project Coordinator at Lakeside Process Controls. Outside of work and school, she is a wife to Carlos and a mother to Sky and Amiel.



CARLOS ARCOS, Tenor (Apprentice)

Carlos played clarinet with the Don Bosco Brass Band and sang tenor at the Don Bosco Seminary choir. He was a member of the San Lorenzo Ruiz Church Choir in Singapore for 4 years. He auditioned for Musica after watching their Valentine's concert. He is an Educator and an IT Professional. Currently, he works as a Senior Delivery Specialist with Rogers Communications and is a licensed Independent Insurance Broker with Hub Financial. He is the father of two children who also love to sing.





MILYN ARMENIO, Soprano

Milyn has loved singing since childhood, joining a church choir in high school. Her passion for music grew and she decided to take part in Musica on Oct 2023. She's part of The Worship Ministry for the Winnipeg Church of Christ and works at Costco. Besides singing, she likes to dance as well as spend time with her husband Eduard and kids Cole and Coco (dog).



DANTE AVISO, Bass

Dante is currently a School Trustee for the Winnipeg School Division. He is passionate in promoting Philippine Arts and Culture in the community, organizing fundraising events and mentoring youth and students in the pursuit of their interests. He is the Founder and currently Marketing and Community Relations Director of Musica Singers of Manitoba, Commissionaire for Oaths in the Province of Manitoba and a licensed realtor for Century 21 Bachman & Associates.



RENIEL BONIFACIO, Tenor

Ren has explored both Tenor and Bass in his two years with Musica. As a regular member, he has performed with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Manitoba Chorale Association, Jose Mari Chan's Winnipeg Concert at Petrus Hall, Asian Heritage Month at the Forks, and at the Manitoba Legislative for Filipino Heritage Month.



ELIZABETH DE LEON, Alto

Elizabeth "Zabeth" De Leon's first love was singing. She started singing with her sisters at 10 years of age in their parish choir. She graduated from the University of Santo Tomas with Bachelor's Degree of Science Major in Economics. She was also a member of RCBC Chorale in the Philippines until her career got too busy. Early this year, she decided to serve again and joined the 10:30AM choir of St. Peter's Parish.



JEAN LOPEZ, Alto

Jean is a wife and mother of 3. She can be seen performing at various events and is a dedicated member of the church. She considers her husband to be her great influence in music. She is an active member of the Musica Singers of Manitoba.



JOAN BALLESTER, Soprano (Trainee)

Joan is a new member of the Musica Singers, and this December marks her first major concert with the choir. Joan's passion for music drives her active participation in the choir's performances. In her university years, she was part of the PHILSCA Chorale, where she honed her love for choral music. Joan is excited to be part of this special concert and looks forward to sharing the joy of music with audiences. She also designed the choir's website, further contributing to its growth and online presence.





JIM LOPEZ, Bass

Jim Lopez was invited to join Musica through friends. As a part of Musica, Jim hopes help preserve and promote Filipino culture, values and heritage through music. He is a machinist by trade. Jim is the accompanist for One Voice Chorale that serves at The Immaculate Conception Parish and is also a member of local Winnipeg band: On The Que.



RICARDO MANALANG, Bass

Ricardo (Bong) Manalang first performed with Musica Singers at the Winnipeg Jets' first Filipino Heritage Night in 2022. Bong sang lead in TJ & Company, a Standards and Jazz Band in Winnipeg. A music career highlight was being invited to perform at Victoria General Hospital's 100th Anniversary. His Operating Room co-workers were caught by surprise when they saw him singing on stage. Bong has performed at various events and festivals in Winnipeg. He thanks his family and friends for their continued support.



MA. ASHLEY MEDINA-BONIFACIO, Alto

Ashley joined Musica Singers as Executive Secretary to support her husband, Ren. As a passionate photographer, she took photos and videos during rehearsals and events for Musica's marketing and social media. In August 2023, with her church choir experience and the encouragement of the team, she now sings Alto as a member of Musica. Ashley finished her Canadian schooling in Tourism and Travel Operations at Seneca College, Toronto.



JOHN ZEDRICK REYES, Bass

As a newcomer to Canada, Zedrick is thrilled to be a part of Musica. His love of music began when he joined the Ramon Magsaysay High School Chorale, Manila. In 2010 he won Best Male Choir Member of the Year. John is part of the Praise & Worship team at his local church and wants to use his God given talent and passion for music to lead people to God through worship.



LORENZ EDWARD SARRONDO, Tenor

Lorenz's musical career began with acclaimed University of the Philippines Manila Chorale (UPMC) in 2010, winning accolades in prestigious choral competitions, both locally and internationally. Before moving to Winnipeg in 2022, he joined Miss Saigon (Guam), serving as vocal coach to the ensemble. He earned his Associate in Arts (Music Major in Voice) from UP Diliman and is completing his Bachelor of Music (Major in Voice) at the University of Manitoba Desautels Faculty of Music under renowned soprano, Tracy Dahl.



ROWENA STA. ANA, Alto

Rowena joined Musica in 2022. She has a Bachelor of Education, and studied Master of Educational Management. She is a wife and mom to her unica hija. Singing led her to join a few parochial, corporate and university choirs in Pampanga, Greenbelt Makati, Globe telecom, and St. Gianna. She affirms that singing equates to praying twice and is a potent healer of the heart.





CATHERINE TOMO, Soprano

Catherine “Kate” Tomo graduated in Broadcast Communication and Nursing. Kate has enjoyed music since she was very young, joining singing contests in her Province. In her college days, she took part in PUP Bagong Himig, CoC Ensemble, and was a trainee of Novo Concertante Manila. Kate took a break from singing due to her responsibilities as a working student, but joining Musica made her realize the time was right to dedicate herself to her love of singing.



STORME ZAPATA, Soprano

Storme is new to Musica, committed and willing to learn! She plays a bit of piano and guitar and likes to draw in her free time.



OSCAR PANTALEON JR., Music Director

Oscar is chairperson of UPAA-MB and board member of Polycoro. He worked with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra before moving to International Development work. Oscar studied Engineering and Music at University of the Philippines, toured the world with the Philippine Madrigal Singers, and managed special projects for Ryan Cayabyab. Oscar finished Arts and Cultural Management at the University of Winnipeg.



ARIEL FERNANDO, Tenor

Before coming to Canada in 2014, Ariel taught High School English in Malabon City and worked in the Music Production Department of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. He pursued his passion for singing and joined the St. Mary’s Cathedral Music Ministry in Winnipeg in 2015. He also represented Manitoba in the Karaoke World Championships – National Finals in Calgary, Alberta in 2017. Ariel currently teaches at Collège Miles Macdonell Collegiate and is actively involved in school, community, and non-profit organization events.



LUIS MIGUEL MANGUERRA, Bass (Trainee)

Luis graduated high school in 2024. Luis was driven by his interests in arts and music and heavily involved in programs that would enrich his craft. While looking for ways to continue pursuing music he joined Musica Singers by chance and is hoping to continue building himself as a singer.



PATRICK ARNUCO, Tenor (Trainee)

Patrick Arnuco is our youngest member of Musica Singers of Manitoba. He was born and raised in Winnipeg, Canada. He takes pride in singing Filipino music, including Original Pilipino Music (OPM), R&B, and Kundiman, sharing his talents with eloquence and passion. Patrick is an active member of Wind Ensemble, Maple Sugar, Chamber Choir, Senior Choir, Symphonic Band, and takes part in Maples Collegiate’s theatrical programs.





KEITOPHER CHACON, Tenor (Trainee)

With 23 years of culinary expertise in 5-star hotels and casinos across the Philippines and Singapore, Keitopher's passion for creating unforgettable gastronomical experiences is unparalleled. Mentored by celebrity Chef William Anthony King in the Philippines, he honed his craft before migrating to Canada in 2010. But what's less known is his lifelong love affair with music, ignited at a young age. Now, he's pursuing his dream of mastering the art of choral singing. As a devoted husband, father of three, and social media creator, Keitopher embodies the spirit of creativity, perseverance, and community. Follow his journey as he harmonizes flavors and melodies!



JACQUELINE UNLAYAO, Alto (Trainee)

Jacque joined Musica August of 2024. She is a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering in the Philippines. Her love of music flourished after joining Singles for Christ music ministry in 2003. Now even as a wife and mom of 3, she continues to pursue her passion of singing as a personal prayer and service to glorify God.



EMMANUEL DIMATULAC, Bass (On Leave)

Emmanuel, aka Blyke, graduated BS Accountancy and earned his Masters Degree in Management at the University of the Philippines. He has been a member of a choir since elementary school. Aside from singing, he is very passionate about cooking, travelling, and spending quality time with his wife, Katrina also a Musica singer, and 3 kids, Benedict, Kenzo and Kandace.



KATRINA IBE-DIMATULAC, Soprano (On Leave)

Katrina is a coloratura soprano who had gained most of her training from her Church choir at the Cathedral of San Fernando. On a professional note, Katrina is in the Finance field, and is currently earning work experience towards her CPA designation. She is also the Treasurer of the University of the Philippines Alumni and Associates in Manitoba (UPAA-MB). She loves spending time and singing with her husband, Emmanuel, and three kids.



VINA DIMAYUGA, Soprano (On Leave)

Vina Dimayuga is a voice major at the Canadian Mennonite University, working towards a Bachelor of Music Therapy Degree. She has taken voice lessons since the age of six, learning a variety of genres. Vina is active within Winnipeg's Filipino music community and has participated in international music competitions and festivals in Vancouver, Hollywood, and Chile. As Vina completes her degree, she continues to share and use music to help heal and inspire others, while creating a more inclusive space for IBPOC musicians within the field.



YMMA NUELLE CONCEPCION, Soprano (On Leave)

Ymma joined Musica in 2019. At an early age, she started singing in amateur singing contests in the Philippines. Her love of music is evident by her involvement in numerous community events and concerts in the city. She is a recent graduate of Payroll Administration and currently works in an office environment. Ymma is thrilled to join Musica in concert for another season.





ELMER AQUINO, Tenor (On Leave)

Elmer is a Civil Engineer who worked in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for 30 years. In Canada, he has taken a second career as an Accountant. Elmer is a well-known figure in the Filipino community. He hosts events, is a sought after singer, actor, and Voice and Stage Performance Coach/ Trainer. He is also an Instructor of Personality Development, Team Building, and Emceeing/Hosting. Elmer does voice impressions of famous singers and brings joy to the elderly residents every time he performs at long term care facilities.



ANICA WARKENTINE, piano

Anica is a pianist from Winnipeg, who enjoys making music with others. As a soloist, she has appeared with the WSO, U of M Symphony Orchestra and U of M Wind Ensemble. As a chamber musician, she has appeared with Virtuosi concerts and in the ReSound series. Anica is a passionate piano teacher and has served as an adjudicator for the Winnipeg Music Festival. She holds a Post-Baccalaureate in Collaborative Piano and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of MB.



HANNAH CACHERO, flute & piano

Hannah is a first year student at the Université de Saint Boniface taking Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Born and raised in Winnipeg, she grew up sharing her musicality with her communities at school and church. She is the pianist, organist, and Music Director at Broadway Disciples United Church, as well as an active multi-instrumentalist member of her school's music program, playing flute, bass, and guitar.



LORENZO CAMUS, violin & piano

Lorenzo Camus is a Grade 8 student at École Leila North where he plays the euphonium and the trombone for the cantina and the jazz bands, respectively. He started violin lessons when he was four and piano lessons when he was ten. He has played violin as a member of the Winnipeg Youth Orchestras since 2019. His first solo piano recital will be happening this month. His teachers are Jeffrey Solares for violin and Gretchen Arnaldo for piano, who are both based in the Philippines.



PAOLO CAMUS, violin

Paulo is currently a student at the University of Manitoba, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music Performance Degree. He has played the violin for 16 years and often volunteers to play at churches and local events. Paolo is enjoying his time as a Musica instrumentalist and looks forward to the group's future: giving light to Filipino Folk/Classical music in Winnipeg.







Photo by Hapi Media

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MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR**

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-Dante Aviso, Realtor



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CONGRATULATIONS

Musica Singers of Manitoba

24/25 On Wings of Songs Concert

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MUSICA SINGERS AT MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION **GATHER** EVENT



Photo by April Carandang


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Sing Out Loud at the Millennium Library



Philippine Independence Day Ball at Victoria Inn

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THANK YOU!!! MUSICA SINGERS SUPPORTERS



St. Ann Church

St. Ann Church
is a church of the
Archdiocese
of Winnipeg



Contact

271 Hampton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3J 1P5
Pastor: Reverend David Kowalski
Tel: (204)-888-1935
Email: officeofstannschurch@gmail.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
CONGRATULATIONS
Musica Singers!

THE MANALANG FAMILY



UPCOMING EVENTS



DEC 8, 2 PM

*A Prairie Christmas Celebration
(Centennial Concert Hall)*

DEC 9, 7:30 PM

*Building Dreams with Christmas Carols
(St. Edward the Confessor Parish)*

DEC 15, 3:30 PM

*Noël, c'est l'amour
(Saint Boniface Cathedral)*

DEC 23, 6 PM

Simbang Gabi (St. Ann Church)

FEB 8, 7 PM

*TANGHALAN: Gems from the
Stage and the Screen
(Venue TBA)*

JUN 21, 7PM

*AWITAN: Melodies from Luzon,
Visayas and Mindanao
(Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre)*



***Stay tuned! Follow us to stay in the loop about our
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