



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - OCTOBER 6, 2023**

**UGA Hodgson Singers and University Chorus present “For the Living: Music of Consolation and Resolve”**

Athens, GA – The Hugh Hodgson School of Music presents “For the Living: Music of Consolation and Resolve” on Friday, October 20 at 7:30 p.m. This concert features two choral ensembles, the international award-winning UGA Hodgson Singers, conducted by Daniel J. Bara, and the University Chorus directed by Sarah Frook Gallo. University Chorus will perform Dan Forrest’s “Requiem For the Living” with orchestra, conducted by guest conductor Daniel Shafer, third year DMA in Choral Conducting. The lush and varied settings of traditional Requiem and biblical texts make for an impactful musical experience. The Hodgson Singers will present works by Jennifer Lucy Scott, Ken Burton, Dominic DiOrio, and more.

The concert will be presented in Hodgson Concert Hall at the UGA Performing Arts Center, 230 River Road, Athens, GA, 30602. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$3 for students with a valid UGA ID. Patrons can visit [music.uga.edu](http://music.uga.edu) for tickets or call 706-542-4400.

#### ABOUT DANIEL BARA

Daniel Bara is the *John D. Boyd UGA Foundation Professor of Choral Music and the Director of Choral Activities* and Professor of Music at the Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia where oversees seven university choral ensembles as well as the graduate choral conducting program. His university choirs have performed by juried invitation for state, regional, and national conventions of ACDA, MENC, and IMC. In spring of 2014 The UGA Hodgson Singers won the *Grand Prix* at the *International Choral Competition Ave Verum* in Baden, Austria and performed at the ACDA Southern Division Convention in Jacksonville, FL. His former MM and DMA conducting students now hold collegiate conducting appointments at Susquehanna University, New England Conservatory, Miami University of Ohio, University of Idaho, William Jewell College, as well as heads of church and school choral music programs throughout the country.

Prior to his appointment at UGA, Dr. Bara was the Director of Choral Activities at East Carolina University, where he received the *UNC Board of Governors Distinguished Professor for Teaching Award* and the *Robert L. Jones Award for Outstanding Teaching*, and released two internationally distributed choral recordings, *Greater Love* (2007) and *Eternal Light* (2010) with Gothic Records. In 2001 was a winner of the *Walter Hagen Conducting Prize* given at the Eastman School of Music, and the *ACDA National Student Conducting Competition* (Graduate Division) awarded at the National Convention in San Antonio, TX.

Dr. Bara is a past-president of NC-ACDA, has held the Artistic Directorship of the New York State Summer School of the Arts – School of Choral Studies (2007-2009), and has served as conductor of the World Youth Honor Choir at Interlochen Arts Camp (2004-2006). He is in regular demand as a guest conductor and clinician, having conducted all-state and honor choirs in 17 states and Carnegie Hall, and has served as clinician for conferences sponsored by ACDA, AGO, and other school and church musical organizations.

Dr. Bara holds the DMA degree in conducting from the Eastman School of Music, organ and conducting degrees from the University of Michigan, and is a graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy. He is the Repertoire and Standards Chair for Youth and Student Activities for the Southern Division Chapter of ACDA and has served on conference planning committees for the 2012 and 2016 Southern Division conferences. At UGA, Dr. Bara conducts the UGA Hodgson Singers, the University Chorus, and oversees the graduate conducting student recital choir, The Repertory Singers.

#### ABOUT SARAH FROOK GALLO

Sarah Frook Gallo Sarah Frook Gallo is the Interim Associate Director of Choirs at the University of Georgia, where she conducts the University Chorus, UGA Choral Project, Men’s and Women’s Glee

Clubs, and teaches courses in conducting. Prior to her time at UGA, she conducted the William & Mary Women's Chorus (now the Barksdale Treble Chorus), taught courses in music theory and aural skills, and served as Artistic Director of the Virginia Choral Society, a 100-member community choir in Newport News, VA. She also held teaching positions as the conductor of the Christopher Newport University Men's Chorus, and as professor of voice at the University of Richmond. She is an experienced K-12 educator and spent three years as the director of music and choirs at St. Catherine's Middle School.

She enjoys guest conducting honor choruses and workshops across the country and aims to foster intentional musical communities in all aspects of her work. Her research interests include the music of 17th and 18th century Mexico City, incorporating Dalcroze Eurhythmics into the conducting classroom, and the experience of adult amateur singers in community choruses. Her choirs have commissioned and premiered works by Tawnie Olson, Lori Laitman, and Ysaÿe Barnwell.

In her time as a doctoral student at the University of Georgia, she was awarded the prestigious Presidential Fellowship, and was selected for several masterclasses and conducting programs, including the National Collegiate Choral Organization Graduate Fellowship, Baylor International Choral Conducting Masterclass, the Wintergreen Music Academy Conductor's Summit, and as a conductor in the 2020 ACDA Southern Graduate Conducting Masterclass.

She is a DMA Candidate in Choral Conducting at the University of Georgia, earned her MM in Choral Conducting from the Eastman School of Music and her undergraduate degree from the College of William & Mary with a concentration in piano, voice, and harpsichord. Her conducting teachers include Daniel Bara, J.D. Burnett, William Weinert, Jamie Bartlett, Bradley Lubman, Simon Carrington, and Joseph Flummerfelt. She lives in Athens, GA with her spouse, Jeff, and their dog, Moira Rose.

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**Photos Available:** [music.uga.edu/press](https://music.uga.edu/press)

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