



The William Baker Choral Foundation in Georgia  
Presents Our Thirteenth Annual Concert

# ***FEEL THE SPIRIT***

***Spirituals, Gospels & Jazz***

## **The Cobb Summer Singers**

Norma Raybon, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

Sydney Sewell, Student Intern

Bernice Hall & Adrian Ford, Piano

**Arietha Lockhart, Guest Soloist**

Sunday Afternoon, 21 July 2019

First Presbyterian Church

Marietta, Georgia

**[www.ChoralFoundation.org](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org)**

# The Cobb Summer Singers

## **Norma Raybon, DMA**

Music Director & Conductor

## **William O. Baker, DMA**

WBCF Founder & Music Director

## **Jamea J. Sale, MME**

WBCF Executive Associate Music Director  
Director, Institute for Healthy Singing

## **Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM**

Music Director, New South Festival Singers

## **Amy Thropp, MM**

Music Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta

## **Lynn Swanson, MM**

Music Director, Lynn Swanson Chorale

## **Christine M. Freeman, MME**

Associate Music Director/Senior Vocal Coach

## **Scott C. Smith**

Choral Associate & Administrator, Atlanta

## **Ed Frazier Davis, MM**

Composer in Residence

## **Jennifer Lahasky, MM**

Associate Music Director, Lee's Summit

## **Sydney Sewell**

## **Nicole Winney**

Student Interns

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**Steven McDonald, DMA**, Staff Accompanist

**Ivy Belk Pirl**, Staff Accompanist

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## **The 2019 Cobb Summer Singers**

*William Baker*

*Bob Bonstein*

*Sue Bowron*

*Fran Brailsford*

*Steve Brailsford*

*Melanie Butt*

*Robin Cabill-Roberts*

*Sharon Cook*

*Laurie Cronin*

*Ellen Weldon Dukes*

*Thomas Eisnor*

*Norman Elliott*

*Tiffany Fannin*

*Marla Franks*

*Bruce Fuerstenberg*

*Marianna Fuller*

*Heidi Hanz*

*Claudia Harris*

*Judy Harvey*

*Ellen Hicks*

*Susan Hinesley*

*Geoffrey Hobbs*

*Bruce Ingram*

*Alexandra Kemp*

*Jody Kershner*

*Alexis LaSalle*

*Marcelle Mahan*

*Cathy McCrummen*

*Marcia Mein*

*Allison Nance*

*Jean Nash*

*Joan Nieland*

*David Nieland*

*Zoe Olinger*

*Raymond Peters*

*Yolanda Phillips*

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*Brenda Rhodes*

*Randall Ribarsky*

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# The Cobb Summer Singers

Dr. Norma Raybon, *Music Director & Conductor*

Bernice Hall & Adrian Ford, *Accompanists* Sydney Sewell, *Student Intern*



**The Cobb Summer Singers** was originally founded in 2006 by Lynn Swanson. After participating in the 2005 Summer Singers of Atlanta under the direction of Dr. William Baker, Ms. Swanson made the decision to create a new ensemble on the same model based in Cobb County. The project was an immediate success with more than 55 singers joining for the first season to perform acclaimed concerts of classics and spirituals before capacity audiences. In early 2009 the Cobb Summer Singers became a constituent ensemble of the William Baker Choral Foundation, a national organization created in Atlanta in 1990 that presently sponsors ten ensembles in three states involving over 600 men, women, youth and children. As a result of the support of the Choral Foundation, the Cobb Summer Singers has grown dramatically in artistic accomplishment and enrollment.

With the resignation of Founder Lynn Swanson, now Executive Artistic Director of the Milwaukee Children's Choir, the Choral Foundation appointed Dr. Norma Raybon to lead the Cobb Summer Singers to an exciting new era in 2019. Membership in Cobb Summer Singers is open to all adults and mature youth with no audition requirement. Registration for the 2020 Season will open March 1, 2020. For more information, please contact the Office of the Choral Foundation at 913-488-7524 or visit [www.ChoralFoundation.org](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org).



**Norma Raybon** earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from the University of Iowa. She served as Associate Professor of Music at Spelman College and as director of the famous Spelman College Glee Club from 1991-1999. Prior to this appointment she served on the faculties of the University of South Florida and the State University of New York. Dr. Raybon has sung with the Chicago, St. Louis and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Choruses. She frequently conducts All-State Festival Choruses and presents clinics and workshops for conductors and music educators across the nation. She has served as President of the Georgia chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. She has served significant church positions, including Music Director at Mountain Park United Methodist Church in Stone Mountain, Interim Music Director at First Presbyterian Church in Marietta, Director of Music Ministry at First Congregational Church in Atlanta. She is now co-director of the St. Paul's Choir and Director of the Women's Choir and Handbell Choir at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Atlanta. She conducted a tour of Austria in 2006 with the Norma Raybon Chorale.



**Arietha Lockhart, coloratura soprano**, has been awarded many prizes and honors, including a fellowship to perform the role of Zerbinetta (Ariadne auf Naxos) at the Aspen Music Festival Opera Theatre, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the first Classical Singer Competition sponsored by Classical Singer Magazine, The National Opera Association Competition's Legacy Award in the professional division, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in The Center for Contemporary Opera International Competition (prize, a New York debut recital at Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall), and the Friedrich Shorr Memorial Prize in Voice and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Oratorio Society of New York competition. During studies at the American Institute for Musical Studies, won the first place vote of the jury in the Meistersinger Competition in Graz, Austria, and received the gold medallion as the audience's 1<sup>st</sup> place choice.

Ms. Lockhart is a favorite of Choral Foundation audiences, having performed in several productions with the William Baker Festival Singers, the Cobb Summer Singers, and the Summer Singers of Atlanta, including Bach's *St. John Passion*, Haydn's *The Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Requiem & Mass in C.Minor*, Bach: *Cantatas No. 4 & 140*, and Beethoven *Mass in C* and *Symphony No. 9*.

# THE NEW SOUTH FESTIVAL SINGERS

*Gwinnett Festival Singers, 1985-1998    William Baker Festival Singers, 1998-2015  
Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, 2015-2017*

**ANDREW PHILLIP SCHMIDT, Music Director & Conductor**  
Scott Smith, Choral Associate    Sydney Sewell, Student Intern

*"The Festival Singers is one of the very finest choral groups of any size or genre in the Southeastern United States and beyond. Their annual performances at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival, usually before standing room only audiences, are excellent, breathtaking and inspiring."*

*-Ellen Dressler Moryl, Former Director, Cultural Affairs for the City of Charleston, Founder of Piccolo Spoleto*

# AUDITIONS



*Celebrating Our 35th Anniversary Season in Atlanta*

**OPENINGS IN ALL SECTIONS FOR 2019-2020**

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Performing at Piccolo Spoleto Since 1989*

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**[www.NewSouthFestivalSingers.org](http://www.NewSouthFestivalSingers.org)**

# FEEL THE SPIRIT

## *Spirituals, Gospels & Jazz*

Sunday Afternoon, 21 July 2019 at 3:00 PM, First Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia

### *The Cobb Summer Singers*

Dr. Norma Raybon, Music Director

Sydney Sewell, Student Intern      Bernice Hall & Adrian Ford, Piano

#### **I COULDN'T HEAR NOBODY PRAY**

Sydney Sewell, soloist

*Spiritual arranged by Carl Haywood*

#### **I KNOW THE LORD**

Marianna Fuller, soloist

*Spiritual arranged by Curtis Hansen*

#### **HOW EXCELLENT IS YOUR NAME**

V. Michael McKAY & Joseph JOUBERT

#### **CAN'T NOBODY DO ME LIKE JESUS**

Andre CROUCH & Nolan WILLIAMS, Jr.

#### **HERE'S ONE**

Bernice Hall, soloist      Student Intern Sydney Sewell, conducting

*Spiritual arranged by Mark Hayes*

#### **EVERY TIME I FEEL THE SPIRIT**

Arietha Lockhart, guest soloist

*Spiritual arranged by H. T. Burleigh*

#### **HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS**

Arietha Lockhart, guest soloist

*Spiritual arranged by Margaret Bonds*

#### **DRY YOUR TEARS, AFRIKA**

Jeff Kershner, percussion

John WILLIAMS

#### **TRIBUTE TO ARETHA FRANKLIN: RESPECT**

Alexis LaSalle, soloist

Otis REDDING  
*Arranged by Roger Emerson*

#### **UNDER HIS WINGS**

Allison Nance, soloist

Stephen MANDERS

#### **TRILOGY: EVERY TIME I FEEL THE SPIRIT**

*Spiritual arrangements by Kenneth Billups, Moses Hogan & William Dawson*  
Marianna Fuller & David Nieland, soloists

**The Cobb Summer Singers is an ensemble of the William Baker Choral Foundation**  
Visit [www.ChoralFoundation.org](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org) for additional information

Johannes Brahms  
**EIN DEUTSCHES  
REQUIEM**

**Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor**

*Dr. Baker's Final Performance as Music Director*

Andrew Phillip Schmidt, Music Director Elect

Sydney Sewell, Student Intern    Leanne Herrmann, Organ

Arietha Lockhart, soprano    Stephen Ozcomert, bass

**Summer Singers of Atlanta  
& Symphony Orchestra**

**Sunday Afternoon, 4 August 2019 at 3:00 PM**

**ST. JOHN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**550 Mount Paran Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30327**

**\$20 All Seats – Online or at Door**

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# The William Baker Choral Foundation

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205 913-488-7524

**The William Baker Festival Singers**, Prairie Village, Kansas, 1998

**The Summer Singers of Atlanta**, Midtown Atlanta, 1990

William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director-Elect

**The New South Festival Singers**, Atlanta, Georgia, 1985

*Gwinnett Festival Singers, 1985-1998 William Baker Festival Singers Atlanta, 1998-2015 Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, 2015-2017*  
Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director & Conductor

**Zimria Festivale Atlanta**, Dunwoody, Georgia, 2014

Amy Thropp, MM, Music Director & Conductor

**The Summer Singers of Kansas City**, Kansas City, Missouri, 1999

William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

**The Cobb Summer Singers**, Marietta, Georgia, 2006

Norma Raybon, Music Director

**The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 2014

William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

**The Lynn Swanson Chorale**, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 2019

Lynn Swanson, MME, Music Director & Conductor

**The Institute for Healthy Singing**, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2015

Jamea J. Sale, MME, Director

**Kansas City Bronze**, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018

**Choral Conversations Podcast with Patrick Neas & William Baker**, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018

**The Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library**, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2016

**Amber Waves Music Publishing**

William O. Baker, DMA, President R. Douglas Helvering, DMA, Contributing Editor

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**www.ChoralFoundation.org**

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