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# **SEASON OF CELEBRATION**

with special guest the NC Pride Band

**FRIDAY • 16 DECEMBER 2005 • 8 PM**  
**ERUUF • 4907 Garrett Rd • Durham**

**A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR** Thank you for joining us this evening. In this Season of Celebration, we are grateful to be making music and spending time with you. We hope that our program will inspire you to remember the gifts you have in your life and to acknowledge the gifts you bring to the lives of others.

On behalf of the Common Woman Chorus, I wish you a season filled with music and time to spend with the people you love.—Cindy Bizzell

## ACT ONE

**Santa Claus Is Coming to Town** Words by Haven Gillespie • Music by J. Fred Coots  
Arranged by Kirby Shaw • Solos by Lisa Shupp & Jude Casseday

Reader Jane MacNeela • Storyteller Mary Plyler

**Mary, Mary** By Mary Donnelly & George O. Strid

**S'Vivon** Traditional Chanukah song • Arranged by Michael Braz

**Through Winter's Window** Words by Ann & Brad Printz • Music by Brad Printz

**A La Nanita Nana** Traditional Cuban carol  
Arranged by Michael Braz

Reader Betty Prioux • Storyteller Linda Oakleaf

**Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming** From *Spier Gebetbuch* (1599) • Arranged by Linda Spevacek  
Solo by Mary Plyler

**Mary's Lullaby** by John Rutter

**Deck The Hall** Traditional Welsh carol  
Arranged by Mac Huff • Solos by Sarah Karakitsos, Joan McAllister, Sandi Metz, Erin O'Hara, Betty Prioux & Michelle Reader

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## INTERMISSION

*Visit the community arts market  
in the vestibule!*

## ACT TWO

**Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day** By John Gardner • Guest director Sandi Metz

**Nowell, Owt of Your Slepe Aryse** 15th-century British carol • Performed by small group ensemble  
Guest director Kristen Stinnett

*TRANSLATION: Out of your sleep, arise and awaken, for God has taken human form. From a maid without any equal; of all women she is best. Nowell! And through a fair and wise maiden, humankind is now brought to its full worth. Now the angels kneel in the service of humanity and, at Christmas time, all this took place. Nowell! He who was once in bondage is now free; she who was once humble is now great. Now God shall receive both you and me into his bliss if we are virtuous. Nowell!*

Reader Melinda Campbell • Storyteller Julia Storm

**Snowfall** As recorded by Manhattan Transfer  
By Ruth & Claude Thornhill • Arranged by Roger Emerson • Performed by small group ensemble  
Guest director Erin O'Hara • Guest pianist (former long-time chorus pianist) Gail Hafley

Readers Jenny Womack and Karen Dold

**I Ain't Afraid** By Holly Near • Arranged by J. David Moore • Solos by Jolene Robinson, Barrett Madre & Linda Carmichael

Reader Betty Rider • Storyteller Ruth Heruska

**Silent Night** Words by Franz Xaver Gruber  
Arranged by Katherine Dienes • Solos by Anetra King, Nancy Maeder & Kristen Stinnett • Descant by Sarah Karakitsos, Kathy Keyser & Kim Sage

**Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!** Words by Sammy Cahn • Music by Jule Styne • Arranged by Kirby Shaw • Solos by Erin O'Hara and Barrett Madre

## **JOYFUL NOISE** by Joan McAllister

My family lived in a two-story house, with the bedrooms upstairs. Every Christmas morning we children sat on the stairs to wait for our parents to get up. Only then could we go down to see what Santa had brought. I was the youngest and got the lowest seat on the staircase, in front of my older sister and brother. Fortunately jostling your younger sibling out of the way was not permitted! There was a great rush down the stairs to the fireplace where our stockings were hung, stuffed with candies and fruits, small gifts and a silver dollar in the toe of each stocking. I never questioned why my father bought the silver dollars back from him, nor why a coin of the same date appeared each year.

We were told that as long as we believed in Santa Claus, he would come on Christmas Eve. And he did, every year until my mother moved to a retirement home and sold her house. I was 49. My ragged red felt stocking decorated with Santa, sleigh and reindeer now hangs beside my fireplace at Christmas, and my 1902 silver dollar rests safely in its toe. I still believe.

## **NC PRIDE BAND**

The NC Pride Band formed in 1987 as a lesbian drum corps using traditional Latin and African hand drums. In 1996, the Band took a new direction and then reorganized as a standard marching band with brass, woodwind instruments and percussion. It is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Durham, NC.

The Band or its members have performed in the 1997 U.S. Presidential Inauguration, Amsterdam Gay Games, Stonewall 25th Anniversary, the Millennium March on Washington, and many LBGA Conferences. It will be present at the 2006 Chicago Gay Games.

The Band has primarily been a marching band throughout most of its existence but, in 2006, it will step out as a concert band as well. It serves the Triangle's LGBT and straight communities.

**The Chorus is directed by  
Cindy Bizzell and accompanied  
by Abbie Modjeska**

**Percussion by Jinx Jenkins and  
Jude Casseday**

**Erin O'Hara is concert chair**

**Thanks to Camerons, Dirt Road  
Gallery, Kathy Hopwood, NC Pride  
Band, Quail Ridge Books, Regulator  
Bookshop, Rose Rosely, White  
Rabbit Books, and the numerous  
volunteers who made this event  
possible.**

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## **UPCOMING**

***Back by popular demand!*  
Love and Marriage**

**An original theatrical event written and  
performed by the Chorus • 11 February 2006  
Raleigh UU Fellowship • Wade Avenue**

### **Concert for Young People**

**If you've ever attended a Raleigh Little  
Theatre production of Cinderella,  
then you know it's possible to  
perform a concert for young people  
that leaves the adults in stitches.  
You asked for it and the Chorus  
delivered! Don't miss this concert  
for young people.**

**Matinee performance • 6 May 2006**

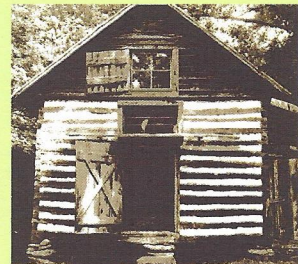
**details at [commonwomanchorus.net](http://commonwomanchorus.net)**

# THE CHORUS HAS PURCHASED OUR VERY OWN RISERS!

Many thanks to the generous women who donated the funds that allowed the chorus to purchase our own performance risers:

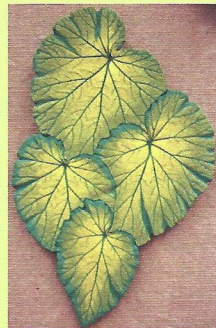
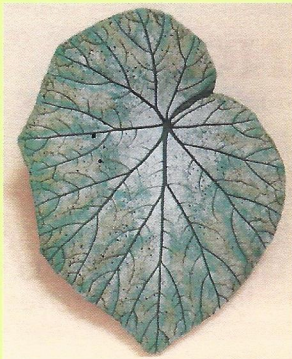
Ann Garrou • Gail Harrell • Ginger Heruska • Ruth Heruska • Georgie Karuntzos  
Mary Kenney • Marty McClelland • Chris Merrill • Phyllis Moody  
Pam Moss • Erin O'Hara • Barb Pohlman, MD • Marjorie Rudinsky  
Julia Storm • Wendy Visscher • LeAnn Wallace • Pam Welsh

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS



### DIRT ROAD GALLERY

a barn full of handmade and unique objects from central america, the middle east, west africa, the u.s., and around the world. [www.dirtroadgallery.net](http://www.dirtroadgallery.net) • 919.933.6999  
[dirtroadgallery@bellsouth.net](mailto:dirtroadgallery@bellsouth.net)



### KATHY HOPWOOD

cast stone leaf sculptures, pride people pins, and notecards  
[www.kathyhopwood.com](http://www.kathyhopwood.com)



### ROSE ROSELY

before jumping ship from the rat race, rose worked for nickelodeon and warner brothers in the animation biz. she spent the last five years in ghana, west africa, as a peace corps volunteer, then in honduras, central america, where she taught school to 3rd and 4th graders. she's back in the triangle now making art, starting a business, and planning her next big adventure south of the border to collect more things for the dirt road gallery. she has been making wacky art her entire life.  
[www.roserosely.com](http://www.roserosely.com) • 919.933.6999 • [rosalala2000@yahoo.com](mailto:rosalala2000@yahoo.com)

