THE DR. GRIER WILLIAMS SCHOOL OF MUSIC PRESENTS

JWF ingers

Dr. Peter Steenblik, director





Florida Music Educators Association 2025 Conference

Thursday, January 9, 2025, 6:30 p.m. Tampa Convention Center, Ballroom B



Message from the President

On behalf of the University of West Florida, I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the UWF Singers for their prestigious invitation to perform at the 2025 Florida Music Education Association Professional Learning Conference. This achievement is a testament

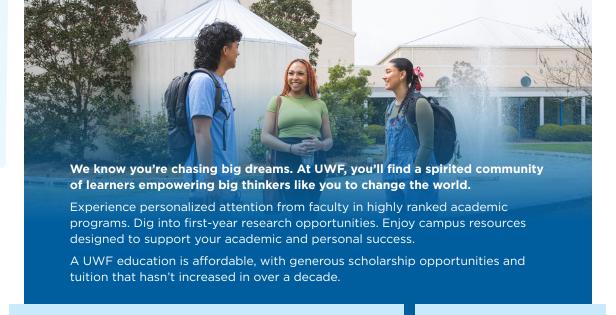
to the dedication, talent and hard work of our students and the entire Williams School of Music faculty. It fills me with immense pride to see the UWF Singers, a group that includes majors from all four of our dynamic colleges, being recognized for their excellence.

We invite you to visit our beautiful Pensacola campus. In addition to serving as a destination for arts and culture in Northwest Florida, we are one of the largest geographic campuses in the state of Florida, proudly nestled between the sea and forest with a long-standing commitment to serving our community through environmental stewardship.

From our diverse and intellectually engaging programs that showcase the value of the liberal arts, to our signature programs in cybersecurity, supply-chain logistics, and intelligent systems and robotics, UWF is a transformative place for students, colleagues and the community.

I am delighted to see our University's musical traditions and artistic community recognized at the state level.

Martha D. Saunders, Ph.D. *University of West Florida President*



FRESHMAN AID

89%

RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

36%

QUALIFY FOR PELL GRANTS

\$10.6M

GIFT AID AWARDED

\$9,339

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2023-2024

70+

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

22:1

STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO

Beautiful beaches. A thriving historic downtown. In Pensacola, you'll always be an idea away from your next adventure. Paddleboard with friends. Study on the beach. Discover new eats. Explore art and history museums managed by the University's Historic Trust. Here, your college experience will be anything but boring.

Discover for yourself why students say UWF's personable, tight-knit community feels like home.

uwf.edu/apply



Program Notes

Florida has many old cities, some of the earliest **European-established** settlements in the New World. However, only one can hold the title of first, and it's probably not the one you're thinking of.

Pensacola is "Florida's first city." The area was settled in 1559 by Don Tristán de Luna y Arellano (1510-1573). Pensacola likes to remind St. Augustine, oft hailed as the first permanent settlement in the U.S., that we were here six years earlier, and sixty-one years before the establishment of Plymouth Colony. The newly established Pensacola settlement was destroyed by a hurricane, abandoned, and not resettled until 1698: therein lies the confusion and impassioned debate. Google it.

And so, we proudly title our concert From the First City of Florida, as we present to you a program inspired by beginnings, origins, inceptions, and rebirths.

FIRST BREATH

The delightful poetry of David Warner is set magically by Mack Wilberg and explores the Wonder that is life; our first breath, thought. bruise, and discovery.

FROM THE NEW WORLD

This set spans historic and indigenous settlements throughout North and South America. We begin with *Hanacpachap*, the

first known polyphonic work published in the Western hemisphere. As new settlements collided with ancient tradition, Juan Pérez de Bocanegra specialized in the proper use of Quechua among the indigenous peoples of Peru. The second piece. *Čhanté Wašté Hokšíla*, is a lullaby traditionally sung by Lakota Sioux mothers to their young children. This setting, by Dr. William Linthicum-Blackhorse, takes the listener on a journey as it pays tribute to the nineteen children and two teachers murdered at Robb Elementary in 2022. We round out the set with a Requiem by José Mauricio Nunes Garcia, a biracial, Brazilian composer of the early nineteenth century.

ORIGIN STORIES

The Christian God, Mother Nature, and Thor are all united in this collection of origins. Ama Namin is a setting of the familiar Lord's Prayer by Philippine composer Fidel Calalang, Jr. They Are Mother displays the mystery, grandeur, joy and energy of Mother Nature's multigendered, divine creating force. Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Viking Song is a jaunty pre-WWI anthem inspired by the strength of Thor and Odin.

MOVING FORWARD

While I Breathe, I Hope was written for SSA chorus during the Covid-19 pandemic. Safety of breath, the source of all life, was called into question. Many of us can still recall feelings of fear, anxiety, and darkness. Paradoxically, focusing on breath is one way to bring calm, peace, and mindfulness. We proudly present this new SATB setting to you, its first audience. And finally, I Can See Clearly Now continues this spirit of renewal as we forge ahead in hope.



First Breath

from Dances to Life: Wonder (2007)......Mack Wilberg

Troy Harris & Hyunjoo Kim, piano Melia Coulter, Gavin Fisher, & Jaiden Ejan, percussion handbells added with permission

From wat'ry, dark, round cradle out Pulled high, you dangle, look about. One slap—you dance and sing and shout And wonder...

One breath—four limbs spring out in space Swing up and down and pound in place. How far this monumental race, You wonder?

One blink—bright planets racing by Collide mere inches from your eye. What more than sunbeams fill this sky, You wonder?

One foot steps out, all fours go down, Then up and tearing all around, Has any king more power found, You wonder? One hand flings out to meet a stair, Before you hit you're in the air. Who is this giant always there, You wonder?

One hurt, and two, and growing fast, The bruises fade into the past. Will anything about you last, You wonder?

One heart that beats life's steady drum Takes hurts and hands and feet in sum, And makes of them what you become So wonder...

That life's old dance will never end— You're young, you're old, you're young again. So turn and leap and spin and bend And wonder! Yes, wonder!

text by David WarnerOxford University Press 9780193869394

From the New World

Hanacpachap Cussicuinin (1631).....attr. to Juan Pérez de Bocanegra (ca. 1560-1645)

Abigail Morse, conductor; David Lyon, bass Jaiden Ejan, Gavin Fisher, & Henry Peyton, percussion

Sung in Quechua

Hanacpachap cussicuinin, Huaran cacta muchascaique. Yupairuru pococmallqui, Runa cunap suyacuinin. Callpannacpa quemicuinin, Huaciascaita.

Uyarihuai muchascaita Diospa rampan Diospamaman Yurac tocto pamancaiman Yupascalla, collpascaita Huahuarquiman suyuscaita Ricuchillai.

Hanacpachap callasanan Canchac punchau tutayachec Quilla pasca raurayachec Angelcunap cochocunan Hinantimpa rirpucunan Cauçac pucyu.

Gloria cachun Dios yayapac Dios churipac hinallatac Sancto espiritupachuantac Cachun gloria, wiñaillapac Cauçaicunap, cauçainimpac Cussicachun, Amen. The joy of heaven I will kiss you a thousand times revered heart of the great three, hope of the people To whom, even the strongest lean.

Notice my call, my kisses.
Shelter of God, Mother of God.
white dove priced like the flower
of the jamankay (flower). Show Him how I
helped your son,
How I fed Him.

Descendant from heaven who darkens a bright day who lights up the moon, Where the angels quench destiny for everyone living spring of water.

May there be glory for the Lord and for his son as well and for the Holy Spirit. May there be glory for ever for the living to continue having life May there be joy. Amen.

- text attr. the composer, translation provided by Dr. Victor L. Maqque CPDL

Čhanté Wašté Hokšíla (2022)..... Traditional Lakota Lullaby

arr. Linthicum-Blackhorse

Sung in Lakota

Ahí yé, hé yo iyé. We hé yo iyé. Ahí vé, hé vo ivéva.

Ani ye, ne yo iyeya.

We yeló iyé.

Čhaŋté wašté hokšíla

lá khé ištiŋma. Haŋhépi kiŋ wašté.

We yeló iyé.

I have brought you here, so I can speak to you in your language.

I am speaking to you in your language.

I have brought you here, so that you will recognize me.

I am speaking your language.

My kind-hearted boy I beg you to fall asleep. The Night is good.

I am speaking your language.

traditional Lakota text
 Mark Foster 01100788

from Requiem in D minor (1816)...... José Maurício Nunes Garcia (1767-1830)

1. Requiem aeternam

orchestral reduction by Joseph Spaniola Kenzie Taylor, flute; Clyde Santos, clarinet; Garrett Groff, violin Brooklyn Floyd, viola; Logan Perez, cello; David Lyon, bass

Sung in Latin

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Te decet hymnus Deus in Zion, et tibi redetur votum in Jerusalem: exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis caro veniet.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. A hymn befits thee, O God in Zion, and to thee a vow shall be fulfilled

in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer,

for unto thee all flesh shall come.

- liturgical text CPDL



Origin Stories

Ama Namin (2015)..... Fidel G. Calalang, Jr.

Sung in Tagalog

Ama namin susmasalangit ka. Sambahin ang ngalan mo. Mapasaamin ang kaharian mo. Sundin ang loob mo, dito sa lupa, para ng sa langit.

Bigyan mo kami ngayon ng aming kakanin sa arawaraw.

At patawarin mo kami sa aming manga sala;

para ng pagpapatawad namin

sa nagkakasala sa amin.

At huwag mo kaming ipahintulot sa tukso; at iadya mo kami sa dilang masasama. Sapagkat sa'yo nagmumula ang kaharian,

at kapangyarihan at kal'walhatian magpakailanman.

Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven:

hallowed be thy name: Thy kingdom come;

Thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from the evil one.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory

forever. Amen.

- Matthew 6:9-13 earthsongs S-410

They Are Mother (2022)..... Jennifer Lucy Cook

What shall I call this force I know
Who do I come to when I wonder
The space that holds me when I'm low
More than a parent, friend, or lover

They are Mover They are Maker They are Mother, mm

They are Mother, mm
They are the breath Is

They are the breath I see in cold The ready muscle in the sprinter They are the glitter and the gold The steady heat lamp in the winter

They are Mover
They are Maker
They are Mother, mm
They are Mother, mm

They nod and know
They need nothing
They're god and grow
They bleed blessings
They are solitude
They are multitude
They are gratitude

Laugh lines around the all-seeing eye And I can lean up into the sky

What do I call this force I know Who do I come to when I wonder

They are Mover
They are Maker
They are Mother, mm
They are Mother, mm

- text by the composer Graphite Publishing GP-C009

Viking Song (1911)...... Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

in recognition of 150 years since the composer's birth

Clang, clang, clang on the anvil, In the smithy by the dark North Sea; Is it Thor that is smiting with the hammer, Is it Odin with the leather on his knee? Clang, clang, clang on the anvil There are steel ships wanted on the sea!

Clang, clang, clang on the anvil, And the flames of the forges leap. Old Thor, with his red beard glowing, Has his eyes on the furrows of the deep. Clang, clang, clang on the anvil For the forge of the Viking may not sleep! Clang, clang, clang on the anvil,
And the hammers of the island leap;
Britania with her bright hair glowing,
Has her eye on the furrows of the deep.
Clang, clang, clang on the anvil,
For the blood of the Viking may not sleep!

Clang, clang, clang on the anvil, On the margin of the soul-bright sea; Is it Odin that is watching in the shadow? Is it Thor where the sparks fly free? Clang, clang, clang on the anvil, There are steel ships wanted on the sea!

- text by David McKee Wright (1869-1928) CPDL

Moving Forward

While I Breathe, I Hope (2024)...... Jocelyn Hagen World premiere SATB version

Follow one breath. Go where it goes down to the dark,

past bone, past heart,

past hurt, to light.

to rest only a moment

in the strength of your soul's cupped hands.

Hope is born here, hope is cradled, breathing itself, ready to rise with your breath and return through your heart through your voice through your song. Dum Spiro Spero: While I breathe, I hope.

- text by Brian Newhouse manuscript

I Can See Clearly Now (1972/2019)...... Johnny Nash (1940-2020)

arr. Beth Hanson in the style of Holly Cole David Lyon, bass; Gavin Fisher & Jaiden Ejan, percussion

I can see clearly now, the rain is gone.
I can see all obstacles in my way.
Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind.
It's gonna be a bright, sunshiney day.
I think I can make it now, the pain is gone.
All of my bad feelings have disappeared.
There is the rainbow I've been prayin' for.
It's gonna be a bright, sunshiney day.

Look all around, nothing but blue skies. Look straight ahead, nothing but blue skies. I can see clearly now, the rain is gone. I can see all obstacles in my way. Gone is the dark cloud that had me blind. It's gonna be a bright, sunshiney day.

text by the composer manuscript



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UWF Singers Roster

Courtney Benaquis

~ @ Sophomore BA Music BSBA Business Navarre, FL

Lex Bowers ~ Senior

BM Vocal Performance Wilmington, DE

Lana Bradley ~

Freshman BME Music Education (choral) Belton, MO

Gabrielle Carley ^ @

Senior BM Vocal Performance Ashland, KY

Ashlin Chambers +

Freshman BSBA General Business Navarre, FL

Melia Coulter

Junior BME Music Education (band) Pensacola, FL

Ashley Decker * @

Sophomore BM Vocal Performance Niceville, FL

Joe Decker @

Senior BM Vocal Performance Niceville, FL

Olivia Enkey

Senior BM Viola Performance Pensacola, FL

Dylan Ervin

Graduate
BA Legal Studies /
Minor Hospitality &
Tourism
Milton, FL

Dylan Fischer ~ @

Junior BA Music / BA Arts Administration Pensacola, FL

Logan Fischer

Junior
BA Music / BA Arts
Administration
Pensacola, FL

Erin Flanagan

Sophomore BA Music / BA Arts Administration Navarre, FL

Ali Hampton +

Freshman BA Psychology DeFuniak Springs, FL

Brianna Harris +

Freshman BSBA Finance Pensacola, FL

Piper Harris @

Freshman BS Nursing Homewood, AL

Troy Harris, Jr.

Junior BME Music Education (piano) Pensacola, FL

Riley Hart

Freshman BA Music / BA Arts Administration Pensacola, FL

Bird Hinze ~

Freshman BM Vocal Performance Destin, FL

Kate Holloway

Freshman BME Music Education (choral) Pace, FL

Kaylah Holton ~

Junior BM Vocal Performance Pensacola, FL

Jacob Hver *

Junior BME Music Education (choral) Venice, FL

Kyndall Jefferson *

Sophomore BME Music Education (choral) / BM Vocal Performance Gulf Breeze, FL

Maegan Jensen ~

Senior BME Music Education (band) Pace, FL

Cadence Johnson

Freshman BA Music / BS Biomedical Science Ft. Walton Beach, FL

Chloe Josselyn

Freshman
BME Music Education
(choral)
Mulberry, FL

Jermel Kidd

Junior BME Music Education (piano) Pensacola, FL

Jada Landrum +

Freshman BA Music / BA Psychology Pensacola, FL

Rachael Lee * ~ @

Senior BM Vocal Performance Pensacola, FL

Elyse Mallory ~

Junior
BA Music / BA
Education
Niceville, FL

Antha McClure

Junior BA Music / BS Marine Biology Snellville, GA

Katie McElroy +

Freshman BS Biomedical Science Niceville, FL

Morgan Merrell *~

Junior BME Music Education (choral) Arlington, TX

Abigail Morse ^

Senior BME Music Education (choral) Pace, FL

Kayla Neely ^ @ Sophomore

BME Music Education (choral) Pace, FL

Angie Perez

Junior BM Vocal Performance Pensacola, FL

Henry Peyton

Sophomore AA General Studies Pensacola, FL

Giovanie Plesimond

Freshman BA Studio Art Orange Park, FL

Leigh Proctor ~

Senior BA Music / BA Arts Administration Midland, TX

Mary Provencher

Senior
BS Global Hospitality
& Tourism / Minor
Music
Pace, FL

Andrei Reynoso ~ @

Senior BA Arts Administration Fayetteville, NC

Storm Robbins @

Graduate MSW Social Work Panama City, FL

Brooke Ryan @

Senior BA Music / BA Psychology Fairhope, AL

Ava Schreckengost @

Freshman BS Health Sciences Navarre, FL

Harry Smith ~

Senior
BA Arts
ce Administration
Panama City, FL

Zander Smith

Sophomore AA Theatre Navarre, FL

Andrew Sousa * Senior

Senior BA Psychology Fort Walton Beach, FL

Jordan Svendsen @

Senior BM Vocal Performance Fairhope, AL

Nolan Syverson

Junior BS Biology Pensacola, FL

Brooklyn Wilcox

Sophomore BGS General Studies Pensacola, FL

Vivienne Wolfe

Freshman BM Vocal Performance Niceville. FL

Kalani Yen

Senior BM Vocal Performance Niceville, FL

Veronica Zaldana ~ @

Junior BA Music / BA Psychology Pensacola, FL

^ presidency

* section leaders

~ choir officers

+ 2024-2025 Larry Butler Memorial Choral Scholars

@ 2024-2025 Argo Singing Scholars

La'Christa C. Knox Memorial Scholarship Recipient



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Dr. Peter Steenblik is Director of Choral Activities at the University of West Florida and the Artistic Director of the Choral Society of Pensacola. He is the President-Elect for the Florida chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, recipient of the 2023 FMEA College Music Educator of the Year award, and the 2022 FVA Service Award, a manifestation of the impact his work has had in the state and beyond. An active presenter, adjudicator, and clinician, recent appearances have included

the Xi'an International Choral Festival, the Chengdu Children's Choir Festival, the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute, the Festival Singers of Florida Indonesian Tour, various ACDA Division Conferences, the Florida Vocal Association State MPA and Summer Convention, Florida Music Educators Association Conference, Utah Music Educators Association State Festival, Mississippi High School Activities Association, Alabama Vocal Association, and ACDA state conferences in Florida, Georgia, and Utah. He has served as the head of choral activities for the Utah Music Educators Association and on the Utah ACDA board as R & S Chair for Men's Choruses. He conducted the 2023 FMEA All-state Reading Chorus, and various honor choirs in Florida, Utah, Alabama, and Tennessee. Steenblik's choirs recently performed by invitation at the Florida ACDA Conference in Orlando and the ACDA Southern Division Conference with the Mobile Symphony Orchestra, and are honored to be a feature at the 2025 Florida Music Educators Conference. Additional collaborations include the Tabernacle Choir, Utah Symphony, Ballet West, Women's Chorus of Dallas, Pensacola Opera, and Pensacola Symphony Orchestra.

Previous artistic appointments include Chorus Master for Pensacola Opera, Director of Women's Chorus at the University of North Texas, and Director of Choral Music at Jordan High School (Salt Lake City). He holds a DMA in conducting and vocal pedagogy from the University of North Texas, and degrees in conducting and choral music education from the University of Utah. Pensacola has become his home where he regularly spends time with toes in the sand and jogging along the bayou. To learn more, visit **petersteenblik.com.**

Hyunjoo Kim is the accompanist and collaborative pianist of the choir at the University of West Florida, and the organist/pianist at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Pensacola. A member of the American Guild of Organists since 2015, she is currently working towards a DMA in organ performance from the Florida State University. She holds a master's degree in organ performance from Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea. She holds a bachelor's degree in music from the Catholic University of Korea, and, while seeking her degree, she served as an organist at a Presbyterian church. Hyunjoo has served as the collaborative pianist of the Choral Society of Pensacola, and as organist at St. Mark United Methodist Church. Prior to making Pensacola her home, she served as a pianist at Lake Forest Baptist Church in Gainesville, Florida, and as an organist at Jesus Community Church in San Diego, California.





Message from the Director

Let me express my sincerest gratitude to FMEA for the performance invitation extended to the UWF Singers. This is a representative milestone for our department. The Dr. Grier Williams School of Music was among the first departments created at the University of West Florida, almost 60 years ago, and we continue to grow in leaps and bounds. With the acquisition of football in 2016, a natural next step was growth of a proper Marching Band which has now taken the field and is representative of the Argonaut energy. Our

Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, String Orchestra, and Chamber Music programs fill out the curricular opportunities. Additionally, we are a proud All-Steinway school.

We recently received an \$8M cash gift, among the largest single-donor gestures in university history. This endowment is designated specifically for music scholarships. The Williams School of Music provides a personalized, all-undergraduate education with expert faculty who develop well-rounded graduates equipped with the tools for success.

Whether majoring in one of our three music degrees, or participating in a musical ensemble while pursuing another degree, we hope you strongly consider UWF. There are amazing things happening here.

Corey McKern, Director

Dr. Grier Williams School of Music

Dr. Grier Williams School of Music Information

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

- BME Music Education
- BM Music Performance
- BA Music and an Outside Field
- Music Minor

ENSEMBLE OPPORTUNITIES

- Argo Chorus (TB)
- Argo Marching Band
- Chamber Music
- Concert Choir (SA)
- Jazz Band
- Jazz Combo
- Opera Workshop

- Percussion Ensemble
- Runge Strings Orchestra
- String Quartet
- Symphonic Band
- UWF Singers (SATB)

For choir-specific news, info, and videos, visit **uwfsingers.com**.







Voice Area

The voice area at the University of West Florida provides ample opportunities for study and performance. As an undergraduate-only institution, our applied instructors are able to provide an individualized 4-year trajectory, customized to the needs of each singer. Students perform in weekly masterclass settings while receiving private instruction. An equally-balanced faculty in both the Williams School of Music and the Department of Theater affords the opportunity to specialize in career-defining ways.

Williams School of Music

Corey McKern, Director

Voice Instructors

Dr. Sheila Dunn, Director of Voice Bizhou Chang Corey McKern Dr. Allanda Small

Collaborative Pianists:

Tom Baroco Hyunjoo Kim Blake Riley Brittany Shaffer

Department of Theatre

Glenn Breed, Chair

Voice Instructors

Sara Schoch, Director of Musical Theatre Jack Chandler Timothy Fitz-Gerald Dr. Rachel Gibson

Collaborative Pianists

Tina Buran Ryan Mabry Joy Weirick



Message from the Dean

Thank you for your attendance at today's concert; UWF Singers represents just one ensemble in a vibrant artistic community. The Center for Fine and Performing Arts at the University of West Florida is the cultural center of campus and, in many ways, the greater Pensacola area.

We welcome at least 30,000 people to over 100 events annually. In addition to the Dr. Grier Williams School of Music, the CFPA is home to the Department of Art and Design, with degrees in Fine and Studio Art, Graphic Design, and Art History, and the Department of Theatre, an undergraduate-only program that produces 4 mainstage productions a year. Students in this program receive major performance opportunities in addition to training in stage tech and a one-of-a-kind costume design program. Whether interested in music, art, theatre, or another aspect of the humanities, we invite you to participate.

David Earle, Dean College of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Music Scholarship information

The Dr. Grier Williams School of Music has a robust scholarship initiative. Auditions for degree programs for the 2025-2026 school year are held:

- Friday, December 6, 2024
- Friday, February 14, 2025
- Friday, May 2, 2025

Priority scholarship deadline is annually December 1 for university-sponsored scholarships, and March 31 for Williams School of Music scholarships. To be eligible, students must have their university application and WSOM audition completed. Scholarship consideration preference will be given in order of completed applications received. For more information, visit uwf.edu/music.

Acknowledgements



Dr. Sheila Dunn, Director

Dr. Sean Kellev. Director of

Bands & Music Education

Hyunjoo Kim, Faculty

Laura Noah, Director of

of Voice

Pianist

Percussion

Larry Butler Memorial Choral Scholarship Fund Argo Singing Scholars Foundation

La'Christa Knox Memorial Endowment

Anonymous Gift

Additional Thanks

Dr. Marie-Thérèse Champagne, consultant on *Viking Song*

Juliana Child, consultant on *Čhaŋté Wašté Hokšíla*

Jennifer Lucy Cook, consultant on *They Are Mother*

Jocelyn Hagen, consultant on *While I Breathe, I Hope*

Abilene Kirk, consultant on *Ama Namin*

Dr. Carol Krueger, preparatory consultant

Dr. Victor L. Maqque, consultant on *Hanacpachap Cussicuinin*

