2026-2027 Season

# Fond du Lac Children's Chorale





# WELCOME GUIDE

# GREETINGS!

Located in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, Thelma Sadoff Center for the Arts is a member-based, privately-funded non-profit dedicated to providing arts experiences not readily available in the area. Intimate concerts in the Great Hall, summer street concerts with major performers, films and theatre performances, and art from world-renowned artists are available at THELMA. THELMA also offers a stunning backdrop for weddings, meetings and all social and corporate gatherings.

THELMA enriches our community through the arts by providing arts education, and bringing visual and performing artists to Fond du Lac. The Susan O. Ahern Contemporary Wing and the lower level are free to access and view current art exhibitions. Offering scholarships to THELMA's Studio 51 art classes as well as an annual arts day camp, On Stage @ THELMA, students are given an opportunity to express themselves and allow creativity. THELMA also continues to offer Children's Chorale, a program for students grades 4 - 8 that teaches musicianship and artistry through a performance-based music education process. THELMA programs aim to inspire appreciation and enjoyment of art, while developing personal and artistic excellence.

The Fond du Lac Children's Chorale is a community children's chorus comprised of fourth through eighth grade students, from Fond du Lac and the surrounding communities, interested in performing and studying high-quality choral music. Founded in 1997 as a project of the Fond du Lac Arts Council, it is a resident ensemble of the Thelma Sadoff Center for the Arts in Fond du Lac.

The Chorale performs two major concerts each season, in addition to smaller appearances at other venues throughout the year. The Chorale's repertoire provides an enjoyable and challenging musical experience, while expanding children's learning horizons in music fundamentals, vocal technique and rehearsal discipline. Musicianship and artistry are taught in rehearsals through a performance-based music education process that aims to inspire appreciation and enjoyment of music, while developing personal and artistic excellence, and enriching our community. Auditions are held at various times throughout the year and by appointment.

# about the DIRECTOR

**Eva Thelen-Dunphy** began her musical journey with violin lessons at age 5. In middle school, encouraged by her choir director, Eva found her voice and went on to pursue an education in vocal performance and choral conducting. She holds a degree in music from Marian University, where she studied under the direction of David Hein.



Eva serves as choir director for Holy Family Parish in Fond du Lac and is a regularly featured soloist with the Lighthouse Big Band, the Fond du Lac Symphonic Band, and nationally televised Heart of the Nation productions. She also serves as lead singer of Eva and the Swizzle Sticks, a jazz combo that performs regularly at THELMA, and directs the “On Stage @ THELMA” children’s summer theater camp.

Eva is a member of the board of directors of the Fond du Lac Community Theater, where she can regularly be seen on stage, in the pit orchestra, or behind the scenes directing children’s theater.

Eva lives in Fond du Lac with her musically gifted husband, Michael; son, Arthur; daughter, Magnolia; and Pembroke Welsh corgi, Nigel.

# our TEAM



**BROOKE SPANBAUER**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**VICKIE DEMOSKE**
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR



**SHANNON KUPFER**
CURATOR & ARTS EDUCATOR



**AIDAN STEWART**
MARKETING DIRECTOR



**NEIL THOMPSON**
FACILITIES & PRODUCTION MANAGER



**ANDY MUELLER**
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

JT

**JOHN THOMPSON**
FACILITIES MANAGER



**JANE FLIELLER**
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

# *frequently* ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHAT TIME IS REHEARSAL?

Rehearsals take place on Monday evenings from 4:30 PM - 5:45 PM.

### WHERE DOES REHEARSAL TAKE PLACE?

Rehearsals take place in THELMA's Great Hall, located on the top floor. Occasionally we rehearse in the large classroom (the location change will be posted in the lobby).

### WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE A QUESTION?

Any questions can be answered by emailing Director, Eva Thelen-Dunphy, at **eva@thelmaarts.org**!

### WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD BRING TO REHEARSAL?

FCC provides all music that children will need. We ask each child to bring a 3-ring binder, medium size. We provide sheet music, a pencil, a water bottle, a tote bag, and one FCC t-shirt. The average cost for one folder's-worth of music is around $20. Since replacement music must be ordered as single copies, and there is extra cost for shipping, lost folders will be charged $25. This covers music, shipping, and music librarian processing and management time.

# *frequently* ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S CHORALE ATTIRE?

We have two performance attire patterns: formal and informal. Formal: black pants, white collar shirt, black socks, black shoes. FCC provides ties for girls and boys. Girls may find that boys-style collar shirts are better for the tie. Informal: black pants, black socks, black shoes, and provided FCC t-shirt.

### HOW DO I PURCHASE TICKETS FOR CHILDREN'S CHORALE CONCERTS?

Tickets will be available at **thelmaarts.org**. Visit thelmaarts.org and click Sign In / Register at the top of the homepage. Register or sign in with already created account. You can also call THELMA at 920.921.5410 and purchase tickets over the phone, or stop in at THELMA's front desk!

### MORE INFORMATION TO KNOW:

- We ask that students be respectful and keep voices low while walking to the Great Hall rehearsal location.
- There is a sitting area in the Great Hall Lounge for parents to wait during rehearsal if you would like. You can access THELMA's public WIFI login: tsc_public
- If your singer's shirt is damaged or stained, a replacement t-shirt can be purchased for $18.

Thank you for your cooperation, and we look forward to another great year singing!

# 26/27 season SCHEDULE

**Winter Semester– rehearsals4:30pm-5:45pm in the Great Hall atTHELMA(or in Fountain City Room as needed).**

**SEPTEMBER 2026**
Mon 14 - First rehearsal of the semester
Mon 21
Mon 28

**OCTOBER 2026**
Mon 5
Mon 12
Mon 19
Mon 26 - Halloween Costumes Welcome!

**NOVEMBER 2026**
Mon 2
Mon 9
Mon 16
Mon 23
Mon 30

**DECEMBER 2026**
Mon 7 - tech rehearsal
**Sun 13** - **Chorale Holiday Concert**
(feat. Lighthouse Big Band)
12:45pm call time
1:30pm doors open
2pm concert
**Tue 15** -**Performance w/ the Lighthouse Big Band**
At Thelma in the Fountain City Room
6:30 pm Call time
7:00 pm Concert time

**SpringSemester-rehearsals4:30pm-5:45pm in the Great HallatTHELMA (or in Fountain City Room asneeded). 8th graders stay until 6pm.**

**JANURAY 2027**
Mon 4 - First rehearsal of new semester
Mon 11
Mon 18 - OFF (No School for MLK Day)
Mon 25

**FEBRUARY 2027**
Mon 1
Mon 8
Mon 15 - OFF
Mon 22

**MARCH 2027**
Mon 8
Mon 15
Mon 22
Mon 29

**APRIL 2027**
Mon 5
Mon 12
Mon 19
Mon 26

**MAY 2027**
Mon 3
Mon 10 - Tech
Mon 16 - Concert (30th Anniversary Concert)



# THELMA

THELMA SADOFF CENTER FOR THE ARTS

## ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH