



## South Shore Chorale Celebrates America's 250<sup>th</sup> with *An American Journey*

The South Shore Chorale is proud to present *An American Journey* on Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 7:00 pm in the Fond du Lac High School Performing Arts Center. A South Shore Christmas will feature the 180 member singing Chorale and small combo. SSC's conductor, Cory Schneider, will lead the concert from the podium in his 21st season as conductor of the Chorale.

*An American Journey* will honor America in a unique way as we celebrate the development of music in our country since 1776! There will be something for everyone in this concert. We will open the concert with *Chester* by William Billings, the first song composed in America. Other early American favorites are *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, *Oh Susanna* and *The Boatman's Dance*. For the Civil War era, we will perform *Tenting Tonight on the Old Campground* by Jeffrey Douma and *Gentle Annie* by Alice Parker. As we turn to the 1900's, we will present American classics *Someone to Watch Over Me* by George Gerswin, *Puttin' on the Ritz* by Irving Berlin and *Over the Rainbow* from the *Wizard of Oz*. The mid 1900's features classics such as *Mr. Sandman*, *Somewhere from West Side Story*, and *Love Me Tender* by Elvis Presley. The Chorale is thrilled to sing a little doo wop with Roger Emerson's *Forever Doo Wop*. When one thinks of the 1980's, the iconic song *We Are the World* is the first song that comes to mind! The Chorale can't wait to bring this iconic song to the stage for you! Our journey into the 1990's includes *Defying Gravity* from the famous musical and movie *Wicked*!

Our concert will conclude with the only way a concert should end...honoring the people of our Armed Forces in the singing of the *Armed Forces Medley*! The Chorale is so thankful to all of the current and retired service members who are all over the world serving America!

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### *South Shore Chorale Board of Directors*

Katie Pachefsky - President  
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Bekkah Sharp  
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### *Special Thanks to:*



Fond du Lac Area  
**FOUNDATION**

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The last piece is a special American tribute featuring Fond du Lac and retired police detective Steve Olson. It will be a magical ending to a fun journey through America's greatest music!

An American Journey will be a unique way to celebrate America's 250th birthday! Please note the new start time of 7:00 pm for our concerts this year! Remember to be in your seat five minutes early as you don't want to miss the start of this concert. Reserved seats are \$18 in advance at [www.hometowntickets.com](http://www.hometowntickets.com) or \$23 at the door. Students are \$10 online or \$15 at the door. Tickets are selling fast for this concert! Don't wait to secure your tickets. For more information, please email [southshorefdloffice@gmail.com](mailto:southshorefdloffice@gmail.com) or visit [www.southshorechorale.org](http://www.southshorechorale.org).

## The Golden Fermata Hall of Fame



We are thrilled to announce our inaugural recipient of the Golden Fermata Hall of Fame. This award is given for extraordinary service, dedication and commitment to our Chorale. The recipient has completed their 100th semester with our Chorale for a total of 50 years singing.

Garvin Shields is the first recipient of this award! Garvin performed in the first concert of the Fond du Lac Oratorio Chorus (former SSC) in the spring of 1971. He is the only member who performed in the very first concert of our organization and is still performing today!

In addition to his 50 years of singing, Garvin has been very active in the Chorale serving on the Board of Directors for the majority of his 50 years and heads up the poster distribution each semester.

Board President, Katie Pachefsky and conductor Cory Schneider, presented Garvin with his award at A South Shore Christmas on December 6. It was amazing to see the audience and other performers give Garvin a well deserved standing ovation. Congratulations Garvin!

## A Year in Review

*This past year has been a whirlwind for our Chorale. There have been many events and performances all over the world. Here's a little recap!*

## Voice Drop - November 2025



The tenors and basses from SSC joined over 300 other lower voices in November to help promote male singing in the Fond du Lac School District. It was a magical day of camaraderie and singing with four different choirs (elementary, middle, high school and adult). Many people gave singing a try for the first time and LOVED it! We were so blessed to have some of our tenors and basses representing SSC at this fun event!

# European Tour - Summer 2025



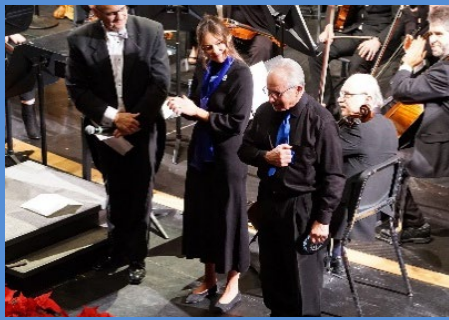
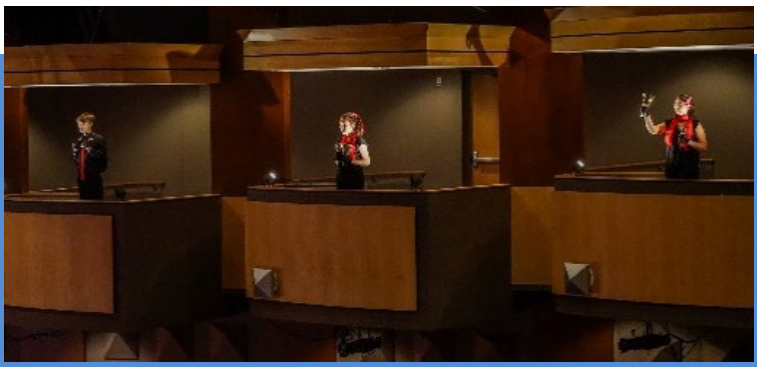
Last summer, we traveled on an international tour to Europe in July. It was a trip of a lifetime for 70+ singers and friends as we sang in some of the most famous churches in Salzburg, Vienna and Prague. In Salzburg, we were able to perform with other choirs from America at the Salzburg Choral Festival. It was a magical experience to be able to perform Mozart's famous Coronation Mass in the same church that Mozart performed. The experience was truly momentous for our singers. Vienna and Prague were also so much fun to tour as well as sing our own concerts for wonderful audiences!



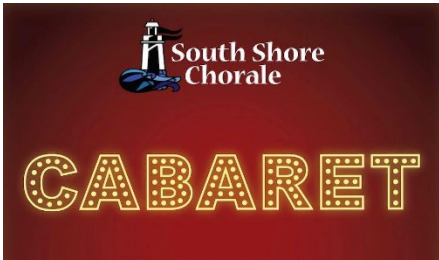
# A South Shore Christmas - December 2025



A South Shore Christmas was a magical night performing to a sold-out audience in the FHS Performing Arts Center. The 180 voice Chorale was joined by a full orchestra and a special handbell choir from Fond du Lac High School. The first half of the concert featured the stunning Magnificat by Taylor Scott Davis while the second half of the concert featured popular favorites Ring Those Christmas Bells and I Saw Three Ships. This concert was the perfect way to kick off the holiday season!



# Cabaret - February, 2026



During Valentine's weekend, we gathered at Avenue 795 for a special evening of singing and celebration! The South Shore Chamber Singers had fun performing (and dancing) Singing in the Rain, Can't Help Falling in Love and a fun barbershop version of Rock Around the Clock. There were many awesome solos and small group performances by the members of the Chorale. A special thank you to the Thelen Sisters and barbershop quartet Chill Factor for being a part of our special night as well! We are so grateful to Avenue 795 for hosting our event and the yummy desserts!



*Jeanne Miller, Denise Shaffer, Sandy Devorak*



*Janice Evers*



*Deb Fett*



*Katie Pachefsky, Holly Lehman Barnes, Allison Zeitler and Erin Steward*



*The Thelen sisters*



*James Estes*



*Elizabeth Reinbold*



*Maureen and Keith Zorn*

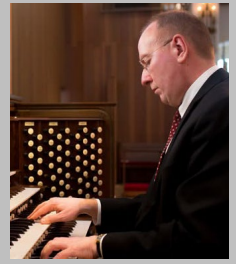


*Kenton Baker-Kaminski, Daniel Seidl*

# Cathedral Concert - March, 2026



On March 8, our South Shore Chamber Singers performed a concert at St Paul's Cathedral in Fond du Lac. We were thrilled to welcome back organist David Heller, a native of Fond du Lac and faculty member at Trinity University in San Antonio. David is an amazing organist and knows how to bring out the best of the sounds on the organ at St. Paul's Cathedral! The Seven Last Words of Christ by Theodore Dubois was the featured work for the concert and provided everyone the opportunity to reflect on the Lenten season. Our harpist, Mary Keppeler, opened the second half of the concert with a solo performance of The Lord's Prayer. Then the choir sang other wonderful music building to the grand finale of How Great Thou Art by Eric Nelson.





## 2025 Scholarship Winner

Congratulations to Quinten Mostek as the winner of the 2025 South Shore Chorale Scholarship. A \$500 scholarship was presented to Quinten at the spring concert in 2025. This scholarship is presented each spring to a graduating senior or undergraduate student who has sung at least two semesters with the Chorale. Quinten is a freshman at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, pursuing an undergraduate degree in choral music education. He is a 2025 graduate from Fond du Lac High School.



## Rehearsals Moved to First Presbyterian Church

A special thank you to First Presbyterian Church for allowing our Chorale to rehearse in their sanctuary on Tuesday nights. With 180+ singers in the Chorale, we have outgrown the Fond du Lac High School choir room. It is so great to have the extra space in rehearsal! Thank you to Pastor Craig Alwin and the entire staff at FPC for opening their doors to us!

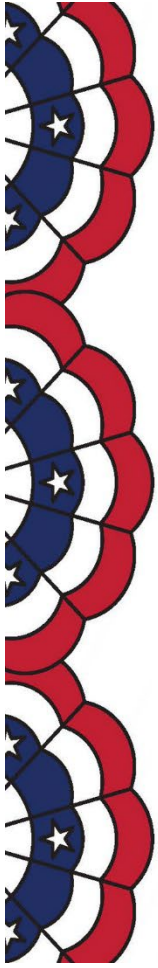
### Thank You



Special thanks to Tiffany Brault for her time as the Business Manager for SSC. Tiffany served in this role since the summer of 2023. Tiffany was a positive face for our organization and was willing to always help our Chorale members. We thank her for her time with us and wish her the best in the future.

### Stay in Touch with SSC!

Would you like to sing with South Shore Chorale? Or do you know someone who enjoys choral music, but who isn't receiving our newsletters? Help us grow our organization's reach! Visit [www.southshorechorale.org](http://www.southshorechorale.org) to fill out our singer mailing list, or send an email to Tiffany at [southshorefdloffice@gmail.com](mailto:southshorefdloffice@gmail.com) with contact info or any questions about South Shore Chorale! We would love to hear from you!



# An American Journey

# *Celebrating* 250 YEARS

# of Music in America

*South Shore Chorale*  
Cory Schneider - Director

**Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 7:00 pm**  
Fond du Lac High School Performing Arts Center

[Hometowntickets.com](http://Hometowntickets.com)

Adult - \$18 online / \$23 at door

High School & Under - \$10 online / \$15 at door



**South Shore  
Chorale**

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