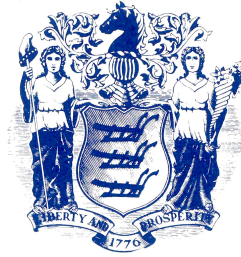


THE
CONTINUO ARTS
— FOUNDATION —
PROMOTIONAL PACKET

State of New Jersey



THE SENATE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N.J.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

By Senator KEAN, Assemblyman BRAMNICK and Assemblywoman MUNOZ

WHEREAS, The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey are pleased to honor and salute the Continuo Arts Foundation, a highly esteemed nonprofit organization headquartered in the Garden State, upon the occurrence of its historic concert inside the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City on February 19, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, This significant event marks the occasion of the first-ever performance by an American ensemble within the Sistine Chapel; and,

WHEREAS, Under the superb leadership of Director and Associate Conductor Tom Colao and Founder, Principal Conductor, President, and Executive Director Candace Wicke, members of the National Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus and singers from the All Saints Princeton Choir will perform five movements of *Requiem For My Mother* by Hollywood Composer Stephen James Edwards; and,

WHEREAS, Participating in this historic event are more than one hundred individuals from nine states who are all admired for their impressive musical skills and talents as evidenced by their selection to take part in this important and memorable performance; and,

WHEREAS, Their exemplary efforts in seeking and achieving excellence have earned for the leaders and members of the Continuo Arts Foundation and its National Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus the high regard of the New Jersey Legislature and the people of this State; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

That this Legislature hereby recognizes the occasion of the National Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus' landmark performance at the Sistine Chapel, commends the meritorious record of service and commitment of the Continuo Arts Foundation, and extends sincere best wishes for a successful and enjoyable concert; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker and attested by the Senate Secretary and the Assembly Clerk, be transmitted to the Continuo Arts Foundation.

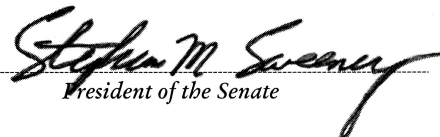
Attest:



Jennifer A. McQuaid
Secretary of the Senate



Dana M. Burley
Clerk of the General Assembly


President of the Senate


Speaker of the General Assembly

THE CONTINUO ARTS SYMPHONIC CHORUS



Founded in 2007, the inaugural concert of the Continuo Arts Foundation's Symphonic Chorus took place in 2008 at the prestigious Festival Pro Musica E Arte Sacra in Rome, Italy. Under the direction of Maestra Candace Wicke, the chorus serves as a Choir-in-Residence in Carnegie Hall and has repeatedly been featured in first tier venues at home and around the world including Lincoln Center, Boardwalk Hall, The Music Center at Strathmore, the Sistine Chapel, Carnegie Hall and other concert halls of note.

The Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus is the subject of a feature length documentary, broadcast nationwide on PBS in 2017 and 2018. The Choruses' recording of *Requiem For My Mother* with the Prague Philharmonic topped the Billboard Charts for eight weeks when released in 2017, received a Hollywood Media & Music Award and was nominated for an IMA Award.

Reviewed by the New York Times as "*the single pleasure of the show*" in reference to the world premiere performances of Disney's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at Paper Mill Playhouse, the chorus has toured with international stars the likes of Andrew Rieu and according to the Huffington Post "*is one of the top attractions of the show.*" After a recent performance in Carnegie Hall, the Chorus was acknowledged by Maestro John Rutter as "*splendid singers with that 'something special,' and as to the children; the finest children's choir I've had the privilege to work with.*"

Comprised of members from the Civic Chorale, Children and Youth Choirs of New Jersey, the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus is renowned globally for compositional premieres, diverse repertoire and engaging performances. Previous appearances include internationally televised concert broadcasts as well as performance tours in the Czech Republic, Ireland, Italy, and Vatican City. The 2019 season includes a performance residency at the prestigious International Festival of the Aegean in Syros and Athens, Greece.

THE CONTINUO ARTS SYMPHONIC CHORUS

REVIEWS

THE NEW YORK TIMES

"... the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus sounds marvelous: one of the signal pleasures of the show is the rich choral singing."

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"... uncommonly complex, classically-influenced score often soars, thanks in no small part to the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus."

ASBURY PARK PRESS

"... To hear the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus singing this music is one of the top attractions of the show."

BROADWAY WORLD

"... the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus lends wonderful vocals."

HUFFINGTON POST

"... truly excellent singing from the Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus that certainly adds punch to the many, many climactic moments. [...] Those who are musically inclined will appreciate the complexity of the score, the motifs for characters that are repeated throughout and the Latin choral work drawing on classic religious melodies."

TIMES SQUARE CHRONICLES

"... The Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus supplies a divine celestial choir."

NORTH JERSEY

"... The Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus' rich sound helps transport audience members to another realm."

"Safely home again, I want to write and thank you all most cordially for what I felt was some splendid singing—I think the warmth of the audience response at the end of the concert spoke for itself. Rehearsals went smoothly, and I am indeed grateful for your close attention and responsiveness. The performance had just that bit extra, which we always hope for.

A special word to the children's choir: you were *great!* Thank you.

What better than a fine performance in a fine concert hall, and Carnegie Hall is assuredly one of the world's finest. I hope you were uplifted by the experience, as I was.

- *John Rutter, composer*



"For any new arts organization today to survive for years – let alone achieve the notable successes of Continuo Arts – is as remarkable as it is commendable. The lives you have enriched with your dedication to excellence and musical meaning are found not only on the stage in performers but also in the audiences who have been fortunate to experience your music-making.

There is much to celebrate, especially the prospect of what the future holds for The Continuo Arts Foundation."

- *Gary Fry, composer*

"I remember when this idea was only a dream. What an amazing job you and your team have done creating a world-class foundation for the promotion of the performing arts and music education.

It's no secret that you have provided inspiring performance opportunities in world-class venues for scores of singers and instrumentalists for many years. I applaud your vision and stamina."

- *Mark Hayes, composer*



"I have watched your organization grow tremendously and feel a special bond and honor to have been a small part of it. Each and every one of you should acknowledge yourselves as artists in the truest sense of the word, and you should be proud to be authors of your artistic endeavors.

Continuo Arts has flourished beyond any of our wildest expectations, and the organization is really only beginning. Since all of you have covered this immense amount of ground in such a short time, just imagine what could be possible in the future!"

- *Stephen Edwards, composer*


THE CONTINUO ARTS FOUNDATION

S E L E C T E D A P P E A R A N C E S

(in addition to local concert series and community service)

<i>Mass of the Children</i> (Rutter)	Carnegie Hall Choir-In-Residence appearance, Carnegie Hall (Isaac Stern Auditorium), New York City, New York	May 2018
<i>Vesperae Solennes de Confessore</i> (Mozart)	First concert as Choir-in-Residence at Carnegie Hall, Carnegie Hall (Isaac Stern Auditorium), New York City, New York	February 2018
<i>Mass of the Children</i> (Rutter)	<i>XV Festival Internazionale di Musica e Arte Sacra</i> , Vatican City and Rome, Italy	November 2016
<i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i> (Menken, Schwartz), world premiere	Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn, New Jersey	March – April 2015
<i>Requiem</i> (Hayes) <i>Misa Azteca</i> (Gonzalez)	<i>XIII Festival Internazionale di Musica e Arte Sacra</i> , Vatican City and Rome, Italy	October 2014
<i>Requiem</i> (Mozart) <i>Choral Fantasy</i> (Beethoven)	Concert with the National Sacred Honor Choir in collaboration with the Greatbatch School of Music at Houghton College, Carnegie Hall (Isaac Stern Auditorium), New York City, New York	March 2014
Selections from <i>Requiem for My Mother</i> (Edwards)	<i>Concerto Cappella Sistina & Idyllic Ireland</i> tour, Vatican City and Assisi, Italy; Limerick and Dublin, Ireland	February 2014
<i>Missa Brevis</i> (Edwards), world premiere	<i>II Festival Internazionale di Arte per Giovani Musicisti</i> , Rome and Assisi, Italy; Prague, Czech Republic	November 2012
<i>Yunus Emre</i> (Sayun)	Turkish oratorio performance sponsored by Turkish government, Lincoln Center (Avery Fischer Hall), New York City, New York; The Music Center at Strathmore, Washington D.C.	April 2012
<i>Missa Brevis</i> (Raminsh)	Inaugural concert of <i>II Festival Internazionale di Arte per Giovani Musicisti</i> , Vatican City, Rome, and Assisi, Italy	March 2011
Performance with violinist Andre Rieu during his tour	Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey	June 2010
<i>Missa Brevis</i> (Raminsh) <i>Hope; Sing a Song with Me</i> (Fry), world premiere	The Lee Kjelson Memorial <i>Sounds of Music</i> Concert, Carnegie Hall (Isaac Stern Auditorium), New York City, New York	March 2010
<i>A Carol Fantasy</i> (Edwards), world premiere	World premiere at the Christmas in the City Concert, Carnegie Hall (Isaac Stern Auditorium), New York City, New York	November 2009
<i>Requiem for My Mother</i> (Edwards), international premiere	Vatican City and Rome, Italy	November 2008
<i>Requiem for My Mother</i> (Edwards), world premiere	Carnegie Hall (Isaac Stern Auditorium), New York City, New York	November 2006

D I S C O G R A P H Y / V I D E O G R A P H Y

<i>Requiem for My Mother</i> (Edwards)	Featured in a national documentary aired on  PBS	May 2017
<i>Missa Brevis</i> (Edwards)	CD recorded at Smecky Studios, Prague, Czech Republic	November 2012
<i>Sing a Song with Me</i> (Fry)	Recorded live at Carnegie Hall, New York City, New York	March 2010
<i>A Carol Fantasy</i> (Edwards)	Recorded live at Carnegie Hall, New York City, New York	November 2009
<i>Requiem for My Mother</i> (Edwards)	CD recorded at Marconi Studios, Rome, Italy	November 2008

CANDACE WICKE

PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR



Hailed as a “true maestro,” conductor Candace Wicke made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2002. As a champion of new music, Dr. Wicke has premiered new works in many of her Carnegie Hall appearances including the World Premiere of Imant Raminsh’s *Symphony of Psalms*, Gary Fry’s *Sing a Song With Me*, and Stephen Edward’s *A Carol Fantasy, Requiem For My Mother, Revelation, Missa Brevis* and the New York Premiere of the *Ave Maria Mass*. Featured as a conductor with The Continuo Arts Symphonic Chorus and the Prague Philharmonic in the nationwide PBS documentary broadcast of *Requiem For My Mother*, the recording of this work spent eight weeks on Billboard’s Top Ten Chart, received a Hollywood Media & Music Award and an IMA nomination.

Sharing the stage with the likes of the Vienna Philharmonic, Christoph Eschenbach, and Helmuth Rilling, Wicke appeared on the prestigious Festival Internazionale Pro Musica e Arte Sacra Series in 2008 and 2016, made history in 2014 by conducting the first concert featuring a US ensemble inside the Sistine Chapel and in 2015 served as Chorus Master for the world premiere of Disney’s *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at the Paper Mill Playhouse.

Other major conducting appearing include the United States representative Wind Ensemble at the Taipei Presidential Inauguration, the “Christmas Time in the City” and the Lee Kjelson Memorial “Sounds of Music” series’ in Carnegie Hall, Musica Mundi International and the Global International Women’s Summit. Wicke appeared on two seasons of the Festival Internazionale Di Arte Per Giovani Musicisti in Rome, Assisi and Prague and serves as a Conductor-in-Residence for MidAmerica Productions in New York City and abroad.

Ensembles under her baton have received National and International acclaim performing with Andre Rieu and the Johann Strauss Orchestra, the Turksoy Orchestra in Lincoln Center and the Music Center at Strathmore, Legatus International, and the Miami Civic Associations Young Artist Debut. She is a popular guest conductor, adjudicator and master class clinician across the United States.

Dr. Wicke is the Founder, President, and Executive Director for the Continuo Arts Foundation where she conducts the Continuo Arts Intergenerational Choral Ensembles, who serve as Choirs-in-Residence in Carnegie Hall. She is the Executive Director of the Minuetto Music Festival and Manager of the Continuo Arts Conservatory of Music. Wicke is a graduate of the University of Miami and Evangel University, majoring in vocal and instrumental performance, music education, and conducting. She is the recipient of the 2014 Distinguished Alumni of the Year for Evangel University, New Jersey’s 2016 Woman of Excellence in Arts & Humanities Award Winner, and has received a Congressional recognition for dedication and excellence in Arts & Humanities.

CANDACE WICKE: CONDUCTOR

REVIEWS

ST. ANTHONY'S MESSENGER

"... It's fiery heart belongs to conductor Candace Wicke who guided the 160-voice choral group and 50-piece orchestra from beginning to end. Formidable, cantankerous, and so impassioned you can't help but love her. Wicke rocks— a true Maestro."

THE JOURNAL NEWS

"Wicke, recipient of the 2016 Woman of Excellence award in Arts and Humanities, has a strong passion for community service and making music accessible to all."

INDEPENDENT PRESS

"It was breathtaking, seeing this sort of multi-generational choir produce the sounds it produces,' Holm said, 'The way Dr. Wicke conducts and holds the group together is amazing... you come out knowing much more than you did coming in."

TRENTON TIMES

"Performing in the Sistine Chapel... the opportunity of a lifetime. It's amazing that Candace's connections in Rome were able to make this opportunity possible for us,' Colao said."

FOX NEWS

"That this Pope Benedict is passionate about music is widely known. Why he is so passionate about music is not as well known. But Wicke and other musicians understand. She's conducted performances at Carnegie Hall and premiered a work by American Composer Stephen Edwards at St. Ignacio a few years ago in Rome."

HARMONY PARLOR

"... When the Andre Rieu 2010 Celebration Tour invitation came to Candace Wicke, she had just one week to prepare the children for the concert. The chorus did a splendid rendition of Michael Jackson's 'Earth Song' and after a standing ovation were escorted to special seats for the second half to the additional resounding applause of an appreciative audience."

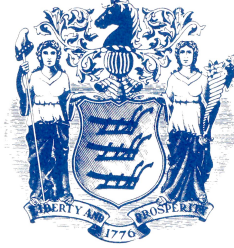
PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE

2015 Artistic Excellence
Award



CONTINUO ARTS FOUNDATION
Candace Wicke, President

State of New Jersey



THE SENATE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N. J.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

By Senator LESNIAK, Assemblywoman QUIJANO, Assemblyman HOLLEY, Senator KEAN,
Assemblyman BRAMNICK, Assemblywoman MUNOZ, Senator SCUTARI,
Assemblymen GREEN and KENNEDY, Senator SMITH and Assemblyman DANIELSEN

WHEREAS, The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey are pleased to salute and commend Dr. Candace Wicke, a highly esteemed resident of the Town of Westfield, who has been selected by the Union County Commission on the Status of Women to receive the 2016 Woman of Excellence Award in the category of Arts and Humanities; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Candace Wicke is the respected founder of the Continuo Arts Foundation, and the depth of her knowledge and the breadth of her experience have immeasurably enhanced the success of this comprehensive, intergenerational choral program; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Candace Wicke has also made significant contributions within her community with Singers Sing, a praiseworthy group of performers whose talents lift the spirits of its audiences; and,

WHEREAS, A graduate of the University of Miami and Evangel University, Dr. Candace Wicke has lent her skill and expertise as a conductor for an array of performance groups and in a multitude of prestigious venues, and she has served with distinction as Director in Residence at Carnegie Hall; and,

WHEREAS, The strength and success of the State of New Jersey, the vitality of our communities, and the effectiveness of our American society depend, in great measure, upon concerned and dedicated individuals such as Dr. Candace Wicke; and,

WHEREAS, It is altogether proper and fitting for this Legislature to recognize Dr. Candace Wicke as a deserving recipient of the praise and accolades of the Union County Commission on the Status of Women, and to salute her as a woman of outstanding character and exceptional determination; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

That this Legislature hereby honors Dr. Candace Wicke, pays tribute to her meritorious history of service, leadership, and commitment, and extends best wishes for continued success in all her future endeavors; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker and attested by the Senate Secretary and the Assembly Clerk, be transmitted to Dr. Candace Wicke.


Attest:




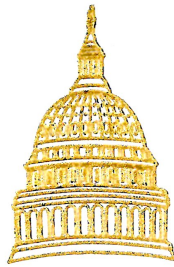
Jennifer A. MacQuaid
Secretary of the Senate



Dana M. Bunley
Clerk of the General Assembly


President of the Senate


Speaker of the General Assembly



CORY A. BOOKER
UNITED STATES SENATOR

March 18, 2016

NEW JERSEY

Dr. Candace Wicke
Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders
10 Elizabethtown Plaza, 6th Floor
Elizabeth, NJ 07207

Dear Candace,

It is a pleasure to extend my sincerest congratulations as you are honored with the Arts and Humanities Award by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders at the annual Women of Excellence Awards Dinner.

Your outstanding professional accomplishments and your ongoing dedication to your community are an inspiration and speak to your deep conviction that we must take care of others. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" Your successes help to inspire the next generation of women leaders, and your efforts are worthy of the highest commendation. New Jersey is proud to call you one of its own.

Once again, congratulations, and I look forward to your continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cory A. Booker", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Resolution

**CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN, VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS
FREEHOLDERS LINDA CARTER, ANGEL G. ESTRADA, CHRISTOPHER HUDAK,
MOHAMED S. JALLOH, BETTE JANE KOWALSKI, ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, AND
VERNELL WRIGHT**

RESOLUTION BY: FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT

WHEREAS, the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union would like to congratulate and commend **Dr. Candace Wicke** of Westfield, New Jersey on her recognition by the Union County Commission on the Status of Women for the “2016 Woman of Excellence Award” in the Category of Arts and Humanities; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Candace Wicke** established the Continuo Arts Foundation to enhance and bring people together through music. Continuo Arts is the most comprehensive intergenerational choral program in New Jersey. In seven short years, **Candace** has impacted hundreds of performers of all ages and thousands of concert-goers in Union County and around the world. She has a strong passion for community service and making music accessible to all. Under her leadership, she has formed a community organization named Singers Sing, and they have become trained singers, and perform musical programs to hospitals and senior groups. The quality of life, both mentally and physically has improved immensely for over 70 senior citizens in Union County; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Candace Wicke** was working as a full time Director in Residence, at Carnegie Hall with the Continuo Arts Foundation, conducting major works that made a tremendous difference in music education and performance for hundreds of children, adults and senior citizens in the community. She is a talented conductor, routinely conducting major works with 150 piece orchestra and as many vocalists at Carnegie Hall. **Candace** taught music to many children that joined the Children’s Choir and were tone deaf. She had the children listen and copy some vocal exercises and she trained them to use several techniques and reach the right pitches. **Dr. Candace Wicke** is a graduate of the University of Miami and Evangel University. she has an extensive resume of classical music and performances, ranging from Carnegie Hall to St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, to the City of Prague; and

WHEREAS, **Dr. Candace Wicke** is a most admired educator, inspiration to children and adults alike, and a constant positive influence to those around her, not to mention her brilliance in conducting disparate groups of singers from pure novices to semi and professional singers as well as orchestras. From 2007 to 2015 **Candace** has promoted programs, educational experiences and concerts that were conceived, planned, created and executed under her guidance:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union that it wholeheartedly congratulates and commends **Dr. Candace Wicke** on her recognition by the Commission on the Status of Women in Union County upon receiving the **2016 Woman of Excellence Award in the Category of Arts and Humanities; and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution, suitably prepared, be presented to **Dr. Candace Wicke** as a sincere token of this Board’s congratulations and best wishes for continued success. Signed and sealed January 3, 2016.

I, James E. Pelletiere, RMC, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution, passed at a Regular meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand
and the Seal of the County of Union.*

James E. Pelletiere, RMC, Clerk of the Board





