

Festival of African-American Spirituals

February 22-23, 2019

held at

Kirkwood Baptist Church



LEGEND SINGERS CHORAL ENSEMBLE

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In February 2007, the U. S. House of Representatives approved a resolution recognizing the African-American Spiritual as a National Treasure. The resolution “recognizes that African-American spirituals are a poignant and powerful genre of music that have become one of the most significant segments of American music in existence.” The mission and responsibility of the Legend Singers Choral Ensemble is to educate, promote and perform this treasure, so that it endures and continues to enrich our American culture.

Dr. Doris Jones-Wilson and The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble are excited to welcome the clinician for the **2019 Festival of African-American Spirituals**, Maestro Dingwall Fleary, conductor of the Reston Community Orchestra in Reston, Virginia. Throughout this weekend experience, participants will learn vocal style, performance practices, and ensemble techniques which are appropriate for the authentic interpretation of this rich and diverse art form.

The purpose of the Festival is threefold:

1. Stimulate greater understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the African-American Spiritual.
2. Provide a valuable educational and musical experience for participants and spectators.
3. Encourage the singing of spirituals again in homes, schools and communities.

Registration fee: \$20.00 per person. Fee includes music package and light snacks.

The Festival schedule includes the following:

Central Visual & Performing Arts High School, Friday February 22, 2019

9:00am – 2:00pm **School Choirs**

Kirkwood Baptist Church, Friday, February 22, 2019

6:00pm - 7:00pm **Registration for Community and Church Choirs**

7:00pm - 9:00pm **Workshop/Rehearsal with Maestro Dingwall Fleary**

Kirkwood Baptist Church, Saturday, February 23, 2019

8:30am - 9:00am **Registration/Fellowship**

9:00am - 12:00pm **Workshop/Rehearsal with Maestro. Dingwall Fleary**

12:00pm - 1:00pm **Lunch on your own**

1:00pm - 3:00pm **Workshop/Rehearsal**

3:00pm - 5:00pm **Concert featuring Festival choir, Legend Singers, Choirs and Soloists**

(Concert is free and open to the public)

This event fulfills the mission of the Legend Singers Choral Ensemble to preserve and perform the indigenous music of the African-American.

Dr. Doris Jones-Wilson, Ed.D.,
Music Director - The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble



A native of St. Louis, Maestro **Dingwall Fleary** holds degrees in performance and education from the University of Kansas at Lawrence and the School of Music at Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. He later attended L'Academia De Musicale di Chigiana in Siena, Italy, as a conducting fellow under Maestro Franco Ferrera.

Recognized by the Virginia General Assembly and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for his musical leadership, he is also a highly regarded choral director, teacher, pianist, harpsichordist, organist and chamber musician. He has twice been honored by the American Society for Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) for his innovative programming and championing of American composers.

In addition to the Reston Community Orchestra, Maestro Fleary is also the Music Director and Conductor of The McLean Symphony, as well as the Organist and Music Director of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Bethesda, Maryland. Maestro Fleary has spent over 45 consecutive years as Music Director and Conductor of the McLean Symphony and nearly 30 consecutive years in the same position with the Reston Community Orchestra.

Maestro Fleary, Director of Music, has been at Emmanuel Lutheran since 1998. In his position, Maestro Fleary leads the adult and bell choirs and serves as the church organist. Maestro Fleary oversees all church music activities, and, with the assistance of Mrs. Kristi Johnson, he prepares music for and rehearses our youth instrumentalists.

Known throughout the Greater Washington music scene, Maestro Fleary has directed the National Gallery Orchestra, musical theater, including Arena Stage and the former Washington Theater Club, and is a popular adjudicator and clinician for area schools and colleges. He resides in Sterling, Virginia.



DR. DORIS JONES-WILSON is a graduate of Sumner High School and a proud student of Dr. Kenneth Brown Billups. She holds a BMed. from Lincoln University and the MAT and EdD in Music Education from Washington University.



An accomplished composer and arranger, Dr. Wilson has been honored numerous times for her work in the field of music education and church music. As the former Professor of Music and Director of the award-winning Concert Chorale at Harris-Stowe State College, her choirs traveled and performed throughout the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean.

Dr. Wilson has also served throughout the United States as a guest director and adjudicator. Rooted and grounded in church music, she previously served as Minister of Music at the Liberty Baptist Church and as Minister of Music at the West Side Missionary Baptist Church, both in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble, founded in 1940 by the late Kenneth Brown Billups, take pride in their cultural heritage and continue the preservation and performance of choral music of the African-American culture as well as other choral works.



The Singers have an educational and community outreach program which takes them to schools, churches, and community agencies in the metropolitan area. The oldest choral group of its kind, the Legend Singers have performed with the St. Louis Symphony, as well as other major symphony orchestras in the area. Additionally, the Singers have appeared in major productions such as “*Showboat*”, “*Porgy and Bess*”, and “*Treemonisha*”.



FESTIVAL OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUALS

Presented by

The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble

February 22 – 23, 2019

Kirkwood Baptist Church

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL CHOIR REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

SCHOOL/CHURCH _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHOIR DIRECTOR'S NAME _____

PHONE _____

WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM IN THE FINALE CONCERT ON SATURDAY:

YES _____ NO _____

NUMBER OF SINGERS _____

WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN FESTIVAL AS INDIVIDUAL ONLY _____

VOICE PART: SOPRANO _____ ALTO _____ TENOR _____ BASS _____

The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible. **Please return this form with registration fee: (\$20 per person), checks made payable to "The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble":**

**The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble
Attn: Dr. Doris Jones Wilson
3128 Somerset Green Court
St. Louis, MO 63136**