

Northern Virginia Community College
Alexandria Campus Music Department



**Holiday
Concert**

featuring the World Premiere of

Dare to Hope

an Overture by Christopher Marshall

in honor of the retirement of Dr. Robert Petrella

The Alexandria Band

Dr. Wendy Matthews, Director

Dr. Robert Petrella, Founding Director

and

NOVA Community Chorus

Dr. Mark Whitmire, Director

Christine Hagan, Accompanist

Friday, December 5, 2008 8:00 pm
Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center

Northern Virginia Community College
Alexandria Music Department

Holiday Concert

December 5, 2008

In the bleak mid-winter

Gustav Holst
arr. Robert W. Smith

ALEXANDRIA BAND
Dr. Wendy Matthews, conductor

In the bleak mid-winter

Gustav Holst

Christmas Cantata (Sinfonia Sacra)

Daniel Pinkham

Quem vidistis pastores

Whom do you see? Shepherds, tell us!

Proclaim to us: who has appeared on the earth?

We say the newborn child and choirs on angels praising the Lord.

O magnum mysterium

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament

That animals should see the new born Lord lying in their manger.

Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those of good will.

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;

Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

*Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us and
not we ourselves.*

Deck the hall

traditional,
arr. David Willcocks

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

traditional,
arr. Mark Whitmire

A Merry Christmas

traditional,
arr. Arthur Warrell

NOVA COMMUNITY CHORUS

Dr. Mark Whitmire, conductor

Christine Hagan, accompanist

===== **INTERMISSION** =====

On this Day the Earth Shall Ring Gustav Holst,
arr. Robert W. Smith

Dare to Hope Christopher Marshall

World Premiere

*An overture commissioned in 2007 by NVCC
to celebrate Dr. Petrella's 30 years of service
to The Alexandria Band and the NVCC Music Program*

Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson,
arr. Robert Sheldon

A Most Wonderful Christmas Leroy Anderson,
arr. Robert Sheldon

Alexandria Band
Dr. Wendy Matthews, conductor

A Christmas Festival arr. Leroy Anderson
Band and Chorus
Dr. Robert Petrella, conductor

Holiday Donations



*Your contributions make
NVCC's concerts possible.
Thank you and Happy Holidays!*

The Music Department of the Alexandria campus of Northern Virginia Community College is part of the Visual and Performing Arts Division. The department houses the 80 member Alexandria Campus Band and the 80 member NOVA Community Chorus and is also affiliated with the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic where students can register for ensemble credit and gain entry by audition.

<http://www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/visual/music/index.htm>

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PROGRAM NOTES

Daniel Pinkham was born 1923. He graduated from Harvard and studied with a distinguished group of composers, including Walter Piston, Aaron Copland, Arthur Honegger, Samuel Barber, and Nadia Boulanger. In addition, he studied harpsichord with Wanda and organ with E. Power Biggs. He served as music director and organist of the King's Chapel, Boston, for nearly forty years. He was also Head of the Department of Early Music Performance at the New England Conservatory of Music. He died of leukemia on December 18, 2006.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA (subtitled *Sinfonia Sacra*) received its premier on December 1, 1957, and has since become one of Pinkham's most often performed works. It is a 20th-century homage to the music of the baroque, recalling the brilliance of the Venetian school, particularly the works of Giovanni Gabrieli. The cantata is cast in the form of three contrasting short movements scored for chorus, brass and organ.

Dare To Hope - World Premiere

This overture was commissioned in 2007 by the Northern Virginia Community College. It celebrates Dr. Robert Petrella's founding of the Alexandria Band in 1977 followed by more than thirty years at the helm.

Most human achievement starts with a vision, along with substantial reserves of hope to counteract the setbacks along the path. This is the main idea I had in mind as I wrote this overture.

The music is built around two strongly contrasted themes. The first could be described as moody and intense. It first appears in the form of a fugato by the four saxophones. The second theme gradually emerges throughout the piece, finally being heard in its entirety as a trumpet solo in the closing minutes. I would characterise it as joyful but also assertive. All the remaining material, including the up-surgng opening figure in the clarinets, is derived from one or both of these themes. For much of the piece they are treated in a polarised manner - with highly contrasted registers and textures. As they move closer together we realise that they are the two sides of the same coin.

Christopher Marshall, Orlando, October 2008

NOVA COMMUNITY CHORUS

Dr. Mark Whitmire, director
Christine Hagan, accompanist

SOPRANO 1

Lene Jensen
Terri LaGoe
Wendy Lea
Phyllis McKenzie
Rosemary McKillips
Carolyn Miller
Amanda Price
Carol Moore Randolph
Judy Robb
Maria Rynn
Jane Simpson
Kathy Soucie
Lisa Twedt
Mary Yee

SOPRANO 2

June Bishara
Morgan Britt
Cathy Brown
Lisa Clark
Pat Connors
Shellie Grant
Margaret Harrison
Barbara Lowrey
Marty Maher
Jill Meyer
Debbie Nash
Althea Schottman
Nancy Ruth Wood

ALTO 1

Sarah Bordelon
Ellie Briscoe
Kate Cantrell
Linda Crawford
Leslie Davies
Martha Evans

Pat Flagg
Holly Hambley
Christine Iffrig
Elizabeth McGinley
Angie Moreno
Debbie Nash
Deborah Peetz
Carol Pelenberg
Maria Rinaldi
Jane Roningen
Cynthia Young

ALTO 2

Whitney Armenia
Susan Bilodeau
Arlene Brigida
Izola Hawkins
Ruth Herndon
JoVan Howard
Joyce Lombardi
Carmen Mendoza
Tyra Newman
Vicki Ratcliffe
Annette Reilly
Baiba Seefer
Victoria Simmons
Carol Uri
Barbara Wade
Grace White
Mengdan Xu

TENOR 1

Tom Donlan
Chris Harrigan
Luke Hudnall
Anthony Kirby
Jacob Oquendo

Bill Reilly
Bob Trexler

TENOR 2

Bobby Barnes
John Connors
Ray Gavert
Larry Goldschmidt
Bill Meyer
Fred Schottman

BASS 1

John Clark
Bernie Cohen
Lock Handley
Delonte Hardy
Jacques Holden
Richard Kennedy
Ray Lombardi
Tom Ondra
Paul Schaeffer
Jim Stewart
Alex Thomas
Fred Wulff

BASS 2

Rich Ardini
Robert Ardura
Bill Brown
Alan Bunner
Bob Clark
Scott Chubb
Bill Gallagher
Samuel Howell
Nick King
Alan Krause
Steve Miner
Manfred Soughe



THE ALEXANDRIA BAND

Dr. Wendy Matthews, director

Dr. Robert Petrella, founding director

FLUTE

Suzy Carrol
Nathan Knight
Gerri Maskelony
Barbara Miligore
Nancy Quinlan-Jaffa
Erin Schumacher
Paula Underwood

OBOE

Constantine Ivanis
Briana Reynolds

B^b CLARINET

Judy Bendig
Adrienne Cannon
Michael Crawford
Kyle Filter
Roland Finken
Laurie Gethin
Marissa Goldsmith
Connie Handley
Laura Jensen
Amy Josselyn
Cynthia Kaylor
Matthew Peterschmidt
Bob Petrella
Krysal Reed
Caryl Salters
Deb Schoenberger
Sue Shapiro
Andrea Valenti

BASS CLARINET

Tom Roberts

BASSOON

Rachel Collins
Wendy Musco

SAXOPHONE

Charlotte Curran
Melissa Duckstein
Sharon Jones
Jamal Lomax
Karen Nason
Attila Sztanko
Robert Watson

FRENCH HORN

Pam Adams
Marcy Atwod
Brenda Crist
Margaret Forman
Laura Koss
Jeff Swearingin
Amy Tucker
Harris Wood

TRUMPET

Marc Anthony
George Bradish
Michael Creadon
Ben Daniel
Laura Geiger
Sam Gousen
Roy Hempley
Laurie LaGoe
Lewan Allison
Larry Marshall

Travis Richardson
Nash Sanderson
Karen Sellars
Ron Umbeck

TROMBONE

Mark Bultman
Michelle Coon
Jonell Freese
R. Ann Kier
Brian McCommon
Dan Merriman
Alex Rogge
Scott Shelsta
Luis Torres
Walt Wurfel

EUPHONIUM

Michael Brooke
Glenn Fatzinger
Dean Kauffman

TUBA

Dolores Luddington
Jack Tillbury

PERCUSSION

Kyle Adams
Tim Bailey
Elaine Halchin
John Mogayzel
Tim Nuhfer
Andrew Papp

Best Wishes to Dr. Bob for his Retirement!



MARK WHITMIRE directs of the NOVA Community Chorus. As Professor of Music at NVCC, he administers the vocal program, and teaches courses in Class Voice, Vocal Repertoire, Guitar Theory and Practice, Class Piano, and Basic Musicianship. He was named Outstanding Faculty of the Year by the college in 1990, and in 2004 he was awarded the President's Sabbatical. Dr. Whitmire holds degrees from Abilene Christian University, the University of Texas, and the University of Maryland, where he received the Doctor of Musical Arts. He has conducted choirs throughout the region, including performances at The National Theater, The Kennedy Center and Washington National Cathedral.

In 2003 he was conductor-in-residence at Gloucester Cathedral; in 2006 he returned to England to direct choirs at Westminster Abbey and Canterbury Cathedral. Dr. Whitmire has received numerous grants and awards, including a scholarship for post-graduate studies at the Britten-Pears School in England, where he studied with Sir Peter Pears, and a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for research and writing on the music of Benjamin Britten. He also serves as Adjunct Professor of Music and Liturgy at Virginia Theological Seminary and Music Director at St. James's Church, Richmond.



CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL is a freelance composer based in Orlando, Florida where he has been Composer in Residence at the University of Central Florida since 2006. Born in France, raised in Australia and New Zealand and having lived several years in Samoa, his music moulds diverse influences into a distinctive personal style notable for its lyricism, rhythmic ingenuity and structural integrity. Prior to his Orlando residency, Christopher was Fulbright Composer in Residence at the Eastman School in Rochester, New York, and before that, Mozart Fellow at the University of Otago in Dunedin. He holds a Fellowship in composition from Trinity

College, London. His music is now internationally commissioned and has been performed in such venues as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and the Barbican in London.



Robert Petrella founded and conducted the Alexandria Band for 30 years. As a Professor of Music at NVCC, he also administers the instrumental program, and teaches courses in Music Appreciation and Music History. He was nominated for Outstanding Faculty of the Year in 1995. Originally from New Jersey, Dr. Petrella earned his Bachelor degree from Michigan State University, which he attended on a competitive music scholarship, and earned his Master and Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of Maryland, where he was a graduate teaching assistant. Dr. Petrella is an active adjudicator at the student music competitions in the DC metro area and also performs locally as a clarinetist, including with the Virginia Grand Military Band.

From 1966 to 1969, he was a member of the U.S. Army Field Band of Washington, D.C., performing with the group in 49 of the 50 states, as well as Canada and Mexico. He performed with the Michigan State University Alumni Band during their concert tours of Italy in 1985, Scandinavia in 1998, and Eastern Europe in 2001. He was the recipient of the college's prestigious Presidential Sabbatical for the Fall of 2007. Dr. Petrella will retire from the college this December after 34 years of teaching.



Wendy K. Matthews received her Bachelor of Music degree from Peabody Conservatory of Music, her Master of Music degree from the University of Maryland-College Park, and her Doctor of Philosophy in Education degree with a concentration in educational psychology and instrumental conducting from George Mason University. Her research on conductors and the learning and cognition of music in ensemble settings has been presented at many internationally and nationally at many conferences such as International Society of Music Educators, Bologna, Italy, American Educational Research Association, and the American Psychological Association. Her recent research discussing conductor's support

has been published in the Journal of Research in Music Education. Dr. Matthews has taught at Georgetown University and George Mason University. Under her direction, the Georgetown University band completed their first compact disc and was awarded the Office of Performing Arts Special Directors Award for Outstanding Student Group. Dr. Matthews teaches music theory and conducts the band her at Northern Virginia Community College. She is also a member of the music education faculty at the University of Maryland-College Park. Ms. Matthews has guest conducted on the local, regional, and national level.