

# **COSMOPS** 80th Anniversary



**Muskegon Cosmopolitan Male Singers 1933-2013**

**“Cosmops- 80 Years of Fiendship”**

**May 14, 2013, 7:30 PM**

**Conducted by Joshua Ledesma**

**Accompaniment Cheryl Lohman**

**Guest Performers- To Be Announced**

**Central United Methodist Church  
1011 Second Street  
Muskegon, MI**

# **Cosmops- 2012-2013 Members**

## **First Tenors**

**Jeff Closz**

**Dick Fry**

**Jeff Harrell**

**Paul Honore**

**Larry Veihl**

## **Second Tenors**

**Bruce Anderson**

**John Derbin**

**Bob Heaton (52 Years)**

**Ken Nelson**

**Don Vokits**

## **Baritones**

**Bob Brock**

**Andy Gregory**

**Howard Meade**

**Denny Powers**

**Brian Rhinesmith**

**Jerry Scott**

**Carl Treutler**

## **Basses**

**David Bialik**

**David Closz**

**Roger Knopf**

**Hank Otten**

**Bill Rogers**

**Dick Swineheart**

**Joe Teuling (50 Years)**

**For information about COSMOPS, or becoming a sponsor or member call Bob Brock at 1-616 846 3006 or e-mail-  
bob@janwp.com.**



### **Director-**

Joshua Ledesma is in his 5<sup>th</sup> year as director of the Muskegon Cosmops. In addition to directing the Cosmops, Josh also directs the St. Gregory Episcopal Church choir. He holds a BA Degree in Music Education from Grand Valley State University.

Josh has become the spirit of the Cosmops. His dedication and leadership is the reason for the continued success of the Muskegon Cosmopolitan Male Chorus.



### **Piano Accompaniment-**

Cheryl Lohman is completing her 1<sup>st</sup> year with the Cosmops. Cheryl adds depth and composure to the Cosmops with her lifetime of commitment to her profession. The Muskegon Cosmops are proud to have Cheryl as the anchor of our musical presentation.

In addition to accompanying the Cosmops, Cheryl is also on the staff of Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp and is the accompanist for the Muskegon Chamber Choir.

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***Muskegon Cosmops- 1958 50 Anniversary***

## **Our Leadership**

Since the inception of the Cosmopolitan Male Singers 80 years ago, the chorus has had 17 directors. Sixteen men and one woman have contributed their time and effort in keeping our group intact. We owe a debt of gratitude to each and every director who has made this organization a Muskegon tradition. Below are listed all of our directors, including our present leader Joshua Ledesma:

W. Maurice Vanderwater 1933-1947  
Theodore A. Cook 1947-1948  
John W. DeHorn 1948-1950  
Palmer Quackenbush 1950-1951  
John L. Wheeler 1951-1976  
Troy Carpenter 1976-1994  
John Mattson 1994-1996  
Rob Lehner 1996-2000  
Darrell Schrag 2000 Autumn  
Karen Frederiksen 2001 Spring  
Dr. Jed Watson 2001-2002  
Paul Lusher 2002 Autumn  
Floyd Farmer 2003-2006  
Peter Kurdziel 2006-2007  
Matt Shabala 2007-2008  
Matt Callaghan 2008-2009  
Joshua Ledesma 2009-Present

The group began as a “double quartet”; membership has fluctuated from the mid teens to the high forties. We are now just a bit more than 22 members. Our current challenge is to grow and be a viable artistic voice representing Muskegon. This performance completes our 80th season ; we have done a masterful job so far in surviving the changes of the past 80 years and now we can look to completing our century of performing.

## FIRST PHOTOGRAPH OF CHORUS TAKEN JULY, 1934



### COSMOPS: A Brief History, 1933-2013

The Muskegon Cosmopolitan Male Singers first performed as an octet in 1933. Within a year they had grown to a full-fledged male chorus of close to 50 singers. Soon they would be performing at a national competition, the Chicagoland Music Festival, earning 3rd place. 80 years of performances later we are still here performing and enjoying.

A glance at the Cosmops' early repertoire reveals an emphasis on more classical-type of music, but there was always an attempt to balance programs with a variety of musical styles. In April 1950, the Cosmops joined in a Michigan Male Chorus Association Concert and there was active involvement in that association during the 50's and 60's.

Over the decades other ensembles have performed with the Cosmops. In May 2005 The Schubert Male Chorus of Grand Rapids staged a dual concert with the Cosmops. Home-grown Metropolitan Opera stars, Richard Versalle and Gweneth Bean, are the most well known among many vocal soloists to have performed with the Cosmops over the years.

The mission of the Muskegon Cosmops to promote the art of male singing and provide quality, entertaining choral concerts for the greater Muskegon community has remained a constant. Towards that end the Cosmops historically provided musical scholarships for young performers for many decades. Today, to assure the continuation and longevity of the Cosmops, we humbly invite any interested male singers, regardless of musical background, to come and try us out; there are no tryout auditions. It is through the recruitment of new members that the Cosmops constantly renews itself. Finally, a **great thank you to all of you**, our faithful audience, for your continued support in both attendance and financial contributions! Without you there would have not been this opportunity for men to get together to sing across the generations. We also thank our concert host- and rehearsal venue for many years, Central United Methodist Church; and thanks to our current rehearsal venue First Baptist Church of Muskegon.

# **COSMOPS**

## **“Cosmops- 80 Years of Friendship”**

**•Who Are the Brave (1992)- Words by Paul Williams/ Music by Joseph M. Martin... *Who are the brave? Those who go to war?... Those who fight no more?... Those who gave their lives protecting freedoms shore?.....those who serve man-kind!***

**•O Captain! My Captain! (from “American Song” (1995)- text by Walt Whitman ... *O Captain my Captain our fearful trip is done.... 1st Tenor Solo- Larry Viehl***

**•It’s A Grand Night For Singing- Rogers and Hammerstein’s musical STATE FAIR**

**•Winter Song- Arranged by Frederic Field Bullard- “*Pass the pipes pass the bowl...With a skoal, with a skoal (toast)!*”, solo by Jerry Scott**

**•Thanks Be To God- Music By Stanley Dickson- Thanks be to God for roses rare, for skies of blue and sunshine fair...Thanks be to God**

**•You’ll Never Walk Alone ((1955) Music by Rogers and Hammerstein II**

**•Were You There?- Arranged by H. T. Burleigh- *Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?... Where you there?***

**•God Bless America- by Irving Berlin, arranged by Charles Boutelle- *Traditional Song***

**Special Guest Music-**

**Intermission- 10 minutes**

• **I BELIEVE (1953)- Words and Music by Drake, Graham, Shirl, and Stillman-** *I believe for every drop of rain that falls a flower grows...*

• **Shenandoan- Arranged by Marshal Bartholomew and Fenno Heath-** *O Shen-an doah, I long to see you\_\_\_ and hear your rolling river... We're bound away, Across the wide Mis-sou-ri.*

• **Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley- Negro Spiritual arranged by William L. Dawson- (solo)** *"I must go and stand my tri-al, I've got to stand\_\_\_it by myself, Oh" No-bod-y else\_\_\_can stand it for me, I've got to stand it by myself" Base Soloist Hank Otten*

• **Moon River- Words by Johny Mercer and Music by Henry Mancini-** *Moon River , wider than a mile: I'm crossing you in style some day.\_\_\_Old dream maker, you heart breaker...*

• **With a Voice of Singing- Arranged by Carl E. Sennema-** *With a voice of singing de-clare ye this, and let it be heard, Alle-lu-ia!*

• **Battle Hymn Of The Republic (2013)- Arranged by Peter J. Wilhousky** *"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;... Mass Chorus*

• **Friendship (theme song since 1986**

• **Years in parentheses denotes year first performed**

**Our next performance will be Tuesday Dec 8, 2013 at 7:30 PM. Join us again for an evening of entertainment.**