



Vancouver Chamber Choir

Kari Turunen, Artistic Director

46th Annual Conductors' Symposium

February 8-13, 2026
Vancouver, BC



About the Vancouver Chamber Choir

The Vancouver Chamber Choir, Canada's longest-running professional choir, is devoted to excellence in performance, and to mentoring and encouraging new talent. The choir is a leader in its educational initiatives and community outreach programs. These activities provide a critical link with today's youth, foster a better appreciation of choral music, and contribute to the growth of choral music in Canada.

One of the hallmarks of this not-for-profit society is the breadth of outreach and educational programs offered throughout each season. The choir also trains singers, conductors, and composers across Canada in its ongoing efforts to engage with the community, preserve the choral traditions of the past, and to encourage growth and innovation in the choral arts.

About the Symposium

The Conductors' Symposium is an opportunity to take part in masterclasses with one of Canada's premier professional choral ensembles. Under the guidance of Artistic Director Kari Turunen, five conductors from across Canada, the United States, and around the world will have ample podium time to hone their skills in a highly collaborative and collegial setting.

Kari will oversee the rehearsals, providing insight on choral techniques, conducting gestures and score interpretation. This year, the repertoire is comprised of contemporary gems from Canada and the United States. After an intensive week of rehearsals, participants will each conduct a portion of the Neighbo(u)rs concert on **Friday, February 13, 2026**. Additionally, this year's Symposium will introduce Arts Admin 101, a round-table discussion with the Vancouver Chamber Choir's admin team about the extra-musical work that goes into running an arts organization and producing live events and outreach activities.

We gratefully acknowledge the following supporters:



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Schedule

Sunday, February 8 @ Hodson Manor (1254 West 7th Ave.)

6-9pm Orientation Session with Kari

Monday, February 9 @ Hodson Manor

10am-12pm Rehearsal

2-4pm Rehearsal

Tuesday, February 10 @ Hodson Manor

10am-12pm Rehearsal

2-4pm Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 11 @ Hodson Manor

10am-12pm Rehearsal

2-4pm Rehearsal

5-6pm Arts Admin 101 (Q&A with Vancouver Chamber Choir admin team)

Thursday, February 12 @ Hodson Manor

10am-12pm Rehearsal

2-4pm Rehearsal

Friday, February 13 @ Pacific Spirit United Church (2195 West 45th Ave.)

10am-12:30pm Dress Rehearsal

7:30pm Concert

Repertoire

This year's repertoire includes: Jake Runestad (*Alleluia*), Laura Hawley (*Sapiens*), Eric Whitacre (*A Boy and a Girl*), Stuart Beatch (*A Boy and a Boy*), Amy Beach (*Help us, O God*), Healey Willan (*Behold, the Tabernacle of God*), Dolores White (*Three Madrigals*), Nathaniel Dett (*Ave Maria*), Daniel Elder (*The Heart's Reflection*), Andrew Balfour (*Trapped in stone*), Dan Forrest (*Entreat me not to leave you*).

What People Are Saying

"An amazing opportunity to work with a professional choir and learn from top-tier instructors in a very supportive environment."

"It felt like family straight away. It didn't feel like a course as such. The other participants, the choir members, and everyone in charge felt so welcoming right from the beginning."

How to Apply

Complete the form below and return it to education@vancouverchamberchoir.com, or visit www.vancouverchamberchoir.com/symposium to complete the online application.

Full Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Province/State: _____

Country: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

I am applying to participate as a: ☐ Conductor ☐ Auditor

Applicants must include the following supporting materials:

- A cover letter containing a short statement of their conducting goals
- An up-to-date *curriculum vitae*
- 1-2 questions about arts admin to be discussed in the Arts Admin 101 session
- Links to one or two videos (if possible, one rehearsal and one performance).

There is no application fee.

If selected, registration fees are:

- **Conductor \$750 CAD**
- **Observer \$400 CAD**

Participants are responsible for their own travel, meals, and accommodation.

For more information, please email education@vancouverchamberchoir.com or phone the office at (604) 738-6822.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Monday, December 8, 2025 at 9:00am (PST)

Vancouver Chamber Choir
1254 West 7th Avenue Vancouver, BC V6H 1B6
vancouverchamberchoir.com
(604) 738-6822