

UUCA Music

An official search for a new Music Director will begin in the Spring. In the meantime, we have some exciting things planned for this transitional year and new members to our music team for you to meet.

Accompanist



By now, we hope you have all met our new accompanist, Laura Peterson. Laura is a classically trained pianist, composer, and arranger living in Springfield, Va.

Laura has worked in games, software, and media as a game designer, product manager, and agile coach in Washington, D.C. and Europe while performing and composing on a freelance basis. She has provided original music and soundtracks for apps, short films, websites, and family events, including several 48 Hour Film Projects, scoring the award-winning documentary entry "As Long As It Takes" about the story of John Wojnowski.

Laura has also arranged and performed for studio sessions at Cue and Bias Studios and performed with East Coast bands Crooked Crow, The Energy, and Tigertronic at venues such as Irving Plaza, The Bitter End, The State Theatre, 9:30 Club, and DC9.

Laura sang with the Danny Ozment Chorale at two Video Games Live performances with the NSO at Wolf Trap's Filene Center. Most recently, Laura was the musical director of independent production "Lukas: A Musical", written and performed by Ben Southam and Nicole Ratjen in Berlin.

She graduated with honors from the Birmingham Conservatoire in Birmingham, England, in 2000 under the tutelage of Mark Racz. A studio album of original works is currently in production with Dave Mallen at Innovation Station in Annandale, Virginia.

Laura's personal interests and activities include agile consulting, yoga, travel, history, movies and games, and classic cars. She lives with her husband and two Siberian cats, Koshka and Sputnik, in Springfield.

Interim Choir Director



Many of you might remember Michael Carver. He is an outstanding choral director who served as the Interim Director at UUCA prior to Bob Griffith's tenure. We are all delighted to welcome him back!

Guest Directors



Throughout the year, we will experience several top tier directors who will come in to work with the choir at a Thursday evening rehearsal, offer a workshop that Saturday and lead the music in worship that Sunday. Our first Guest Director will be **Donald Milton III**. Donald is an incredible musician and is the current Music Director at the UU Church of Atlanta. Many of you may remember him as a music leader at General Assembly.

These outstanding choral directors will provide the choir and the congregation an opportunity to experience a variety of styles and personalities which will better inform us as we embark on the search for a permanent Music Director.

Some of you may be wondering about Bob Kline's role in all this and you should know that he was the first one asked about both accompanying and directing and he declined on both counts. He's a grandpa now after all! Having said that, Bob will continue to be the accompanist for the Children's Choirs and will participate in other ways as he is willing and able.

NOW is a great time to join the choir if you have any interest in singing! It will be a FUN and EXCITING year! We meet each Thursday night, from 7:15 to 9 p.m.