



**Tucson Chamber Artists**

*We sing. We play. We inspire.*

Contact: Mary Davis

(520) 270-9662

[mary@write-attitude.com](mailto:mary@write-attitude.com)

**For Immediate Release**

*Concert to Celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Star-Spangled Banner*

**TCA Opens 11<sup>th</sup> Season with a Tribute to America's Greatest Anthems**

Tucson, AZ (Sept. 30, 2014)—From “The Star-Spangled Banner,” to “Amazing Grace,” “and Bob Dylan’s “Blowin’ in the Wind,” The Tucson Chamber Artists opens its 11<sup>th</sup> season with a unique program that spans some of America’s rich folk and spiritual music traditions.

A special segment of the concert traces the evolution of America's national anthem, in recognition of its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in September.

Other songs considered treasured anthems to be performed include “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” and “Danny Boy.” TCA steps outside of the box with Woody Guthrie’s “This Land Is Your Land” and Bob Dylan's classic, considered some of the most influential folk anthems of the last century. Beloved pieces by the "father of American music" Stephen Foster will also be performed, along with excerpts from Leonard Bernstein's *Candide*.

In special recognition of the national anthem’s 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the concert will feature a presentation of the flag by two local honor and color guards on opening day:

Green Valley, 3 p.m.: The Lady Titan Color Guard of American Legion Post 66

Tucson, Scottish Rite Opening Night, 7:30 p.m.: Davis-Monthan’s Honor Guard

“Anthems are definitely part of folk life,” notes TCA Music Director Eric Holtan. “In fact, musical anthems can be the defining and even uniting cultural expressive tradition for various communities. For example, "Lift Every Voice and Sing" has since 1919 has been considered the official anthem of the NAACP. Often in events with significant African-American participation, it is sung immediately after “The Star-Spangled Banner.” For Irish Americans, "Danny Boy" is regarded as their anthem, and as the most popular hymn in America, "Amazing Grace" can certainly be considered the anthem of American Christians, especially of the Protestant persuasion. Various groups of all kinds have embraced a piece of music of special meaning to them as their anthem.”

This season, TCA has increased the number of performances by 50 percent and has added several new venues. This expansion is a result of the increase in subscriptions from last season, and a customer survey conducted last year that showed patrons were interested in having concerts closer to home.

The opening season concert schedule is below and available online [here](#). There will be an opening day reception with light refreshments in Green Valley, as well as an opening night reception at Scottish Rite.

New this year is an opening night reception, which will follow the Friday evening performance at the Scottish Rite Temple in downtown Tucson.

### **AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL**

Celebrating the diversity of the American folk and spiritual traditions

*Featuring Members of the TCA Chorus*

***There will be a talk-back with the audience 45 mins. prior to the start of each concert.***

Friday, October 10, 3 p.m., Desert Hills Lutheran Church, Green Valley

Friday, October 10, 7:30 p.m., Scottish Rite Temple, Tucson

Saturday, October 11, 7:30 p.m., Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Tucson

Sunday, October 12, 3 p.m., Vista de la Montaña Methodist Church, Catalina

Sunday, October 12, 7:30 p.m., St. Matthew Episcopal Church (New eastside location)

**TCA is inviting all veterans current and past to enjoy the concert for free at any location.** Tickets are \$40 for premium seating, \$25 for general seating. All seats in Green Valley are \$30. Premium seating prices for the Friday night concert at Scottish Rite includes the reception. To order, go to <http://www.tucsonchamberartists.org/buy-tickets/>, or call (520)401-2651.

---

### **About Tucson Chamber Artists**

*Tucson Chamber Artists (TCA) is the only professional chamber choir and orchestra in Southern Arizona. Founded in 2004, TCA's mission is to enrich lives through the transformational power of classical music. We accomplish our mission primarily through the performance of masterworks and the diverse music of America.*