



# The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York

Thursday, November 6, 2025

*The design above is Suffolk Senior Treble Choir member Emilia Biancospino's winning design from the 2025-2026 MYO Design Contest.*

# The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York

Staller Center for the Arts

Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM



## SUFFOLK TREBLE CHOIR

*Craig B. Knapp, Music Director*

*Cara Dobie, Pianist*

Kenyan Welcome Songs .....East African Folksongs  
arr. Tim Gregory

I. Karibu Wagon (Welcome Visitors)

*Jayden Rivers, Solo*

III. Wako Wapi? (Where Are You?)

*Kenzo Etkins and Kyla Gallagher, Solo Group 1*

*Nina Gu and Andrew Nagle, Solo Group 2*

*Lawrence Jannotta, Cajón*

I Believe in a Seed.....Cynthia Gray

Kokoleoko.....Liberian Folksong  
arr. Victor C. Johnson

*Athena Heaney and Serafina Sirico, Solo Group 1*

*Cooper Drinkwater and Nate Drinkwater, Solo Group 2*

*Lawrence Jannotta, Djembe*





**SUFFOLK SENIOR TREBLE CHOIR**

*Rachel Nagle, Music Director*

*James Nagle, Pianist*

Never One Thing .....May Erlewine  
arr. Corie Brown

*Emilia Biancospino, Charlotte Thiele,  
Autumn Blackmore, Brynn Fahrbach,  
Faith Hanley, and Diana Johansson, Soloists  
Lawrence Jannotta, Cajón*

Will there really .....Craig Hella Johnson  
be a “Morning”?

Carry Me.....Don Macdonald

**SUFFOLK SYMPHONIC CHOIR**

*Brad Drinkwater, Music Director*

*Joseph Franzino, Pianist*

More Waters Rising .....Saro Lynch-Thomason  
arr. Adam and Matt Podd

*Bohdan Budash, Solo  
Lawrence Jannotta, Percussion*

Earth Song.....Frank Ticheli

Ta Na Solbici.....Samo Vovk



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# About the Music Directors



## Brad Drinkwater





## **Brad Drinkwater**

Brad Drinkwater (Suffolk Symphonic Choir) has been teaching music, including 7th through 12th grade mixed and treble voice choirs, since 2005. He currently teaches choir and music theory at Connetquot High School in Bohemia, where he also directs the annual Alumni Choir. Brad served as the pianist for the MYO Suffolk Symphonic Choir from its inception in 2013 until his appointment as the inaugural director of the Suffolk Senior Treble Choir in 2019. He is delighted to be making music with the Suffolk Symphonic Choir once again, now as music director. Under his leadership, the Connetquot High School Concert Choir has appeared at American Choral Directors Association, New York State School Music Association, and New York State School Board Association conferences and won 2nd place in the 2020 American Prize national performing arts competition. Brad was also chosen as a semifinalist for the 2021 Grammy Music Educator Award. Additionally, Connetquot's annual Choral Arts Day event was selected by Music for All as an Advocacy in Action award recipient. Brad received his bachelor's degree in music education, with dual concentrations in voice and piano, from New York University and later earned a Master of Arts degree from Teachers College, Columbia University. At NYU, he studied with David Elliott, Francisco Nuñez, and Deirdre O'Donohue and served as the Assistant Director and pianist for the NYU Children's Choir. He was also recognized at the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella for both arrangements and vocal performances. Brad enjoys working as a conductor, singer, and collaborative pianist, performing throughout Long Island. Most importantly, he shares his love of music with his wife, Lauren, and their two sons.



# About the Music Directors



**Craig B. Knapp**





## **Craig B. Knapp**

Craig B. Knapp (Suffolk Treble Choir) is the current Elementary Music Department Chairperson in the Rocky Point School District where he has been teaching Classroom Music and Chorus, grades 3 through 5, at the Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School since 1998. A graduate of the Crane School of Music, Mr. Knapp has also studied with distinguished educators and musicians including John Feierabend, Jos Wuytack, Henry Leck, Francisco Núñez, Janet Galván, Will Schmid and Bobby McFerrin. He is the co-author of the book "First Steps in Music with Orff Schulwerk: Sing, Say, Dance, Play," a contributing author for the book "Feierabend Fundamentals: History, Philosophy, and Practice," and co-author of the soon to be released book, Conversational Solfege with Orff Schulwerk: Sing, Say, Dance, Play in a Tuneful, Beatful, Artful Way, all published by GIA Publications. Craig is a sought-after clinician and choral conductor and has guest conducted for the Connecticut Music Educators' Association Elementary Honors Choir, New Hampshire Music Educators' Association Elementary Honors Choir, Ohio Music Educators' Association Elementary All-State Choir, KONY (Kodály Organization of New York) "Voices United" Festival and Pennsylvania Music Educators' Association Elementary ChorusFest. He has also guest conducted various All-County chorus groups across New York State. Craig is actively involved with NYSSMA, where he recently served on their Curriculum Committee and NYSSMA Manual Committee. Craig is the only educator to simultaneously hold Lifetime Memberships in ACDA, FAME and OAKE. On February 1, 2025, Craig Knapp was inducted in the Long Island Music & Entertainment Hall of Fame as their 2024 Educator of Note.



# About the Music Directors



**Rachel Nagle**





## **Rachel Nagle**

Rachel Nagle (Suffolk Senior Treble Choir) began her career in 2007, teaching high school choir, and elementary music in the Commack School District. During this time, she also served as children's choir conductor through the Stony Brook Children's Program, and completed three levels of Orff certification at Hofstra University. She has since had the pleasure and experience of teaching all grades, K-12, and serving as a festival conductor in Suffolk and Nassau County. Rachel received her M.S. in Music Education from Queens College and her B.M. in Music Education with concentrations in voice and music in special education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. She has spent twelve years as Elwood-John Glenn High School's Choral Director, where she cultivated a rich musical community within her classroom, and established the select a cappella ensemble "Acappellwood." In addition to her choirs there, she has been the director and vocal director of several musical theater productions. She is currently teaching elementary music and beginning choirs, as well as secondary vocal lessons in the Elwood School District. Rachel assisted in developing and directing the a cappella group established through Long Island Children's Choir (LICC) alongside her husband, James, and continues to create accessible a cappella arrangements for contemporary ensembles. In addition to her teaching, she enjoys performing as a soprano in eVoco Voice Collective's Treble Ensemble. She currently resides in Stony Brook, NY with her husband and their two sons.



# About the Pianists



**Cara Dobie**





## **Cara Dobie**

Cara Dobie (Suffolk Treble Choir) received her Bachelor of Music Degree from Butler University and her Master's Degree in Music Education from Hofstra University. She currently teaches Classroom Music and Chorus at Miller Avenue School in the Shoreham-Wading River Central School District, where she founded the K-2 choral and musical theater program. In addition to accompanying MYO's Nassau Chamber Chorale since 2007 and Suffolk Treble Choir since 2022, Ms. Dobie has been accompanying various youth and collegiate vocal ensembles since 2000, including SCMEA, NMEA, and All-County festival choirs. Teaching and coaching solo musicians since 1997, she has prepared and/or accompanied many singers and instrumentalists for NYSSMA festivals, college entrance auditions, competitions, and collegiate-level juries and recitals. Prior to teaching full-time, Ms. Dobie worked at professional theaters across the country as a musical director, director, and choreographer. She also spent many years developing and running youth theater programs for ages 5-18.



# About the Pianists



## Joseph Franzino





## **Joseph Franzino**

Joseph Franzino (Suffolk Symphonic Choir) holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance and a Master of Science degree in Music Education from the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College. While at Queens College, he studied piano under the guidance of Morey Ritt and voice with Sidney Outlaw. Throughout his academic career, Mr. Franzino performed extensively in solo recitals, chamber music ensembles, and frequently served as a collaborative pianist. He is a recipient of the Aaron Copland School of Music Concerto Competition, through which he was selected to perform Edvard Grieg's Piano Concerto in A minor. In his final year at Queens College, he served as the NYSSMA–NAfME Collegiate President for the State of New York. Mr. Franzino is currently a music educator in the Farmingdale School District, where he teaches Music Theory I, AP Music Theory, and directs the Treble Chorus. He also serves as the pianist for the Farmingdale High School Mixed Chorus, accompanies NYSSMA solo festivals, and supports Tri-M senior recitals. Additionally, he has vocal directed musicals for Howitt Middle School and serves as the director of the FHS Vocal Jazz ensemble. Outside of his public school responsibilities, Mr. Franzino maintains a private piano studio.



# About the Pianists



**James Nagle**





## **James Nagle**

James Nagle (Suffolk Senior Treble Choir) is a vocal music educator who has taught in the Connetquot Central School District since 2008 at both the elementary and secondary levels. He currently teaches the Connetquot HS Chorale, the Long Island Voices Show Choir, and Music Theory. Mr. Nagle also provides vocal direction and accompaniment for his school's musical productions and vocal jazz ensemble. He has been honored to conduct All-County Choirs for SCMEA and OCMEA at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. In addition to teaching, Mr. Nagle is an accomplished pianist having played at numerous festivals and performances throughout the northeast. He has accompanied several SCMEA, NMEA, and NYSCAME All-County Choirs and currently serves as a collaborative pianist for the MYO's Suffolk Senior Treble Choir. Mr. Nagle received a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam in 2007. At Crane, he studied with Rebecca Reames, Heather Eyerly, and Adam Adler and was honored with the Susan Smykla Udell Award for Outstanding Piano Accompaniment before graduation. He served as the President and Music Director of the Potsdam Pointercounts, an award-winning a cappella group. During that time, he developed his arranging style and love of performing contemporary a cappella music as the group successfully competed and toured throughout the East Coast. Mr. Nagle attained a Master of Science degree in Music Education from the Aaron Copland School of Music at CUNY Queens in 2011, where he received the Lawrence Eisman Award in Music Education. Outside of music, Mr. Nagle enjoys playing basketball, swimming, kayaking, and going on adventures with his wife and two sons.



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# SUFFOLK TREBLE CHOIR

Sofia Balcells, Center Moriches MS

Max Beck, Commack MS

Mikayla Bloom-Morales, Candlewood MS

Belquise Cochy, Robert Frost MS

Emerson Cotter, Nesaquake MS

Cooper Drinkwater, Tackan Elementary

Nate Drinkwater, Great Hollow MS

River Edwards-Wilson, Samoset MS

Kenzo Etkins, Candlewood MS

Kyla Gallagher, R.C. Murphy Jr. HS

Aria Gomez, Northport MS

Nina Gu, Mount Sinai MS

Amelia Hale, Signal Hill Elementary

Athena Heaney, Rocky Point MS

Audrey Hohf, Mount Sinai MS

Magdalena Imbasciani, East Northport MS

Anna Jezykowski, Northport MS

Megan Joos, Prodell MS

Leila Nar Kicik, R.C. Murphy Jr. HS

Emily Lo, Mount Sinai MS

Nayra Lopez Diaz, James W. Young MS

Cecelia Luisi, Northport MS

Kayleen Ma, Sunrise Drive Elementary

Giada Montalbano, Chippewa Elementary

Brionna Nace, Rocky Point MS

Andrew Nagle, W.S. Mount Elementary

Charlotte Neville, Candlewood MS

Cara Oggeri, Northport MS

Skyelar Ptaszynski, Chippewa Elementary #



# SUFFOLK TREBLE CHOIR

*(Continued)*

Isabella Pyne, Northport MS

Kalani Rehn, Seneca MS

Jayden Rivers, Robert Frost MS

Sarah Roberts, Northport MS

Mia Russo, Chippewa Elementary

Benjamin Salisbury, East Northport MS

Sofia Sand, Northport MS

Ysabel Seeratan, Homeschool

Charlotte Sheahan, East Northport MS

Serafina Sirico, Rocky Point MS

Esme Smith, Northport MS

Hannah Stern, R.C. Murphy Jr. HS

Reed Sullivan, Otsego Elementary

Paula Vergara, Homeschool

Emily Walter, Chippewa Elementary

Khrystin Young, East Northport MS

Jack Zipfel, Rocky Point MS

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# **SUFFOLK SENIOR TREBLE CHOIR**

## **Soprano**

Autumn Blackmore, Mount Sinai HS #

Alice Champion, Islip MS

Lily Champion, Islip MS

Keira Corr, Northport MS

Mia Iris Cruz, John Glenn HS

Annika Dunlop, Miller Place HS

Bryn Fahrbach, Northport MS

Chloe Goehle, Hauppauge HS

Bridget Gorman, Northport MS

Nina Hateau, Shoreham-Wading River HS

Emily Hofacker, Deer Park HS

Diana Johansson, Longwood HS

Carmella Kaiser, Shoreham-Wading River HS

Rania Khan, The Stony Brook School

Elaine Ma, Sayville HS

Emilie Mannoia, Connetquot HS

Chloe Roc, The Stony Brook School

Katherine Rooney, Great Hollow MS

Reilly Salisbury, Northport HS

Alyssa Schnetzler, Hauppauge HS

Clara Taube, Smithtown HS East

Charlotte Thiele, Newfield HS

Madeleine Tona, The Stony Brook School

Andrea Vergara, Rocky Point HS

Jillian Wagner, Robert Frost MS

Kaylyn Young, East Northport MS



# SUFFOLK SENIOR TREBLE CHOIR

## *(Continued)*

### **Alto**

Emilia Biancospino, William Floyd HS

Caris Chabza, Miller Place HS

Aine Cosgrave, Homeschool #

Delilah D'Amico, West Islip HS #

Eva Daugherty, East Islip HS

Faith Hanley, Kings Park HS

Mia Maler McAlpine, Commack MS

Jordin Nilo, Ward Melville HS

Catherine Philippe, Friends Acadmey

Meridith Schmidt, Rocky Point MS

Delilah Sotomayor, Copiague MS

Lilybeth Tarantino, West Islip HS

Liana Wang, Mount Sinai HS

Jasmine Wei, The Stony Brook School

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# SUFFOLK SYMPHONIC CHOIR

## Soprano

Serena Carley, Rocky Point HS

Marilena Castoro, Smithtown HS West

Natalee Cortina, Shoreham-Wading River HS

Sophia Cotgreave, St. Anthony's HS +

Mary Alice Jenkins, Comsewogue HS

Ava Lopez, Babylon Jr./Sr. HS

Kate Panag, Mount Sinai HS

Olivia Primiano, East Islip HS + #

Victoria Snaden, Earl L. Vandermeulen HS

Madison Turk, Islip HS

## Alto

Alexandra Barry, Westhampton Beach HS #

Marianna Capuano, Patchogue-Medford HS

Olivia Carley, Rocky Point HS

Gabriella Ferro, West Babylon HS + #

Melody Guzman, Rocky Point HS +

Olivia Harvey, Comsewogue HS

Murphy Jones, William Floyd HS

Samantha O'Neal, Hampton Bays HS

Katherine Orifici, Babylon Jr./Sr. HS +

Caroline Price, Ward Melville HS

Darian Primiano, East Islip MS

Abigail Thomas, Connetquot HS

Lia Walsh, Connetquot HS



# SUFFOLK SYMPHONIC CHOIR

*(Continued)*

## **Tenor**

Kiaan Biswas, Ward Melville HS

Ryan Brown, Islip HS

Justin Cummings, Eastport South Manor Jr./Sr. HS

Orion Edwards-Wilson, Samoset MS

Tyler Gawarecki, Sachem HS East

Ian Kim, Westhampton Beach MS

Matthew Meyers, Sachem HS North

Pranav Ramkumar, Hauppauge MS

William Senf, R.C. Murphy Jr. HS

## **Bass Voice**

Bohdan Budash, Smithtown HS West

Matthew DeGraff, Sayville HS

Jonathan Jawitz, Half Hollow Hills HS East

Owen Primiano, East Islip HS

Colin Smith, William Floyd HS +

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## **About MYO**

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York (MYO) is committed to fostering a community of talented young musicians from Long Island and providing them with an opportunity to rehearse and perform choral and orchestral masterworks at the highest possible level with recognized leaders in music education and performance. Founded in 1993 by John C. McNeur, MYO has grown from a 15-piece orchestra to seven orchestras and seven choirs, serving over 800 musicians between the ages of 8 and 18. MYO enjoys a rich tradition of international summer performance tours, beginning with the 1997 tour to Germany, France, and Austria through the most recent tour to France in July 2024, and looking ahead to the July 2026 Greece Tour.





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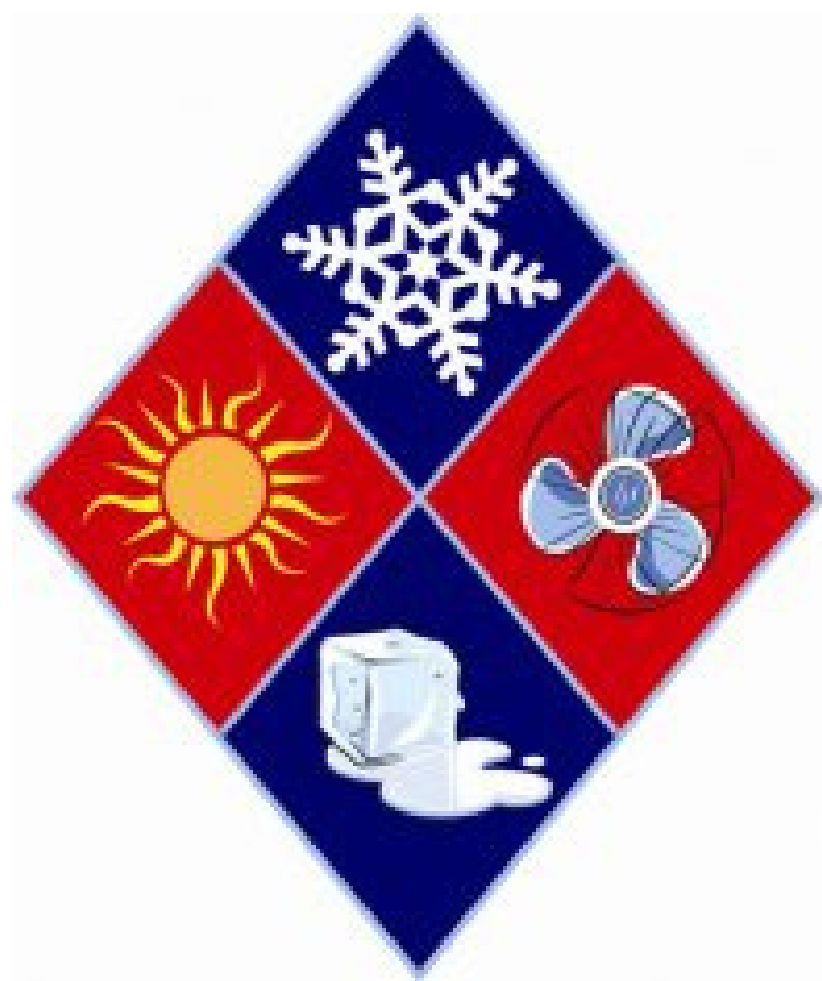
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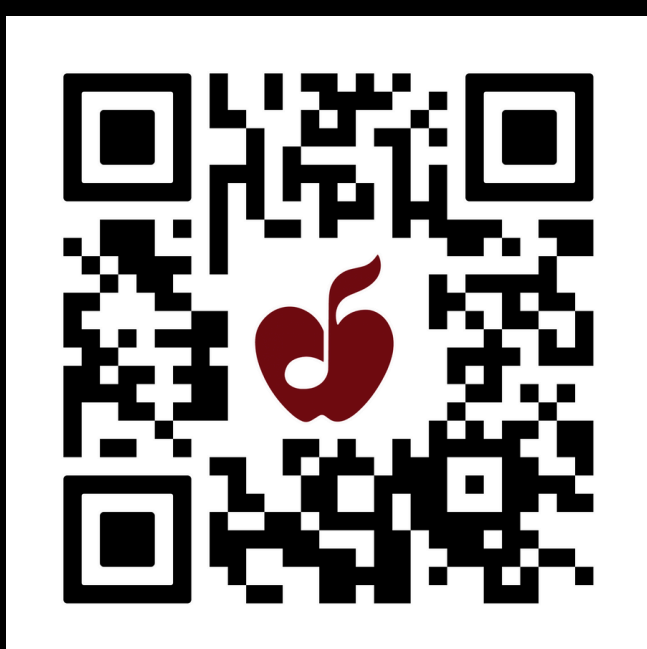




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