



## HANDEL CHOIR OF BALTIMORE

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*Handel Choir of Baltimore  
is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit  
organization.*

December 11, 2017

Dear Friends,

Holiday greetings from the singers, staff and board of Handel Choir of Baltimore! We hope you were able to attend one of our *Messiah* concerts this past weekend and experience the spirit of the season.

We look forward to sharing the rest of our exciting 2017–2018 season with you. Both of our upcoming concerts offer wonderful repertoire, but our third subscription concert, *Sérénité: Fauré and Duruflé* Requiems, on April 21, is particularly meaningful for me.

Gabriel Fauré described his work as “dominated from beginning to end by a very human feeling of faith in eternal rest.” The lesser known but equally beautiful work by Maurice Duruflé is based on Gregorian chants. We are pleased to be joined in this concert by organist Paul Skevington, the Howard County Concert Orchestra and the Children’s Chorus of Maryland’s Concert Choir.

I will be singing this concert in memory of my husband, Len Levering, who passed away suddenly in March of 2017. He was a loyal supporter of Handel Choir and often served as an usher at our concerts. The concert will take place at Second Presbyterian Church, my home church, where Len is inurned in the columbarium just outside the sanctuary. It will be my final concert singing with Handel Choir, an experience I have cherished since I joined in 2008.

In conjunction with *Sérénité: Fauré and Duruflé* Requiems, I invite you to participate in a giving initiative, **In Commemoration**, to celebrate not only these exceptional works of the choral canon, but also the exceptional people in our community, and especially those who have left us.

Your generous gift to this special initiative will support not only *Sérénité: Fauré and Duruflé* Requiems, but also the rest of our concerts and activities in 2017–2018 and beyond. Those honored and the contributor will be acknowledged by name in a special **In Commemoration** display at the *Sérénité* concert and in the program.

To honor Len’s memory and his great love of Handel Choir, I am pleased to announce that I will personally match the first \$10,000 of **In Commemoration** contributions received. It is my great honor to give back in this way to an organization that has meant so much to me, as well as my family and friends.

*(continued)*

Please consider the following:

- We are a vibrant part of the Baltimore fine arts community, active 83 years and counting.
- We not only present repertoire favorites with technical rigor and loving care, but also tackle daring, contemporary works with flair, including several Baltimore premieres.
- We receive approximately 20% of our income from ticket sales, so we depend on the support of individual donors like you.
- We get valuable help from an army of dedicated volunteers.
- We collaborate with other Baltimore music organizations and community groups to strengthen us all.
- Our concerts include lectures to inform and enrich the listening experience.
- From PhD students to doctors, lawyers, artists, teachers, and retirees, Handel Choir represents a diverse Baltimore community.

If you prefer not to participate in our **In Commemoration** initiative, we welcome your tax-deductible donation to our annual fund with gratitude. You are important to us and your generous gift will help further our mission. You can make a gift securely online any time at [handelchoir.org](http://handelchoir.org), or use the enclosed reply envelope to send your contribution.

I hope to see you at our concerts March 3 and April 21, and I wish you and your family the most joyous of holiday seasons and a happy, healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Levering". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and larger than the rest.

Cindy Levering  
President  
Handel Choir Board of Trustees

P.S. Don't forget, I will personally match your **In Commemoration** gift dollar for dollar, up to \$10,000! Thank you for investing in the future of this remarkable community organization.