

ATCO

is pleased to present

MOMENTUS

WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED

Youth Singers of Calgary's
40th Anniversary Show

Saturday May 9, 2026
Jubilee Auditorium



@youthsingersofcalgary

youthsingers.org

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Calgary

Jeromy Farkas, Mayor

Youth Singers of Calgary
c/o Ingrid Mosker
Director of Development

Dear Youth Singers of Calgary,

I want to congratulate you on another year of hard work and excellence in performance. The Youth Singers of Calgary have made a positive impact for all those who take part as singers, staff, organizers and volunteers.

Those taking part gain a special determination and confidence. As these talented young people grow with the organization, they will discover they have the ability to face the challenges of the future with creativity, resilience and poise.

I encourage support for the work being done for these children. The volunteerism involved is a contribution to the greater Calgary community.

Through the success of your organization you can maintain their facilities, provide scholarships, compensate staff and assist families with registration fees.

Providing for our youth is a direct investment into our futures and our community. They will become the champions of tomorrow. They will become our leaders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeromy".

Jeromy Farkas
Mayor of Calgary





SHOW SYNOPSIS

It's been 40 years of music and magic and we're ready for 40 more!

This is a celebration of all the Youth Singers of Calgary have been and all we aspire to be - a celebration of US. The community that sprung up around a 28 member choir in 1985, holds fast to the ideal that music is transformative and should be for all. Excellence, Inclusion, Community, Performance and Collaboration are the foundation, but FUN is how we do it, with favourite songs from our past, all the way to today and on to tomorrow.

We're 40 years strong and the future is going to be MomentUS!

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Youth Singers of Calgary is privileged to sing, dance, act, and play on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, and the Métis Nation (Region 5 & 6). Thank you for gathering with us here tonight to honour and celebrate the work young people can achieve together. We make music tonight with gratitude for the many gifts this land and city provide, together with all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

MESSAGE FROM YOUTH SINGERS CEO & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to *MomentUS* — Our 40th Anniversary Celebration

On behalf of Youth Singers of Calgary, welcome to *MomentUS*, a milestone production celebrating our 40th anniversary. Tonight, we invite you to journey with us as we revisit cherished memories, relive iconic moments, and embrace the promise that “We’re Just Getting Started.” Our future is bright!

This evening exists because of an extraordinary community of volunteers. From backstage to front of house, from committees to quiet, unseen acts of care, your generosity, passion, and dedication bring this production to life. You give your time, your energy, and your belief in young people, and we are profoundly grateful.

Our performers, musicians, arrangers, choreographers, acting coaches, educators, and managers have poured their hearts into creating an unforgettable experience.

We are especially thrilled to welcome so many Alumni on stage, in the audience, and always part of our story. At our core, we remain committed to providing meaningful, enriching experiences that challenge young people to grow, explore, and shine.

With hundreds of performers across 15 divisions, tonight’s program features six groups, each bringing their own unique spirit to the stage. This evening also includes a special premiere, Kathryn Parrotta’s arrangement of *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, performed by our Company, Adult Divisions, and more than 70 alumni.

A very special thank you to ATCO, our Mainstage Sponsor for over 30 years. Your unwavering support has kept our lights shining bright.

To every volunteer, donor, performer, artist, educator, family member, and supporter, thank you. Tonight is a celebration of what is possible when a community comes together.

Tonight is more than an anniversary—it is a *MomentUS* reminder of what we can achieve when voices unite. With full hearts and a bright future ahead, we look forward to the next 40 years of creativity, community, and possibility.



MEGAN EMMETT, CEO



TRICIA PENNER,
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

– Megan Emmett, CEO

– Tricia Penner, Artistic Director



YSC STORY

40 YEARS OF
INSPIRING PERFORMERS

Since its creation in 1985, Youth Singers of Calgary (YSC) has positively impacted the lives of thousands of singers, their families, and the arts community as a whole. When founder Shirley Penner dreamed of giving young people a chance to express themselves on stage, she could hardly have imagined the ways this organization would grow and, in turn, allow its participants to grow. Through music, theatre arts, and dance, Youth Singers shapes leaders, teachers, and citizens. Guided by the philosophy that a musical education is for all, not just an elite few, Youth Singers is a community of inclusion and belonging.

Starting with 28 junior high school students, YSC has expanded to 500 singers ranging in age from 3.5 to adult. Supporting the performing company is a diverse group of family and friends, who volunteer at least 35,000 hours per year, to keep the YSC dream alive.

As the needs of the Youth Singers community have grown and changed, programming has been added to fill those needs. Most notably, Youth Singers has expanded to offer STAR, a program that allows youth and young adults with cognitive delays to explore the joys of music and movement.

Guiding the YSC community is a talented group of artistic educators, a focused board, and a small but dedicated administrative staff.

Today, you can find the thousands of Youth Singers alumni across the country and around the world exercising their creativity and using the skills they learned in our programs - whether onstage, in the boardroom, in a classroom, or anywhere in between. This is the true sense of purpose that our singers learn in their time with us, doing what they love.

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JEN MORTON

KATHY SEIBEL

JUDIT SZANTO

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TONISHA KROEGER*

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BREYA HARDY

LISA RYAN

JULIE THIESSEN

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KIRSTEN WILLIAMS

Assistant Choreographers & Coaches

DESIRI JONES

SERENA MAZIL

JENHENE MORGAN

NATHAN SNYDERS-BLOK

Collaborative Pianists

KATHY SEIBEL - LEAD

CLAIRE BUTLER

JAMES CHEN

BRENT KRAWCHUK

STAR Assistants

PAULA BRASH

DEXTER JOHNSTON

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Script Writer

JOCELYN JONES

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TRICIA PENNER, JOCELYN JONES,
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RUDOLFSSEN

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Guitar

DAVE MORTON

Percussion

SAUL MOORE

Bass

CHAD HOLTZMAN

Piano

KATHY SEIBEL
DAVID HOLOBOFF

Sound Design & Technical Director

JOHN HILDEBRAND

House Sound Mix

CHRIS THOMPSON

Lighting Design

KRIS MISH

Production Management

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Properties Managers

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Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre, marks its 10th anniversary as Canada's home for music with a year-long lineup of exhibits, events, and programs planned over 2026/27.

► Explore NMC's 10-year anniversary program guide at studiobell.ca/10



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MADISON MCNEES
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KIRSTEN WILLIAMS
JENHENE MORGAN
KATHY SEIBEL**

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Charlotte Carr
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KIDZXPRESS

**DEANNA HENDERSON-MCDADE
MADISON MCNEES
LAUREN THOMPSON
KIRSTEN WILLIAMS
JENHENE MORGAN
KATHY SEIBEL**

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Aurora Laverty
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Vivian Lukan
Audrey Neil
Alex Noer Perri
Lila Nowack
Ruby Peck
Valentina Pena Orozco
Jada Peters
Hudson Pierce
Alice Rac
Blakely Sam
Luella Sorensen
Alexia Taylor
Tove Terry
Isaac Ting
Izzy Tio
Harper Ulrich
Veeya Vakil
Nixon Wang
Mackenzie Woodlock
Ava Yacysheh

JUNIOR HI

**KATHRYN PARROTTA
DEAN LAUDERDALE
JESSICA ECKSTADT
NATHAN SNYDERS-BLOK
CASSANDRA CLIFFORD
KATHY SEIBEL**

Ryanne Bailey
Kayley Blunt
Lauren Brunner
Kenzie Buchanan
Maren Childs
Penny Clark
Riley Creery
Amelia Eustaquio
Charney
Joel Francia
Sophia Hanishewski
Bowen Hardy
Makayla Harkness
Donovan Jones
Madeline Kain
Isaac Kraemer
Clover Lalonde
Claire Lecourtois
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Emma Stockley
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Dena Wang
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SENIOR HI

**KATHRYN PARROTTA
DONALD JONES
JULIE THIESSEN
SERENA MAZIL
NATHAN SNYDERS-BLOK
JAMES CHEN**

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ACT3

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SERENA MAZIL
DESIRI JONES
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Sarah Kerby
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Dreden Miller
Peyton Parrotta
Jadyn Richardson
Marah Rubak
Katherine Sampson
Nathan Snyders-Blok
Keysha Swanson
Nick Turingan
Tina Weimer
Zoe Zeritsch

SHINE

**DONALD JONES
KATHRYN PARROTTA
SERENA MAZIL
DEAN LAUDERDALE
KATHERINE BURROWES**

Sehran Aheer
Nate Bercsenyi
Colby Bird
Liam Born
Caitlyn Gray
Amber Kinahan
Veronica Mactavish
Serena Mazil
Dreden Miller
Jenhene Morgan
Peyton Parrotta
Jadyn Richardson
Katherine Sampson
Nathan Snyders-Blok
Parker Tsang
Zoe Zeritsch

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To all the proud parents

and family members, we thank you for believing in your child's talents and helping them to fulfill their own wishes through performance. Your support is such an important foundation for them to become our future community leaders. We're big fans of that.

AND, thank you to all performers from the Youth Singers of Calgary for enriching our lives with your incredible passion and talent.



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Give Every Child a Chance to Shine in the Arts!

At Youth Singers of Calgary, accessibility and inclusivity aren't just values, they're our foundation.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, bursaries help ensure that no young person is turned away due to financial barriers.

Your support opens doors, empowers families, and creates equitable access to the performing arts at the grassroots level.



Help Support Our Next 40 Years



Ways to support:

- Scan QR code to donate
- Send e-transfer to finance@youthsingers.org
- Via cheques made payable to Youth Singers of Calgary

ACT I

A Brand New Day (Everybody Rejoice) – Company
Luther Vandross, arr. Connor Warren Smith, Kathryn Parrotta

Good Times – KIDAZZLE/KIDZXPRESS
Mac Huff

Wings – JUNIOR HI
Thomas Barnes, Peter Kelleher, arr. Kathryn Parrotta, Kristian Alexandrov

Mad World – SENIOR HI
Roland Orzabal, arr. Reid McLean Wiest, Kristian Alexandrov

It's Your Wedding Day – ACT3
M. Skylar, C. Beguelin, arr. D. B. Morton, Reid McLean Wiest

Singing in the Rain – KIDZXPRESS
Arthur Freed, Nacio Herb Brown, arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

That Beautiful Sound – JUNIOR HI
Eddie Perfect, arr. Jessica Eckstadt, D.B. Morton

Black & White – SENIOR HI
T. Hall, arr. D.B. Morton

Let Me Entertain You – SHINE & Alumni
G. Chambers, R. Williams, arr. D.B. Morton

Never Let Go – ONCUE
Rob Dietz

Lacrymosa – ACT3
W. A. Mozart

Indodana – SENIOR HI/ACT3
Traditional isiXhosa, arr. Michael Barrett, Ralf Schmitt

Underground – SENIOR HI/ACT3
Cody Fry, arr. Anita Cracauer

Desert Song – SENIOR HI
Säje, arr. Erin Bentlage

We Are More – ACT3 (Dance Ensemble)
Shane Koyczan

Let's Get Loud – Grade 9/SENIOR HI/ACT3/SHINE
Gloria M. Estefan, Kay Cannon, Keith Harrison, arr. Reid McLead Wiest, Kristian Alexandrov

Intermission

ACT II

Bridge Over Troubled Water/Lean On Me – Company & Alumni

Paul Simon, Bill Withers, arr. Kathryn Parrotta

Butterfly – ONCUE & Alumni

Rajaton, arr. D.B. Morton

Bad Romance – SENIOR HI (Dance Ensemble)

Lady Gaga, arr. Vitamin String Quartet

Beautiful – ACT3

Linda Perry, arr. Kathryn Parrotta, D.B. Morton

Dance – KIDZXPRESS

Robert T. Gibson

Fly! – KIDZXPRESS & JUNIOR HI

Ayrian Norman

Rainbow Connection – KIDZXPRESS & JUNIOR HI

Paul Williams, Kenneth L. Ascher, arr. Audrey Snyder

Nella Fantasia – JUNIOR HI

Ennio Morricone, Chiara Ferrau, arr. Audrey Snyder

Perm – Choreo Team & Alumni

Bruno Mars

Party Like It's 1920 – SENIOR HI

Wolfgang Lohr, arr. Kathryn Parrotta, Kristian Alexandrov

Where the Adventure Begins – JUNIOR HI

Tim Halperin, arr. Kathryn Parrotta, D.B. Morton

The Basement – ACT3

Eric Hutchinson, arr. D.B. Morton

Living for the Rhythm – KIDZXPRESS

Nina Nesbitt, Tim Ross, arr. D.B. Morton

I Just Might – SHINE

Bruno Mars, arr. Dean Lauderdale

Whatcha Want – SENIOR HI & ACT3

Clyde Lawrence, Gracie Lawrence, arr. Joe Slabe, Kristian Alexandrov

We're Just Getting Started – Company

Spencer Ludwig, Mark Curtis Smidt, arr. Joe Slabe, Kristian Alexandrov



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In honour of Youth Singers of Calgary's 40th Anniversary, we're offering a special edition addition to the **'Notes & Stars'** wall—a commemorative tile to mark your place in YSC history!



SCAN ME

Your **\$400 donation** for this limited edition commemorative tile will support Youth Singers of Calgary's **Crescendo Capital Campaign.**



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THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!



We raise a glass to the countless volunteers that have brought the gift of their heart, effort, and time to have a profound impact on the experience for the performers this year, and over 40 years.



From chaperones, wardrobe sewing bees, set-up and tear-downs, fundraising, working booths at festivals, committees, and the most important to our singers.... snack times!



You are the lifeblood of our organization and a key part of our 40 year celebration!



THANK YOU!





TOURING PROGRAM

Touring is a cornerstone of the Youth Singers of Calgary experience, offering performers a chance to take their artistry on the road, connect with audiences worldwide, and build lifelong memories. Whether competing, collaborating with industry professionals, or simply bonding with their friends, touring fosters growth in skills, confidence, and camaraderie.



In May 2025, JUNIOR HI celebrated incredible success in California, sweeping competitions; earning awards, including Best Overall Junior High Choir and First Place in both show choir and concert choir competitions; and enjoying unforgettable experiences at Disneyland, making memories with friends.

Summer 2026 *Peru*

We are excited for the 40th anniversary season 2026 Peru Tour! Coming up in August 2026, our singers will journey to Peru for performances in Lima's vibrant arts scene, Afro-Peruvian dance workshops, and cultural exploration. Highlights will include the Paracas Nature Reserve, a Paso Horse Show, a performance at Lima's Teatro Nacional, and an excursion to Machu Picchu.

With a company of over 40 touring performers from SENIOR HI, ACT3, SHINE, and ONCUE, accompanied by some YSC families, this tour promises artistic growth, cultural connection, and memories to last a lifetime.

Summer 2027 *Newfoundland*

In July 2027, JUNIOR HI takes the stage in St. John's, Newfoundland, at the HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing Traditions. This is one of Canada's most exciting choral festivals, and JUNIOR HI is bringing the magic for Youth Singers' debut at the festival! With performances, workshops, collaboration, sight-seeing, and a vibrant celebration of Canada's rich musical diversity, this is a tour you don't want to miss!

Registration is open now, with earlybird discounts until June 30. Singers in JUNIOR HI in 2026-27 are invited to register now to join us on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

This Month! *Toronto*

In two weeks, ONCUE heads to Toronto to compete in the Canadian Acappella Championships! One of four finalists, they'll be beat-boxing to beat the competition and are ready to bring home the gold! Good luck, ONCUE – and tune in to all of Youth Singers' channels for the results!



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Thank you alumni!

Today's performance features alumni in pieces by ONCUE, SHINE, Choreography Staff, and Company!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit youthsingers.org/tickets for information

Come celebrate and support all divisions!

May 23 – 2:30/7:30 PM	SECOND CHANTS "The Vinyl Years: A Jukebox Journey" Year End Show, APAC*
May 30 – 11:30am/2:30 PM	"CALGARY LIVE"; YSC at Heritage Park Gazebo FREE
June 6 – 7:30 PM	ENCORE & ONCUE "Full Circle" Year-End Show; Eckhardt-Grammate Hall*
Jun 7 – 11:00 AM	SHINE; Lilac Festival Stage
Jun 15 – 7:30 PM	STAR "Celebrate Canada" Year End Show; APAC*
Jul 1 – TBC	SHINE Canada Day in Okotoks
July 7 – 9:35 AM	ONCUE; Rope Square
July 8 to Aug 19 – 6:30 PM	THE HUB Drop in Choir, Wednesday nights, APAC*
July 11 – 10:35 AM	ONCUE; Rope Square

**Ticketed event – tickets available at youthsingers.org/tickets*

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