

WNCC Vocal Music Program presents the 31st Annual Gala

A Latta Fight Left in Me



WNCC
Western Nebraska
Community College

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



One year ago, the onset of worldwide restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic canceled WNCC's 30th Annual Vocal Music Gala titled "Finding Home." Canceling this event left a hole in the hearts of WNCC's performers as well as community members who enjoy this annual event. We are excited to return to the stage and perform a night of music surrounding the theme "A Lotta Fight Left in Me." It is only fitting that the 31st Gala is the first live performance presented by WNCC in over a year as we all learn how to be safe in this new era.

Watching students' changing reactions to the challenges thrown at them continues to fascinate me. Last Spring, we ended the semester with a feeling of loss and despair in our personal, professional, and academic lives. In the Fall, we found new ways to express ourselves through virtual performance, but we still felt "less than." This Spring, as it became evident we could hold live performances, students prepared for the Gala with enthusiasm. Suffering through fear and loss, finding ourselves isolated when we need each other the most, "A Lotta Fight Left in Me" explores the deep wells of strength we have all had to tap to get through this strangest of times.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Newell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Patrick Newell
Choral Activities Director
Western Nebraska Community College

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Western Nebraska Community College Music Program offers both music major and music minor associate degrees, plus numerous music classes for non-majors. Many of our graduates go on to further study after leaving WNCC, thus our course offerings are designed to match the freshman/sophomore curriculum at most four-year music schools. We offer classes in Music Appreciation, Music Theory, History of American Popular Music, Elementary Music Methods, and all subject areas and levels of applied lessons. The student musician has the opportunity to study privately and is encouraged to participate in the various performing ensembles, including concert band, concert choir, jazz band, show choir, rock combo, vocal chamber ensembles, and others. We award more than 30 full-tuition scholarships to worthy instrumental and vocal musicians. These scholarships are available to both music majors and non-music majors.

VOCAL MUSIC ENSEMBLES

Collegiate Chorale - The premier concert choir of WNCC draws talent from many of the fine high schools of the North Platte Valley and beyond. WNCC Collegiate Chorale has been featured often on the West Nebraska Performing Arts Series, at the United States Air Force Cadet Chapel, and has enjoyed several performances at New York's famed Carnegie Hall. Collegiate Chorale has performed with the University of Wyoming Collegiate Chorale and Orchestra, and the Wyoming Symphony. In 2007, Collegiate Chorale performed to a standing ovation at the Nebraska Governor's Inaugural Ball. At home, Collegiate Chorale performs annually at the acclaimed WNCC Gala and Christmas concert, at area schools, and for civic and charity functions.

Varsity Vocalise - A highly select touring ensemble whose repertoire includes the very best of Broadway, pop, swing, jazz, and ageless favorites. Varsity Vocalise is proud to represent the WNCC Vocal Music Program. Members regularly perform for public service and at charitable events, participate in arts festivals, and represent WNCC while touring throughout the Midwest. While members are passionate about their joy of performing and the camaraderie of membership, Varsity Vocalise members remain dedicated to their stated purpose, "to promote goodwill through music and to enhance the quality of life in our valley."

“The People’s Song” from *Les Misérable*
Words by Alain Boublil, Jean-Marc Natel, and Herbert Kretzmer
Music by Claude-Michel Schönberg
Varsity Vocalise

WELCOME

Dr. Patrick Newell, Choral Activities Director

COMMENTS AND BLESSING

Dr. Carmen Simone, WNCC President

AN INTRODUCTION

Jennifer Reisig, Foundation Executive Director

DINNER

“Fight Song”

Words & Music by Rachel Platten and Dave Bassett
Arranged by Roger Emerson
Varsity Vocalise

“Praying”

Words & Music by Keshia Sebert, Ryan Lewis, and Ben Abraham
Jade Cash, soprano

“All That’s Known” from *Spring Awakening*

Words by Steven Sater, Music by Duncan Sheik
Avi Blackstone, baritone

“Someone Else’s Skin” from *Catch Me if You Can*

Words by Terrance McNally, Music by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman
Ty Corr, tenor

“A Thousand Years”

Words & Music by David Hodges and Christina Perri
Varsity Vocalise

“The Saddest Song” from *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*

Words & Music by Michael Friedman
Caden Ellis, tenor

“I Can Do That” from *A Chorus Line*
Words by Edward Kleban, Music by Marvin Hamlisch
Billy Mosher, tenor

“El Rey”
Words & Music by José Alfredo Jiménez
Roberto Avila III, baritone

CONCERT

“Stronger” from *Finding Neverland*
Words & Music by Eliot Kennedy and Gary Barlow
Varsity Vocalise

“No U In Spain”
Words & Music by Adam Wagner
Lauren Newell, soprano

“Sisi ni moja”
Words & Music by Jacob Narverud
Collegiate Chorale

“I Dream a World”
Words by Langston Hughes, Music by André J. Thomas
Collegiate Chorale

“Soon We Will Be Done”
African American Spiritual,
Words & Music adapted and arranged by Kyle Pederson
Collegiate Chorale

GALA PERSONNEL

Dr. Patrick Newell, Director
Tami Lippstreu, Accompanist

SOPRANOS

+Gracie Batt, Melbeta
§Jade Cash, Thornton, CO
+Adrianna Casias, Scottsbluff
*Hannah Johns, Gering
+Alyssa Liebich, Scottsbluff
*Paula Tactacan, Manila, the Philippines
*Josie Whelchel, Harrisburg

ALTOS

*Elizabeth Berge, Mitchell
+Emma Leggott, Gering
*Emily Peden, Mitchell
*Jaclyn Vazquez, Scottsbluff

TENORS

*Ty Corr, Scottsbluff
+Matt Eckerberg, Gering
*Caden Ellis, Scottsbluff
*Alexander Flores, Kimball
*Billy Mosher, Scottsbluff

BASSES

*Roberto Avila III, Scottsbluff
*Avi Blackstone, Bayard
+Christian DeCosta, Eckert, CO
+Ethan Koehler, Scottsbluff

+Member of Collegiate Chorale
*Member of Collegiate Chorale and Varsity Vocalise
§Member of Varsity Vocalise

COMBO

Tami Lippstreu, keyboard
Devon Shelor, guitar
Preston Mullen, bass
Kyle Kuxhausen, drums

PRODUCTION STAFF

Choreography

Tiffany Tabor Mackrill

Costumes

Avi Blackstone, chair

Decorations

Lauren Newell

Sound

Amanda Foote

Livestreaming services provided by

Jay Grote

SPECIAL THANKS

Dr. Carmen Simone; Jennifer Reisig & the WNCC Foundation; Francesca Mintowt-Czyz; Dr. Nathaniel Johnson; Amy Winters; Josh Vesper; Tami Lippstreu; Lauren Newell; Jennifer Pedersen

WNCC MUSIC FACULTY

Amy Winters, Interim Chair, Language & Fine Arts
Dr. Nathaniel Johnson, Instrumental Activities Director
Dr. Patrick Newell, Choral Activities Director

WNCC ADJUNCT FACULTY

Ashley Hillman, strings
Gina Johnson, oboe
Tami Lippstreu, collaborative piano
Norman Menzales, flute
Jamie Nagode, voice
Shawn Oakes, guitar
Elaina Osburn, voice
Dr. Richard Puzzo, percussion
Kathleen Rose, music education
Austin Sailors, saxophone
Robin Schmidt, piano
John Wojcik, brass

Western Nebraska Community College's 31st Annual Gala

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Wills Chiropractic Clinic

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