

**KORORA
CHOIRS
PRESENTS**



Collective Singers

**INTERNATIONALLY-RENOWNED
CHOIR FROM NAMIBIA, AFRICA**



KORORA

Korora & Òran

The Sun Never Says

Dan Forrest

Todomu Turnbull, cello

Phoebe McNeill, dancer

Between the Notes

Jennifer McMillan & John McMillan**

This Woman's Work

*Kate Bush, arr. Jennifer McMillan**

Emily Pasiuk, solo

Collective Singers

/Ui !naxasib

Ponti Dikuaa

Khoekhoegowab (Namibia)

We are strong when we stand together

Roep my

Ponti Dikuaa

Afrikaans (Namibia)

In a world so beautiful, but dark and cold
don't forget me - call me.

Nkosi Sikelela iAfrika

Students of Zimbabwe and South Africa

(Arranged by Andre van der Merwe)

Xhosa (South Africa)

God bless Africa

Hosiana

Ponti Dikuaa

Oshiwambo (Namibia)

All the praise, glory and honour belong to
Him.

Collective Singers & Korora

Zuva Guru

Shona Traditional Song

INTERMISSION

Korus

Dies Irae

Ryan Main

Òran

Echo

Rob Dietz

Water Night

Eric Whitacre

Indlu yeGagu

Sipho Sithole, arr. Sizwe Mondlane

Jess Cote & Caitlin Grant, solos

Collective Singers

//Goa sores

Marcellinus Swartbooi

Khoekhoegowab (Namibia)

The morning sun

Muhona

Ponti Dikuaa

Otjiherero (Namibia)

I am not alone, He is with me

Inginibe

Cedrick /Howaseb

Khoekhoegowab (Namibia)

Beautiful

Tanga

Zikii Hangero

Otjiherero (Namibia)

My lips will praise you forever and ever

Imbambe

Ponti Dikuaa

Otjiherero (Namibia)

He is in control and will fight our battles

Collective Medley

Marcellinus Swartbooï

1. O Namibia komaandero

Otjiherero

It's Namibia after all

2. Dama !hū

Khoekhoegowab

Dance of the ancestors

3. Jari onawa

Otjiherero

It was great meeting you today

4. Aoitse lefelo

SeTswana

Come a little over to Namibia

Mass Choir

All Too Soon

*Stephen Hatfield**

Linda Purnell, piano; Cooper Walsh, bass;

Rosie Macdonald, fiddle; Adam Rice,

tin whistle; Tyson Kerr, bodhran;

Michael Lowings, mandolin

Power of One

Hans Zimmer

Southern African Song Medley

Tyson Kerr, Bryan LeGrow, & Kitbielle Pasagui,
percussion

Ke Ne La Modisa

seSotho Traditional

Sokhana Mfenyana & Janelle Jorde, solos

Emlanjeni

isiZulu, arr. Jimmy Mulovhedzi

Dante Bachetto, solo

/Gelele Mama

Nama/Damara Traditional

Mambo Jesu

seSotho Traditional, arr. JUBA

Shumayela

isiXhosa Traditional

Hlonolofatsa

seSotho Traditional, arr. UPHYC

* denotes Canadian composer/arranger

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— COLLECTIVE SINGERS —

Collective Singers is a renowned Namibian choir known for their exceptional vocal artistry, versatility, and captivating performances. Comprising highly skilled singers from different backgrounds, the choir has gained a local, regional and international reputation for their impeccable musicianship, precision, and powerful interpretations of a wide range of choral repertoire.

This dynamic group of diverse and talented young singers was founded in November 2014 by **Ponti Dikuua**. The singers hail from various well-known Namibian choirs. Collective performs various genres of music, including gospel, contemporary, classical and Namibian traditional music. The choir started as a small group of nine dedicated singers with a passion for choral music, and through their commitment and talent, they quickly gained recognition in their local community. Over the years, the choir expanded its membership to 100 members and embarked on numerous successful tours and performances in prestigious venues and events.

The choir believes in our local Namibian composers and support them by making their music an integral part of our song selections. The members of the group are both talented and experienced.

Collective Singers is committed to sharing its passion for choral music beyond its immediate community. In pursuit of this goal, the choir has embarked on several national and international tours, including: South Africa (2017), Germany (2018), local tours in Namibia (2018–2019, 2025) and Portugal (2022). In 2022, Collective Singers had the distinguished honour of being the sole choir from Africa invited to participate in the prestigious World Choral Expo, following a nomination by Scott Leithead. Representing both Namibia and the African continent, the choir delivered a compelling presence through multiple performances and educational engagements.

The choir has been invited by the prestigious Korora Choir Association to tour Canada, including a special guest performance at the renowned Edmonton Cantando Music Festival in April 2026. This international exposure once again offers a unique opportunity to showcase Namibian talent on a global stage.



Scan or tap here to see more tour dates for Collective Singers in Canada!





Ponti Dikua started singing at the very young age of 5 years. His exquisite singing talent was discovered and further developed in the Mascato Youth Choir hailing from the coast of Namibia. Ponti sang in Mascato Youth Choir and in Maranatha Singers in Namibia for close to 15 years. Not only has performed as soloist in these choirs, but he has also composed songs that these choirs have performed in Namibia and abroad.

In 2008 he was invited to perform as guest artist with the world-renowned Korora Choir in Canada. In 2010, he was invited to present a classical and Namibian traditional programme for the Namibian embassy in Berlin, Germany. From 2007 – 2013 Ponti was a member of the marimba group Ongoma and in 2009 he toured to Germany as a marimba player in the musical Friends for Eva. He enrolled at the College for the Arts in 2007, where he received vocal training. Ponti performed as vocal soloist with the Namibian National Symphony Orchestra from 2008 – 2011. He obtained his First Concert Certificate in 2009 and his Advanced Certificate in Music in 2010, both with distinctions.

In 2014 Ponti founded Collective Singers, who he is leading to date. Under Ponti's leadership Collective has toured in Namibia, South Africa, Germany and Portugal, where Collective Singers was the only African participating choir. Ponti produces all the tracks for Collective Singers in addition to recording, mixing and mastering all their recorded tracks in his studio.

In addition to his unique vocal talents, he is also a gifted producer. Since 2010 he has produced his own songs, as well as for many local artists. Ponti has also produced and recorded a number of corporate songs. Since 2017 Ponti has produced the soundtracks of a number of formidable Namibian movies.

Soprano

Marieth van Wyk
Miriam Dikuua
Alison Mbayo
Martha Amadhila
Jacqueline //Gowases
Nadine Snyderwel
Jinny Taeyele
Anneline Gases

Alto

Alison Francis
Florentia Muheua
Zikii Hangero
Beulah Gaoses
Leticia Kanyemba
Sylvi Heitha
Francis Goses
Jennifer Nambele
Celine Ndongo
Uendjii Kaura

Chaperones

Daniel #Kari#hab
Jo-Anne Namases

Tenor

Tove Kangotue
Philip Kareyi
Eufemia Shikesho
Tuhafeni Michael
Erasmus Awaseb
Paulus Hanghome
Roberts Katangolo
Linus Uwukhaeb*
Romario Uirab

Bass

Melvin April
Fillipus Kapusha
Cemil Chipeio
Joel Aupa
Manuel Sasindere
Kasora Kandjii
Sebastian Namaseb
Jackson Martin

**drummer*

Todomu Turnbull is a 17 year old Canadian cello student. He began playing the cello at the age of 5 through the Suzuki Charter School like many other young musicians in Edmonton. Through his years of studying he has worked under multiple teachers, however he currently practices under David Bordeleau of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. He plans to continue his studies with Jan-Ype Nota and Michel Strauss after his graduation from Victoria School of the Arts. He is also a member of the Edmonton Senior Youth Orchestra and enjoys playing in a piano quintet with the Edmonton Chamber Academy.

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Scott Leithead, Artistic Director

*Conductor, Korora & Korus
Conductor Emeritus, Òran*

Korora's artistic director, Scott Leithead is the founder and Artistic Director of the Korora Choir Association.



Kathleen Luyk, Executive Director

Conductor, Òran & Vacilando

Korora Choir Association's executive director Kathleen (Katy) Luyk manages many of the administrative workings of the organization as well as conducting Òran and Vacilando.



Susan Farrell

*Conductor, Tamariki Wednesday
Associate Conductor, Òran*

Nova Scotia native Susan Farrell (B.Mus. Mount Allison University, M.Mus. University of Alberta Choral Conducting) has been making waves in Alberta for the last several years as a rising choral conductor.



Kitbielle Pasagui

*Conductor, Shumayela
Associate Conductor, Korora*

Kitbielle Pasagui's unforgettable soprano voice and amazing wealth of choral experience make her a wonderful young associate conductor with Korora, and is the newly-appointed conductor for Shumayela.



Daniel Browne

Assistant Conductor, Korora

Assistant Conductor, Shumayela

Daniel Browne has recently completed his Master of Music in Choral Conducting at the University of Alberta and is now working as a music specialist in Edmonton Public Schools.

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Tyson Kerr

Accompanist, Òran

Tyson Kerr is a stylistically diverse composer, arranger, pianist, organist, singer, and accordionist.



Bryan LeGrow

Accompanist, Korora

Bryan LeGrow is an Edmonton based composer, pianist and vocalist.



Founded in 1996, Korora celebrates its thirtieth season in 2025–2026. The flagship ensemble of Korora Choirs, Korora has received first and second place on Canadian national festival stages. The choir also placed first in their division in the CBC/Choral Canada Competition for Amateur Canadian Choirs in 2015. Korora has received several awards for its work with youth, music education, and its African Projects Fund. While Korora takes pride in these accomplishments, the choir's focus remains centred on creating a learning experience for young singers while providing audiences with exciting and innovative musical performances.

Korora has been a featured ensemble at many events both nationally and internationally. These include the Rocky Mountain National Music Festival, Podium (the biennial conference of Choral Canada), the Canadian Music Educators National Conference, the regional conference of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), the International Society of Music Educators (ISME) conference, and others. In addition to performances in many North American cities, the choir has toured Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Malaysia, Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini, and Zambia.

Korora is thrilled to have been invited as a featured ensemble at the IFCM World Choral Expo in Lisbon, Portugal in July 2019. In July 2026, Korora will travel to Italy and Switzerland to sing in the Lake Garda festival.

Soprano 1

Jessica French
Annie Hoekman
Kyla Kuhnert*
Annika Schoenhardt
Naomi Wall*

Soprano 2

Abi Bryson
Peyton Cooke
Georgia Durance
Ceilidh Gruman
Ryleigh Gruman
Emilia Guerrero Uribe
Linnea Kanee
Davie Kozak
Alena Malykhina
Phoebe McNeill
Natalie Secret
Brianna Strickland*
Charlotte Tse
Elly Vos
Sarah Yorke

Alto 1

Amaya Figueroa
Madeleine Hough
Vala Ingolfsson*
Ellen Michel
Jaque Morgan
Robin Morgan
Emma Nikolai-Wilson
Freya Pollard
Abigail Rivero
Simonne Strenzke

Alto 2

Nyla Ahmadzai
Matilda Barron
Hazel Dickson
Maddy Douglas*
Sadie Englot
Quynn Ford
Amber Lu
Taylor Plican
Aleeza Suce
Abrielle Richardson

Tenor 1

Daniel Browne
Georgia Englot
Leili Garside
Jordon Ho
Amelio Skinner*

Tenor 2

Oren Hofer*
Taylor McDonough
Alastair Mitchell
Augustus Williams

Baritone

Quaid Blom
Dante Bacchetto*
Deaglan Cumberland
Seth Graham
Ari Mitchell
Callum Mitchell*
Joshua Pagel
Simon Ross
Declan Wall

Bass

Daylen Anderson
Alan Han
Alex Pun*
Nathan Schutz

* section leaders



Centering authenticity and expressiveness in performance, Òran is the busiest adult choir in the Korora Choirs family. Along with many Korora alumni, the group has singers from many other walks of life, but all share a passion for choral music and singing. Òran has garnered a growing reputation for excellence in choral singing as well as innovative and eclectic programming.

Òran has toured extensively over its twenty-three seasons, with destinations including the Northwest Territories, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Cuba, Germany, France, and the Czech Republic. The choir has also been honoured by two invitations to sing at Podium, Canada's biennial national conference for choral music. Closer to home, Òran is thrilled to share the stage with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra a few times every season. This season, they'll travel west to Nelson in early June 2026, with a major international tour planned for July 2027.

Soprano 1

Jess Cote
Lisa Dolinsky
Breanne Kuffner
Rachel Majorowicz
Katrina Tarnawsky
Keshiya Wickrama
Amanda Wong

Soprano 2

Michelle Arai-Morassutti
Jessica Bulger
Victoria Choi
Kelsey Dueck
Rebecca Fisher
Caitlin Grant
Alexis Hillyard
Jessica Journault
Jessie Macdonald
Naomi Onishi-Wong
Kitbielle Pasagui
Nicole Schutz
Caspian Shaw
Riana Torrejon
Leah Vanderzyde
Winnie Wakulchyk
Jessica Wu

Alto 1

Lyndsay Baker
Margaret Barker
Chelsea Casault
Trinity Collie
Susan Farrell
Amine Hernandez
Carl Paolo Hernandez
Janelle Jorde
Claire Meeker
Emily Pasiuk
Evelyn Rollans
Robin Sutherland
Camille Underwood
Jordan Ware
Chelsea Wren

Alto 2

Dorina Brown
Lisa Brownie
Jeanie Casault
Stephanie Geary
Lisel Gitzel
Emilia Grindlay
Naomi Jichita
Rachel Jones
Stephanie London
Tammy Majeau
Chris McManus
Shannon Netterfield
Chrys Olsen
Katherine Palmer
Nadia Semenoff

Tenor 1

Drew Dewalt
Dena Epp
Jenica Hagan
James Krzoska
Michael Lowings

Tenor 2

Christopher Friesen
Tyson Kerr
David Lacy
James Schutz
Gregory Smith

Baritone

Max Barrs
Leo Li
Sean Luyk
Havier Meÿer
Winston Pei
Parker Shook

Bass

Scott Charlton
Erik Dolinsky
Jeremy Dolinsky
Sidney M'sahel
Cory Roberts
Bevan Sauks



Korus is a brand-new ensemble for singers aged 15 to 24 in the Korora Choirs family, under the direction of Artistic Director Scott Leithead.

Focused on reducing barriers to singing for youth, Korus provides a fun, exciting, and growth-focused rehearsal and performance experience. The group rehearses once weekly, learning and performing diverse and engaging repertoire. Korus shares the same values, energy, and goals as all our choirs, embracing the limitless potential of every singer.

To ensure maximum accessibility, fees are lower for this ensemble; however, bursaries are also available.

Soprano

Bella Batty-Sukerta
Marley Bergey
Jocelyn Calder
Caitlyn Calder
Kyla Kuhnert
Jenelle Libo-on
Brianna Strickland †
Naomi Wall
Abbey Whittaker
Marissa Wilde

Alto

Nyla Ahmadzai
Aparna Balachandra
Alena Borschneck
Maddy Douglas*
Nya Dhiman
Leili Garside
Jessica Sekora
Isabela Velasco
Carina Wilde

Tenor

Oren Hofer*
Taylor McDonough
Isaac Schoenhardt
Amelio Skinner
Jamal Zahr

Bass

Arden Anderson
Devin Atkins
Dante Bacchetto*
Max Cryer
Jie Fan
Alan Han
Joseph Laroque
Samuel Mackenzie
Jacob McDonough
JJ Mrazek

** section leader*

† assistant conductor

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Madeline Ross and Morgan Pollock

Kikimasu Choir Assistants

Chantelle Behrens, Jo Tong

Lead Parents, Tamariki

Naomi Wall

Tamariki Choir Assistant

We acknowledge that all our choirs gather to sing and perform on Treaty Six territory, which is the traditional and ancestral meeting ground of many Indigenous peoples including the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Nakota Sioux, and Saulteaux. We acknowledge this land is also home to the Métis Settlements and the Métis Nation of Alberta.

Korora develops and builds equitable spaces. [Read our statement of equity.](#)

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The Korora Choir Association is a registered non-profit community-based organization that is dependent on charitable donations for its continued success.

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