

TrueNorth Cultural Arts  
Chorale and Chamber Orchestra  
*presents*

Down a Country Lane,  
TrueNorth Fall Concert  
*featuring*

*Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*  
Symphonic Poem by Claude Debussy

*Finlandia, Op. 26*

Tone Poem by Jean Sibelius

*Down a Country Lane* by Aaron Copland

*Frostiana*

*Seven Country Songs* by Robert Frost  
Set to music by Randall Thompson

Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m.

*Bay United Methodist Church*  
29931 Lake Road, Bay Village, OH 44140

OPEN ADMISSION – FREE-WILL OFFERING

Good evening and welcome!

Welcome! Thank you for joining us this evening.

With leaves turning golden, nights drawing in, and fires being lit, autumn is the perfect time to reflect ... and what better way to do so than through the gift of music! Welcome to TrueNorth's Fall Concert, ***Down a Country Lane***. It is our hope this evening our music will allow for a pause, a time of reflection and inspiration.

We'd like to thank Bay United Methodist Church as we are not only performing here this evening, but Bay United Methodist opens their doors for us to rehearse each Tuesday and Thursday evening throughout the year ... truly a gift.

Tonight, you will hear poetry set to music.

Stéphane Mallarmé's ***L'après-midi d'un faune*** poetry inspired Claude Debussy to write ***An Afternoon of a Faun***. One of Debussy's most famous works and considered a turning point in the history of Western art music, as well as a masterpiece of Impressionist composition. Tonight's performance features Susan Richardson as our flute soloist.

Jean Sibelius' ***Finlandia*** is a tone poem, a covert protest against increasing censorship from the Russian Empire written in 1899.

***Down a Country Lane***, a quiet, peaceful work composed by Aaron Copland. Copland enjoyed the challenge of composing for young performers. In 1962, *Life Magazine* featured this piece, commissioned by *Life*, in hopes of making quality music available to the common pianist and student. *Down a Country Lane* was orchestrated in 1965.

***Frostiana*** was commissioned in 1958 for the 200th anniversary of Amherst, Massachusetts Bicentennial. Seven of Robert Frost's poems that celebrated the countryside and people of New England as they were at the time of the commission were used by composer Randall Thompson. All of the poems, except for "***Choose Something Like a Star***", are from one book of Frost's poems, ***You Come Too***.

Membership in both the Chorale and Chamber Orchestra are open to all high school students and above. The Chorale and Chamber Orchestra rehearses at Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Road in Bay Village. The Chorale rehearses on Tuesday evenings, 7:00-9:00 p.m. The Chamber Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

**2024 – 2025 Season ... mark your calendars!**

**TrueNorth Christmas Concert**

Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

Featuring Randall Bass' ***Gloria***

Dan Forrest and Mack Wilberg Christmas Carols

## **TrueNorth Winter Concert**

Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

Featuring Morten Lauridsen's ***Lux Aeterna***

and Antonio Vivaldi's ***Concerto in Do Maggiore*** for Duo Oboes featuring Meredith Bradley and Kim Weaver.

## **Tenebrae Service, Holy Week 2025**

Featuring Martin's ***Song of the Shadow***

Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, Grafton at Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church

Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

## **Holocaust Remembrance Day**

Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

Featuring Donald McCullough's

***The Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps,***

Songs and letters written by Nazi concentration camp prisoners. Tribute to the victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

## **TrueNorth Patriotic Concert**

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

TrueNorth Cultural Arts teaches music lessons at The TrueNorth Studios located in Avon Lake, 33467 Lake Road, upstairs in Suite



208, just west of Moore Road. Lessons in voice, piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion are available. Please call 440.724.7189 for further information.

Thank you for joining us this evening ... Enjoy the Concert!



Rick Fortney

Founder and Executive / Artistic Director  
TrueNorth Cultural Arts

[www.TNCArts.org](http://www.TNCArts.org) / 440.724.7189

TrueNorth Cultural Arts is located at 33467  
Lake Road, Suite 208, in Avon Lake.



## **TRUENORTH FALL CONCERT, *DOWN A COUNTRY LANE***

**TRUENORTH CHORALE AND CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

**Under the Direction of Rick Fortney  
Concert Master, Renee Matthews**

**With Narrators:  
Maryann Nagel Violand and Greg Violand**

## **Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun**

Symphonic Poem

Claude Debussy

Susan Richardson, flute soloist

## **Finlandia**

Jean Sibelius

Tone Poem

### Love-Offering:

- To help defray this evening's expenses
- To continue to be able to offer free concerts throughout the season
- To help support the on-going education and performance opportunities for TrueNorth Cultural Arts.

## **Down a Country Lane**

Aaron Copland

## ***Frostiana***

Randall Thompson

(a Suite of seven poems by Robert Frost,  
Seven Country Songs, set to music by Randall Thompson)

- ***The Road Not Taken***
- ***The Pasture***
- ***Come In***
- ***The Telephone***
- ***A Girl's Garden***
- ***Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening***
- ***Choose Something Like a Star***

## ***The Road Not Taken***



*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;  
Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,  
And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.  
I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

## **The Pasture**



*I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;  
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away  
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):  
I shan't be gone long.*

*You come too.*

*I'm going out to fetch the little calf  
That's standing by the mother.*

*It's so young,*

*It totters when she licks it with her tongue.*

*I shan't be gone long.*

*You come too.*

## **Come In**





*As I came to the edge of the woods,  
Thrush music — hark!  
Now if it was dusk outside,  
Inside it was dark.  
Too dark in the woods for a bird  
By sleight of wing  
To better its perch for the night,  
Though it still could sing.  
The last of the light of the sun  
That had died in the west  
Still lived for one song more  
In a thrush's breast.  
Far in the pillared dark  
Thrush music went —  
Almost like a call to come in  
To the dark and lament.  
But no, I was out for stars;  
I would not come in.  
I meant not even if asked;  
And I hadn't been.*

### ***The Telephone***



*"When I was just as far as I could walk  
From here to-day,  
There was an hour  
All still  
When leaning with my head against a flower  
I heard you talk.  
Don't say I didn't, for I heard you say –  
You spoke from that flower on the window sill –  
Do you remember what it was you said?"  
"First tell me what it was you thought you heard."  
"Having found the flower and driven a bee away,  
I leaned my head,  
And holding by the stalk,  
I listened and I thought I caught the word-  
What was it? Did you call me by my name?  
Or did you say-  
Someone said 'Come' – I heard it as I bowed."  
"I may have thought as much, but not aloud."  
"Well, so I came."*

## **A Girl's Garden**



*A neighbor of mine in the village  
Likes to tell how one spring  
When she was a girl on the farm, she did  
A childlike thing.  
One day she asked her father  
To give her a garden plot  
To plant and tend and reap herself,  
And he said, "Why not?"  
In casting about for a corner  
He thought of an idle bit  
Of walled-off ground where a shop had stood,  
And he said, "Just it."  
And he said, "That ought to make you  
An ideal one-girl farm,  
And give you a chance to put some strength  
On your slim-jim arm."  
It was not enough of a garden,  
Her father said, to plough;  
So she had to work it all by hand,  
But she don't mind now.  
She wheeled the dung in the wheelbarrow  
Along a stretch of road;  
But she always ran away and left  
Her not-nice load.  
And hid from anyone passing.  
And then she begged the seed.  
She says she thinks she planted one  
Of all things but weed.*

*A hill each of potatoes,  
Radishes, lettuce, peas,  
Tomatoes, beets, beans, pumpkins, corn,  
And even fruit trees  
And yes, she has long mistrusted  
That a cider apple tree  
In bearing there to-day is hers,  
Or at least may be.  
Her crop was a miscellany  
When all was said and done,  
A little bit of everything,  
A great deal of none.  
Now when she sees in the village  
How village things go,  
Just when it seems to come in right,  
She says, "I know!  
It's as when I was a farmer—"  
Oh, never by way of advice!  
And she never sins by telling the tale  
To the same person twice.*

### ***Stopping by Woods On A Snowy Evening***



*Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.  
My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farm - house near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.  
He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sounds the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.  
The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.*

### **Choose Something Like a Star**





*O Star (the fairest one in sight),  
We grant your loftiness the right  
To some obscurity of cloud —  
It will not do to say of night,  
Since dark is what brings out your light.  
Some mystery becomes the proud.  
But to be wholly taciturn  
In your reserve is not allowed.  
Say something to us we can learn  
By heart and when alone repeat.  
Say something! And it says, 'I burn.'  
But say with what degree of heat.  
Talk Fahrenheit, talk Centigrade.  
Use language we can comprehend.  
Tell us what elements you blend.*

*It gives us strangely little aid,  
But does tell something in the end.  
And steadfast as Keats' Eremite,  
Not even stooping from its sphere,  
It asks a little of us here.  
It asks of us a certain height,  
So when at times the mob is swayed  
To carry praise or blame too far,  
We may choose something like a star  
To stay our minds on and be staid.*

# **The TrueNorth Chorale**

Rick Fortney, Director

## ***Soprano I***

Cathy Harvey  
Janine Porter, Section Leader

## ***Soprano II***

Jean Collins  
Caron Collister  
Susan Wertenberger

## ***Tenor***

Lynn Rhoades  
Jeff Smith

## ***Bass***

George Parry  
Dave Weaver

## **TrueNorth Music Librarian**

Nancy Spencer

## ***Alto I***

Marilyn Decker  
Sandi Gerhan  
Diane Seith  
Julie Spencer  
Adrienne Terleck

## ***Alto II***

Michele Gehring  
Barb Graves  
Nancy Spencer  
Ruth Williams  
Barb Ziegler

**The TrueNorth Chorale** sings a wide range of literature ranging from the masters to the contemporary, sacred and secular, musical theatre and patriotic.

**The TrueNorth Chamber Orchestra**

**Rick Fortney, Conductor**

**Renee Matthews, Concert Master**

***Violin I***

Kathryn Bates

Renee Matthews,

***Concertmaster***

***Violin II***

Cameron Chan

Jim Parry

***Viola***

Jacob Campbell

***Cello***

Jordan Alegant

Xenia Beckstrom

Joan Wojcicki Fortney,

***(Bob and Mary Lou Fortney Chair)***

Kimberly Taylor

***String Bass***

Drew Postel

***Percussion***

Jill Cornell

***Flute***

Cathy Graves

Susan Richardson

***Oboe***

Meredith Bradley

Kim Weaver

***Clarinet***

Fermin Quiñones-Villanueva

Lily Vandenberg

***Bassoon***

Abbey Hughes

***French Horn***

Melinda Kellerstrass

Walt Zacharias

***Trumpet***

Ty Hansen

Timothy Stohs

John Wrbanek

***Harp***

Susan Wrbanek

***Trombone***

Stefan Mazur

**Chamber Orchestra Manager** – Joan Wojcicki Fortney**Chamber Orchestra Music Librarian** – Diane Spence

**The TrueNorth Chamber Orchestra** collaborates with the **TrueNorth Chorale** and other soloists with multiple concerts throughout the year. The Chamber Orchestra present a wide array of programs primarily focused on classical music, but many performances each year offer very unique programming. The Chorale and Chamber Orchestra have produced and hosted concerts to raise awareness and funds for various causes throughout the years, such as cancer awareness, hunger, and various national crisis events honoring our fallen heroes and supporting those who suffer.

**Special Thanks to:****Usher/Greeters**

Teresa Hoenig

Holly Moore Kowalksi

Janet Parker

Margaret Resar

**Soundboard AV Tech**

Keith McGregor

**Setup:**

Connor Meek



**RICK FORTNEY, conductor,** is the Founder and Executive Director of TrueNorth Cultural Arts and is also the Director of Music and Arts Ministries at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church. He previously served as the Founder and the Artistic Director to the French Creek Theatre and Cultural Arts Manager for the Lorain County Metro Parks; Director of Choral Activities at Cleveland's John Marshall High School, 2000 – 2008, and Director of Worship Ministries / Minister of Music at Bay Presbyterian Church in Bay Village (1990 – 1999). His professional singing resume includes performances with New York Choral Artists, Musica Sacra, Trevor Pinnock's Classical Band Chorus, The New York Concert Singers, The Juilliard Singers, The National Chorale, The David Dussing Singers, and featured Soloist within the Calvary Baptist Chamber Concert Series. Theatrically he was Spirit McCoy in the Hatfield's and McCoy's in Beckley, West Virginia outdoor theatre; worked with American Entertainment, singing at Convention Shows, State Fairs and Cruise Ships for a number of years; and was in the opera chorus for three seasons with Director Peter Sellers while living in New York City. Rick is an active chorister with The Canterbury Singers, USA having sung several choral residencies at Cathedrals throughout England.

Mr. Fortney received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts Degrees from Bowling Green State University.



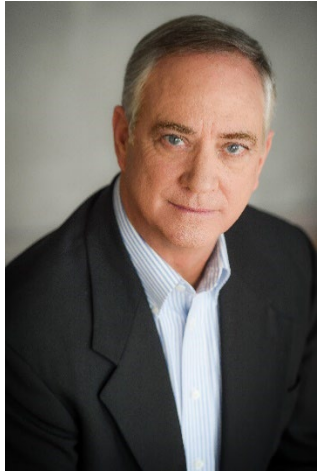


**Maryann Nagel Violand** is a fulltime professional actor working across the country on stage, in film, radio and TV. Currently she can be seen in the films ***THE BEACH HOUSE, FALSE GODS, THE RUSSIAN BRIDE, THE ASSASIN'S CODE, MY FRIEND DAHMER, MY BLIND BROTHER, FINDING LOVE IN VALENTINE, OLD FASHIONED, INTO THE STORM, TAKE SHELTER, THE YANK, THE UMBRELLA MAN, CLOWN TOWN, WELCOME TO COLLINWOOD, DINNER IN AMERICA*** and more.

Ms. Nagel has worked alongside, *HAL HOLBROOK, GEORGE CLOONEY, MICHAEL SHANNON, JESSICA CHASTAIN, ADAM SCOTT, JENNIE SLATE, NICK KROL, ROBIN THOMAS, SAM ROCKWELL, FRED WILLARD, CORBIN BERNSEN, ROSS LYNCH* and others. While living in Los Angeles Maryann worked in episodic series.

Ms. Nagel is a voice actor for Fortune 500 companies such as *GALLO WINES, GENERAL TIRE, GOODYEAR, BP OIL, YOUR STORY HOUR – BOOKS ON TAPE, CHICAGO SYMPHONY, CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA, PITTSBURGH OPERA, EATON CORPORATION, SHERWIN WILLIAMS, AMERICAN GREETINGS* and more.

CURRENTLY SHE IS WORKING FOR *DISNEY MUSICALS IN SCHOOLS, TEACHES/COACHES ACTING, PRODUCES EVENTS AND DIRECTS THEATRICAL SHOWS.*



**Gregory M. Violand** carries an MFA from Kent State University, and a BS Ed. from Bowling Green State University. He has been a professional stage actor (AEA member) for over 40 years, most of those in Northeast Ohio. He has appeared either onstage or directed at The Cleveland Play House, Great Lakes Theatre, Playhouse Square, Cain Park, Dobama, Beck Center, Actor's Summit, Ensemble, Cleveland Opera, Cleveland Lyric Opera, JCC Halle, CSU Summer Stages, TrueNorth Cultural Arts, Porthouse Theatre, Lakeland Civic Theater, The Eldrid Theater, French Creek Theater and other venues including the Virginia Musical Theater and Metro Stage in Washington DC. He also makes his living as a professional actor (SAG-AFTRA member) performing in radio and television commercials, industrial films and the occasional movie and has worked alongside such notables as Hal Holbrook, Delroy Lindo, Kelly McGillis, Katherine Heigl, Kyle Chandler, Cate Blanchett, Tim Robbins and Mark Ruffalo to name a few. To view his list of film & tv credits see (Greg Violand, IMDB) He is semi-retired but still manages to teach adjunct at Lakeland Community College.



*Transforming lives through engagement in the arts*

*Where art meets community*

**TRUENORTH**  
CULTURAL ARTS

TrueNorth is a multidisciplinary arts organization committed to building and strengthening individuals and communities through the performing, visual and the literary arts. Our vision is two-fold: To educate, equip, and empower individuals so they can embrace and succeed in the creative arts; and to envision and encourage communities where creative arts and art appreciation flourish. TrueNorth accomplishes its mission and vision, while fostering these shared values-inclusiveness, community-responsiveness, integrity in operations, and advocacy of the creative arts.

### **TrueNorth Cultural Arts Purpose Statement:**

To transform lives through engagement in the arts... By:

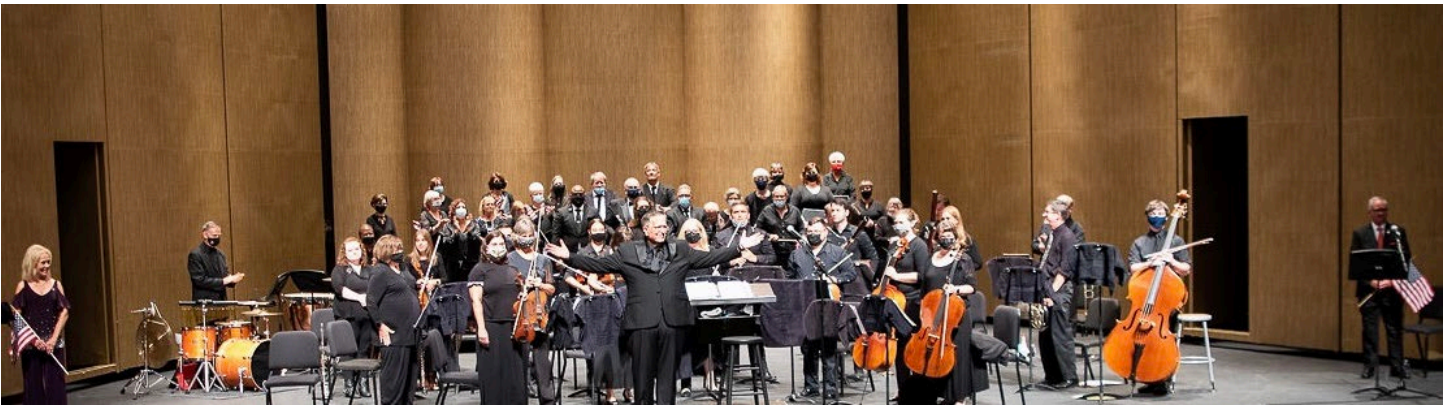
- Encouraging multi-disciplinary art forms and their integration
- Educating, equipping, and empowering artists and audiences
- Celebrating the gifts of the novice through the professional
- Fostering mentoring relationships
- Developing new works, artists, and expressions
- Collaborating with other arts organizations
- Being a safe, respectful, faith-encouraging arts community
- Expecting excellence in all things

As a result: We enrich and strengthen our communities by our presence.

**[www.TNCARTS.ORG](http://www.TNCARTS.ORG)**

TrueNorth Cultural Arts is located at 33467 Lake Road, Suite 208, in Avon Lake. We offer private music lessons on piano, voice, strings, brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments.

Our large Ensembles rehearse at Bay United Methodist Church. We begin rehearsals for the 2024-2025 season the second week of September. Membership in both ensembles is open to all high school students and above. The Chorale rehearses on Tuesday evenings, 7:00-9:00 p.m. The Chamber Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:30 p.m.



**2024 – 2025 Season ... mark your calendars!**

**TrueNorth Christmas Concert**

Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

Featuring Randall Bass' ***Gloria***

Dan Forrest and Mack Wilberg Christmas Carols

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Oboes featuring Meredith Bradley and Kim Weaver.

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Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

Featuring Donald McCullough's

***The Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps,***

Songs and letters written by Nazi concentration camp  
prisoners. Tribute to the victims and survivors of the  
Holocaust.

## **TrueNorth Patriotic Concert**

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>



**TrueNorth Cultural Arts  
Chorale and Chamber Orchestra  
*present***

***Christmas Joy ... Let the Stable Still Astonish***  
**TrueNorth 2024 Christmas Concert**

***Featuring***

***Christmas Concerto***

**(Concerto grosso in G minor, Op. 6, No. 8 Arcangelo Corelli)**

***Randall Bass' Gloria***

**Dan Forrest and Mack Wilberg Christmas Carols**

**Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 p.m.**

***Avon Lake Presbyterian Church***

***32340 Electric Blvd.***

***(just west of Jaycox Road, north side of the street)***

**OPEN ADMISSION – FREE-WILL OFFERING**