



Colton Thomas Drake

www.coltonthomasdrake.com





*Melanie Moore, Artistic Director
Crysta Jones, Collaborative Pianist
Colton Thomas Drake, Baritone, Guest Artist*

Charles W. Eisemann Center
for the Performing Arts

2351 Performance Dr.
Richardson, TX 75082

May 9, 2026
2:30 PM & 7:30 PM



This organization is funded in part by the City of Richardson through the City of Richardson Cultural Arts Commission.





Melanie Moore, Artistic Director (2000 - Present)

Melanie Moore is presently in her twenty-fifth season with The Contemporary Chorale. She has taught music privately and in the public school system collectively for over 40 years, and recently “retired” from teaching choral music at Rowlett

High School. She taught both elementary and secondary choral music in the Richardson ISD and secondary choral music for Lovejoy ISD, and Garland ISD. Melanie has also served as Adjunct Professor of Music Education at Dallas Baptist University, where she taught courses in elementary and secondary music education methods. In her retirement, she has again joined the Adjunct Faculty at Dallas Baptist University, where she teaches Introduction to Fine Arts and serves as a University Supervisor for Music Education student teachers. Ms. Moore is in demand as a vocal, choral, and instrumental accompanist, and vocal/choral coach and clinician. She has coached more than 40 students to the TMEA All-State Choir. Additionally, she enjoys music directing and playing keyboard for local musical theatre productions. Melanie holds a B.M. in Piano Pedagogy from Oklahoma Baptist University and an M.A. in Music Education from Texas Woman's University.

Professional affiliations include Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) and Texas Choral Directors' Association (TCDA). Melanie and her husband, Wes, have one daughter, Zoë.





Crysta Jones, Collaborative Pianist (2013 - Present)

Crysta Jones is enjoying her thirteenth year accompanying the Chorale. She received her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Baylor University and her Juris Doctor from Southern Methodist University. Crysta began her piano training at age five and

has trained classically for fifteen years. She has played in the Lake Highlands area for eleven years, both as a solo pianist and as an accompanist for high school choirs, vocalists, and band students. Crysta also enjoys serving as accompanist for the New Song Community Choir. Crysta and her husband, Jeff, have four grown children.



Colton Thomas Drake, Guest Artist

Colton Thomas Drake is a Dallas native with ties in Colorado, now based in Brooklyn, NY. He first fell in love with music at a young age in Colorado and was privileged to pursue a degree in Music with an emphasis in Musical Theater at the Wanda L. Bass School of Music at Oklahoma City University.

During his years at OCU, Colton trained and refined his lyric-baritone voice under Brenda Holleman, enjoying roles like Warner (Legally Blonde), Sir Robin (Spamalot), and Man #2 (Closer Than Ever). After graduation, he moved to NYC where he has been pounding the pavement at auditions. Last year, he made his professional debut in Cinderella at Casa Mañana and his music video debut in Frankie Grande's "Rhythm of Love." When not pursuing his love of performance, he can be found at Prospect Park with his dog, Willie Nelson. This performance—and every performance—is dedicated to his mother.



About the Chorale

Founded in 1956, The Chorale has been an artistic outlet and resource for like-minded individuals passionate about singing. The women and men of The Contemporary Chorale are entertainers who love to sing, dance, and perform for you. Whether singing Broadway, jazz, or romantic melodies, these performers approach the music with enthusiasm, musicality, and a high degree of professionalism.

For more information on The Contemporary Chorale, please visit **www.thecontemporarychorale.org**



A Note From The Artistic Director...

"Color My World." I'll bet you immediately looked at the program order to see if we're singing it, didn't you? I know I would have! And, of course, we are. Just wait!

This concert is very special to us. Not only are we celebrating the many, many colors in our lives, but also 70 years of music-making with The Contemporary Chorale! Did you know we are the oldest consecutively running community choir in North Texas? We started in 1956 as a women's lecture group, and look where we are today! Like many musical organizations that made it through the 2020 pandemic and the years since, we have worked to rebuild our community. Your presence here is part of that journey, and we are so grateful you chose to spend this time with us.

I'm very proud to introduce our Guest Artist, **Colton Drake**. I first met Colton as a voice student at Pearce High School in Richardson ISD. It did not take long to realize he is a true talent, and I am sure you will discover that for yourself. Thank you, Colton, for coming from NYC to share this day with us!

When I first had the idea for a "color show," I had no idea how many songs feature color in the title or lyrics. I was overwhelmed! Red, black, and blue appear most often, but I was pleasantly surprised by the fun, beautiful, and meaningful options I found. You will hear a bit of the rainbow today, and we hope you enjoy this journey as much as we have enjoyed preparing it. The colors of our lives tell stories of family and friends, love and heartbreak, and everyday moments. Maybe you will hear an old favorite that brings back memories, or discover something new.

*Let us know what you think in the Audience Survey in your program.
We would love to hear from you!*

Thank you again for supporting The Contemporary Chorale. You will see and hear how much we love what we do, and your presence helps make it possible. Enjoy the show!

Melanie Moore

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Melanie M. Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melanie" and the last name "Moore" clearly legible.

Artistic Director, The Contemporary Chorale

Applause & Appreciation

Nominating Committee, I'm gonna remember this!!! - *Pete*

Becca, you have made this show truly sparkle with your work! - *Melanie*

Melanie, These last 13 years have been a blessing....and so much fun! Heartfelt thanks! - *Gary*

Gary, Thanks for sharing rides to practice! - *Rolin*

Becca, your costumes brought the music to life. Stunning work as always. Thank you. - *ME*

I had no idea there were this many colors in the world. I really had no idea that I would have to memorize them all! - *Clint*

Crysta, you are a treasure! You play the piano like you have 6 arms! - *Nicole*

Lucho, So great to have an accomplished music director as a fellow tenor ! I have learned so much from you. - *Clint*

Sandra, Kim, & all our officers, thank you for making this show happen and leading the way! - *Nicole*

Moe, Thanks for your challenges. You're Awesome! - *Melanie*

Kylee, You're the best program partner ever! Thank you! - *Melanie*

Carol, your vocals in Joseph brought the narrator to life. Outstanding performance. - *ME*

Hilary, I know I didn't tell you till after the fact. Please forgive me! - *Pete*

Shirley, Thelma, and Julie: Shout out to my front row soprano crew! Hit those high notes, ladies! - *Nicole*

Pete, Your fellow tenors (and everybody else) miss you! Not the same without you. See you next semester! - *Clint*



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Applause & Appreciation

To my Choir ladies, Thank you for the laughs, friendship, and
for making rehearsals just as memorable as performances.
- Savitha

Melanie, thank you for another amazing Season. Your limitless
energy is infectious! - Nicole Hughes

Clint, Remember your promise. I won't tell anyone. - Pete

Crysta, what am I going to do without you? We share a brain!! -
Melanie

Melanie, your vision and leadership made this season
unforgettable. Thank you for everything. - ME

Chorale Alumni, Welcome back! This all started with YOU! -
Melanie



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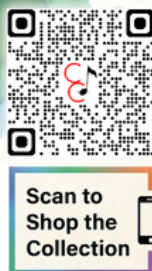


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About the Author

Kevin Manus-Pennings is a Georgia-born writer and editor in fiction and the humanities. He's also interested in game design and all other forms of storytelling. Kevin lives in Richardson, Texas, with his wife and sidekick Karen. Learn more about what Kevin has been up to at Karandrin.com.



Available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

AUDIENCE SURVEY



We'd love your feedback! Please take a moment to fill out our audience survey and let us know what you enjoyed and how we can make future shows even better. Your input helps us continue creating performances you'll love—thank you for being part of our audience!

Applause & Appreciation

To the Chorale, You guys are gonna be great! Break legs and anything else that will help! - *Pete*

Crysta, You continue to amaze me and the entire Chorale with your piano artistry. Bravo! - *Gary*

Car Pool II, I think about you two every Thursday at 6:27 PM.
- *Pete*

Lucho, Thank you for filling in for me so seamlessly! - *Melanie*

Pam, Thank you for offering your home for our extra practices and keeping us organized. - *Nicole*

Samantha, Thank you for all your time and energy choreographing! - *Melanie*



Special Thanks

We gratefully acknowledge Larry Harper for his generous in-kind donation of the beautiful awards honoring our Collaborative Pianist, Crysta Jones, and Artistic Director, Melanie Moore. Your support helps us celebrate excellence and artistry within our chorale community.

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CONGRATS!



Becky, Carol, Kara, and Keith!

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ACT I

I See Colors

PINKZEBRA

Bye Bye Blackbird

Arr.. Martell

Joshua Lynn, Tenor and Samantha Clark, Soprano

Blue Skies

Colton Drake, Baritone

Arr. Rutherford

True Colors

Patrick Thornton, Bass

Arr. Brent

Paint It Black

Mike Lynn, Bass

Arr. Cracauer

Brown Eyed Girl

Colton Drake, Baritone

Morrison

Bein' Green

Arr. Langford

Big Yellow Taxi

Arr. Adam and Matt Podd

The Rainbow Connection

Colton Drake, Baritone

Williams/Archer

Black or White

Pam Duffy and Moe Elkadri, Rap

Arr. Shaw

****Intermission - 20 minutes****

ACT II

Orange-Colored Sky

Arr. Cracauer

Gaby Hundza, Alto

Blue Velvet

Arr. Lojeski

The Rainbow Song

Arr. Moore

THE PAJAMA GAME

A New Town is a Blue Town

Adler/Ross

Colton Drake, Baritone

Black is the Color of my True Love's Hair

Arr. Johnson

Color My World

Arr. Moore

SPRING AWAKENING

The Song of Purple Summer

Arr. Brymer

Kori Allen, Alto, Clint David, Tenor, Ensemble - Rebecca Burgett, MK Doka, Jim Douglass, Moe Elkadri, Rolin Green, Kara Janasak, Joshua Lynn, Ari Pleasure

K POP DEMON HUNTERS

Golden

Arr. Emerson

Savitha Meda, Alto, Kim Ruby, Alto, Amanda Tulloch, Soprano, Jenn Hess, Alto, Julie Pham, Soprano

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Jacob and Son's/Joseph's Coat

Webber

Carol Blackwood, Alto, Larry Edens, Bass, Colton Drake, Baritone

Sopranos:

Thelma Burnham, Rebecca Burgett, Samantha Clark, Shirley Davis, Pam Duffy, Haley Hudson, Nicole Hughes, Karen Manus-Pennings, Julie Pham, Becky Price, Kati Riley, Kathryn Sowell, Joan Spotswood, Callie Stoker, Maryn Stoker, Amanda Tolloch, and Lynette Wood.

Altos

Kori Allen, Kristy Besse, Carol Blackwood, Nancy Carter, Karen Dishman, Mary Katherine Doka, Pepper Harper, Jenn Hess, Gaby Hundza, Kara Janasak, Cathy Koschik, Savitha Meda, Caroline Moran, Ariana Pleasure, Hilda Rodriguez, Kim Ruby, Melanie Seaman, and Sandra Treviño.

Tenors

Jeffrey Barnett, Clint David, Jim Douglass, Joshua Lynn, Barry Owens, Lucho Romero, and Dan Treviño.

Baritone/Basses

Larry Edens, Moe Elkadri, Gary Grahngquist, Rolin Green, Keith Janasak, Mike Lynn, Jeff Miles, Patrick Thornton, Rick Vacek, and John Wood.

The Chorale Combo

Mark Alewine – **Woodwinds**

Eric Czechowski – **Bass**

Andrew Getman – **Guitar**

Gabe Jones – **Percussion**

Kelley Rodriguez – **Keyboard**



Applause & Appreciation

Mason and Sarah, Well, by now you are married! Have the Best Lives Ever! - *Pete*

Sandra, thanks for your strong leadership as president of The Chorale. Great job! - Gary and the entire men's section

Chorale, if absence makes the heart grow fonder, my heart is most fond! - *Pete*

To our volunteers, thank you for countless hours making the 70th celebration exceptional. - *ME*

Randy, we missed you on stage tonight. Wishing you a quick recovery. - *ME*

Lucho, Thanks for being Melanie's trusty backup! We see your <clap> true colors! - *Nicole*



Join us for a delicious and fun evening while helping raise funds for our life-saving mission of saving Texas pets in need and giving them second chances in Minnesota and Wisconsin!



Check Our FaceBook Page For Event Updates!

Applause & Appreciation

Mary, Rebecca, Stephanie, Mary Anna, & Jerry, Thanks for your support throughout the last 12 years! - *Rolin*

To all my fellow Chorale members, I am honored to know you and sing with you. "Serious Fun" - *Rolin*

May sleigh ride live on forever!

From avocados to chili peppers, we've stuck together through every flavor. Love you. - *Pam*

Crysta, your playing keeps us together every rehearsal and performance. We're so grateful! - *ME*

Zoe, Thank you for coming all the way from Boston! I love you! - *Mom*

Moe, thank you for all the fun social media posts! They always lift my spirit. - *Nicole*

Joshua, Thanks for making Sam's instructional videos come to life! - *Melanie*

Lynette, Thanks for all your hard work in so many areas. And thanks for helping me out in a pinch! - *Gary*

Lucho & Pam, Thanks for all the extra sectional rehearsals for the guys and gals! - *Gary*

Scott, Isaac, and Aria, I love you. Thank you for supporting my chorale journey. - *Nicole*

Sam and Josh, thank you for the choreography and videos. Really appreciate all the time you put in. - *Nicole*

Sam, your choreography brought every number to life. Full of energy! Thank you. - *ME*

Katie, Pepper, Moe, Gaby & Lucho, Loved getting to know you this season! Thank you for being here! - *Pam*

Remembering Our Chorale Family

*"Those dearest to us never really leave;
they live on in the way they cared,
shared, and made us happy."*

Sonya Duncan (1992)
Camille Fiely (1997)
Sue Farrar: Past Director
(2004)
Molly Pederson (2008)
Betty Buethe (2008)
Diane Downey (2011)
Betty Shifflet: Past Director
(2012)
Betty Hanna (2013)
Rubye Campbell (2014)
Mary Jones (2015)
Sandra Howell (2015)
Bino Scanlon (2018)

Mary Helen Chaney: Past
Accompanist (2018)
Mary Jane McNair (2019)
Donna Marshall (2019)
Louise Anderson
Angel Bohrt (2021)
Frankie Houchin (2021)
Charles Hughes (2023)
Carolyn Perryman
Vanessa Travers
Luann Tucker (2024)
Lynne Shirey (2025)

"Remembering Our Chorale Family" is a fairly recent addition to our printed programs. We wish to honor former members who have passed by listing their names and the years of their passing.

As the Chorale celebrates its 70th anniversary, we recognize there may be members we have not yet included. If you know of former members who have passed away, or can provide the dates of passing for those currently listed without them, we would appreciate you sharing that information.

Please contact Sandra Treviño at:

President@thecontemporarychorale.org

with the information

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Rolin Green	Elizabeth Riley

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70th Anniversary Committee	Crysta Jones
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The Contemporary Chorale regrets any errors or omissions in the list of contributors. This information is current as of November 24, 2025. Please contact us at: www.thecontemporarychorale.org to report any corrections. If your last contribution to TCC was more than twelve months ago, please consider renewing your support today! Future concerts depend on it.

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Applause & Appreciation

Melanie, What happened? I thought I was getting all the solos!? I'm offended! LOL - *Melanie Seaman*

To my husband, thank you for the endless encouragement & pretending you've never heard these songs before. - *Savitha*

Car Pool III, There will never be another Car Pool as good as this. - *Pete*

To my amazing friends, Thanks for always showing up, cheering loudly, & supporting me no matter what. - *Savitha*

Shawn, your promotion and social media work filled seats and built excitement. Thank you. - *ME*

Joe, Cosmas, Wrinkle, and Potato, Love Yall!!! - *Mommy*

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Applause & Appreciation

IYKYK...RYGBSBOPROVFLGCMCCSRALRGPWPOB!

Happy Mother's Day to my mom and future mother-in-law.
Love you both! - *MK Doka*

Chorale Board, I can't wait until the Fall!! We are gonna have a blast! - *Pete*

Wish I could be there singing with all of you!!! - *Kylee*

Chorale, Thank you for seeing my vision for this show. You're the best! - *Melanie*

Lucho, Thank you for allowing the men to rehearse Tuesday nights at your music digs - The Lake Highlands Presbyterian Church. - *Clint*

Lucho, thank you for hosting sectionals every week. The extra practice made us better. - *ME*

Melanie, have the Solos been decided yet? You had one job! LOL (IYKYK) Love & appreciate you! - *Melanie Seaman*

What a wonderful atmosphere, with wonderful leadership! You make all the difference, Melanie - Love you!! - *Hilda*

Melanie, you knocked it out of the park on this semester's song selections! So blue that it's over... - *Clint*

Samantha, thanks for the creative choreography and for keeping us on our toes! - *Gary*

Lyn, thanks for holding down the back row of the soprano section with me! - *Becky*

Sandy, Black is the color of my true love's hair...my true love's hair. - *Your Blonde Swede*

Wes & Zoe, thank you for supporting this crazy Chorale habit of mine! - *Melanie/Mom*

Applause & Appreciation

Melanie, Crysta, Samantha, & Lucho: Thanks for all you do to make our show the best. -*Rolin*

Car Pool I, did you talk about me while I was gone? -*Pete*

To my family, thanks for crossing a border to hear me sing. That's love!! Grateful you're here. - *Savitha*

Julie, thank you for leading our section and providing notes. You are "Golden!" - *Nicole*

Lucho... not bad! We love you! Thank you for everything this season! - *Pam*

To The Board, thank you for your leadership and commitment to supporting this choir. - *ME*



Chorale Officers

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Vice President: Lynette Wood

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Treasurer: Beverly Hartzendorf

Parliamentarian: Dan Treviño

Special Thanks

To our family and friends for their support

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Program: Kylee Kline, Melanie Moore

Program Design: Kylee Kline

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