

**Valentine's Day is a special day for the Palouse Choral Society.** PCS became an independent nonprofit organization on February 14, 2000, and we celebrate that lineage with our biennial concert about love. Our Chamber Choir and Children's Choir have prepared a variety of pieces for you that **celebrate different aspects of love.** We've been rehearsing since the start of the new year and are excited to share a German part song, a Spanish sonnet, a Slovenian wedding dance, and so much more.



This concert does not only include choral music; we will also feature a cabaret-style variety show with acts performed by many PCS members. Their songs include pop, rock, barbershop, Renaissance, and musical theatre.

### Artistic Director Dr. Matthew Myers

This concert has a little something for everybody. Please join us in celebrating our birthday and our love for our community by attending "Choose Love."

We have two performances:  
**Friday, February 13, 7:30pm**  
**First United Methodist Church in Moscow**

**Sunday, February 15, 4:00pm**  
**The Silverthorne Theatre in Lewiston, on the LCSC campus.**

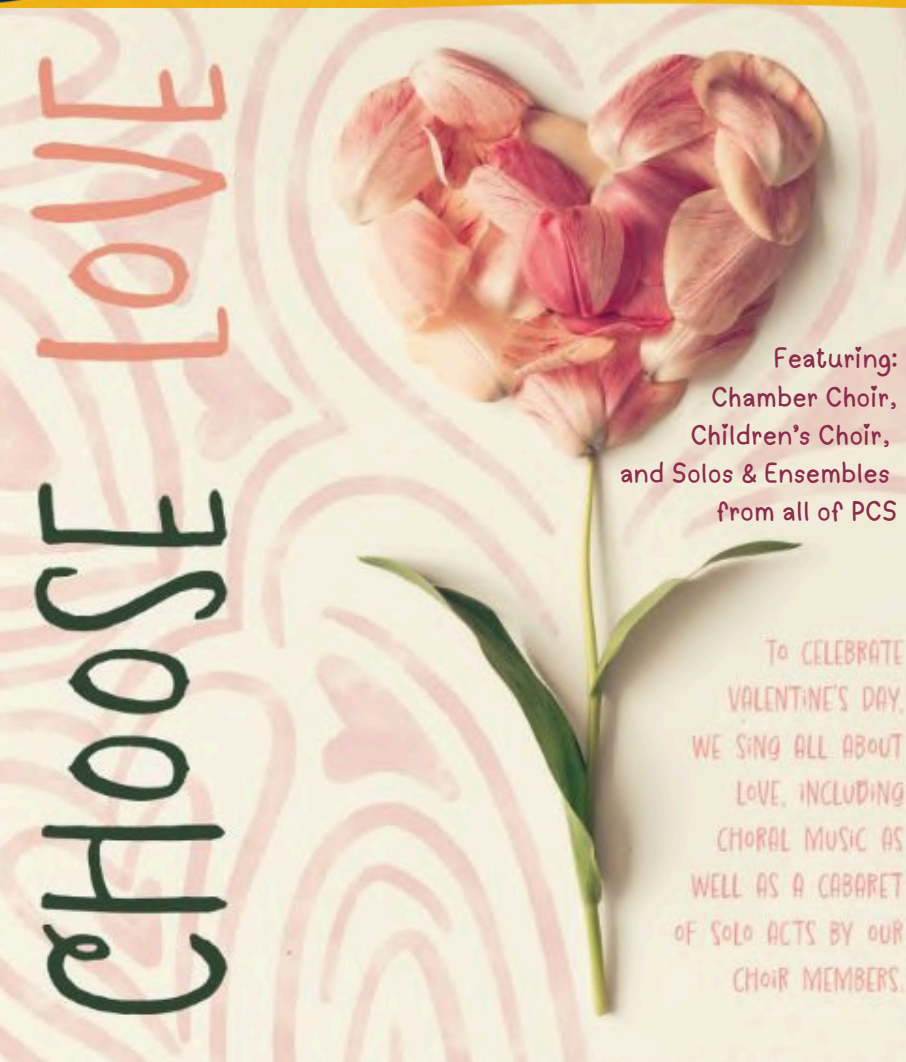
We can't wait to spread the love with you!

### President Gillian Sharma



PCS member  
Since 2016

**Recently appointed by the board as President of PCS,** I am honored to serve in this position. I have been on the board for several years and enjoy the behind the scenes work-**indeed it was eye-opening to learn how hard the board works to ensure we have a successful season.** We also have many others working behind the scenes such as the **riser crew, the library team, and the front of house team,** all making sure rehearsals and concerts work smoothly. Besides our concert series we also organize events of a more social nature. Our Christmas sing-along has become an annual event that is enjoyed by friends and families as well as PCS members. **I am very proud that we brought "Sing for Unity" to the Palouse. This community-building event brought hundreds of singers together.** I am hopeful this will become an annual event. Our upcoming concert promises to be outstanding. **Please come and enjoy!**



*Kid Quotes from the Children's Choir*  
***What is one thing you love about singing in choir?***

**Violet:** I love singing in this group because **I love hearing all the different parts together.** It makes me think of different people in the world with different abilities, and how they can use their abilities **to create something beautiful.**

**Elliott:** One thing I love about singing in choir is the community we have and the friendship we all have with each other. **I love how much dedication everyone puts into it.**

**Children's  
Choir  
Director  
Kobe Hagen**



As we approach our upcoming concert, *Choose Love*, I've been thinking a lot about the love of friendship. It's a different kind of love that doesn't get as much attention, especially around Valentine's day, but is very important.

One of the things I've enjoyed most about Children's Choir is seeing how kind everyone is to each other. This group really enjoys singing together, and the choir is all the better because of it.

For our upcoming concert I decided to include the song "**You've Got a Friend in Me**", which highlights the bond of friendship our singers share. We look forward to performing it for you all in our upcoming concerts.

**Clara:** The thing I love the most about singing in choir is being able **to sing with my friends.**

**Ashlyn:** One thing I like is that you get to meet your friends and you get to **sing your heart out.** **I think it's really fun.**



## Singing Sisters

We have been singing together for over 45 years, and **music has connected us** even when life led us down different paths. From composing childhood ditties to performing as sisters in a production of *The Taffetas*, **making music together has built an unbreakable bond.**

The collaborative energy we shared during the many years we sang with the Methow Valley Cascadia Choir inspired us to audition for the PCS together 2 years ago, and now **we love singing with such a talented and diverse chorale.**



**Meghan & Jessie**  
**The Sullivan Sisters**

## La Vie en Rose

During COVID lockdowns, our PCS director, Paul Thompson, organized a virtual Chamber Choir Valentine's concert. We recorded choir, solo, and small group numbers that Paul assembled and posted as a concert on YouTube. **It was a wonderful way to keep singing through the pandemic.** One of the best things about it was that far-flung family and friends, who never make it to our in-person concerts, could actually "attend" a concert.

Kent and I performed "La Vie en Rose" as a duet for that concert. One of my siblings shared the concert with my mom, who is not computer literate. She loved it and our duet so much. She requested it, and Kent and I sang "La Vie en Rose" at her 90th birthday party this past summer.

**It's now become our song.**



**Teresa & Kent**  
**Keller**



## Singing Together

I think a significant time that we have chosen love is our time with the Chorale, because it is something that Janice, my wife, brought me into that is important to her.

It also became very important to me and is **something we can do together.**

- Eric

I guess when you have been with someone for as long as we have been together (we both have quirky and funny senses of humor) then you kind of know what the other person is going to think and what joke they will get. You have a common thread of the weird novels that we've read, and the weird science fiction stuff we did years ago, as well as all the music we have done together recently. It is special to know someone as well as we know each other and to choose to keep loving.

- Janice



**Eric Nilsson  
&  
Janice Willard**



Brian and I started dating in high school and were in a long-distance relationship at separate colleges three hours apart; at a time when expensive long-distance calls were limited to once a week.

**But we still chose love every day for three years!**

**Brian & Deborah  
Collins**

I would say a significant time for us has been choosing to love each other taking the leap to move here for grad school for Gus.

We relocated ourselves away from the community and everything we had known together as a married couple.

Together, we continue to choose each other and work on our relationship, while navigating grad school and new jobs, new community.

**We keep choosing love, every day, through all of that.**

- Jordan

One thing I choose to love about Jordan, my wife, is her ability to have gut checks and instincts of things that are usually right.

And even if they're wrong I love her take.

- Gus



**Gus & Jordan  
Labayen**

The most important moment happened on a regular Sunday, when I was working on my dissertation, and he was rehearsing across the room. I noticed the focus and care he put into his music—the same intentionality he applies to everything that matters to him. For me, this wasn't just about initial attraction but about choosing someone based on who they truly are.

Seeing how he approaches what he values showed me his character, and knowing I'm one of his priorities made the decision clear.

It wasn't a dramatic moment, just a quiet realization that **love is something you choose to notice and feel in everyday moments.**

- Ozlem Oner



**Joseph & Ozlem  
first met in PCS!**

We are very early in our relationship and there are times where we find we have different ideas of what it means to be loving and supportive to each other. We are choosing to lean into the discomfort of that, what that brings, and find our way through.

- Joseph Erhard-Hudson



## Our Choir Family

We moved to Pullman in 2022, we didn't know anyone and we didn't have any sort of community connection.

We moved to the Palouse with the sole intention of finishing school and getting our lives started. At first, we did just that. Jacob went to school while Lauren worked and we tried to find our place in the community.

Before we moved to Pullman, the two of us went to the same high school and we both sang in the choir together, Lauren sang Soprano and Jacob sang Baritone, just like we do now. **Choir played a large part in the beginning of our friendship and both of us began to miss the feeling of singing together** and just generally having music in our lives.

For a while, Jacob participated in the WSU choirs and eventually Lauren discovered PCS. We were both glad to be back in choirs, but it just wasn't the same as learning the same music together, getting ready for concerts together, and interacting with the same community every week.

**When the opportunity to join PCS came along, Jacob took it immediately.**

Four years later, we're Mr. and Mrs. Clement. Our high school choir director was able to officiate our wedding – unfortunately some rehearsals were missed, but it was worth it! Now we're married, going to school and work everyday, and making our lives work in Pullman, but now we have a wonderful choir community we can enjoy seeing every week.

We feel that having music in our everyday lives has done a lot for building our sense of home in the Palouse and it serves as a great reminder for how we first met and **the importance of sharing music with someone else.**



Jacob & Laura  
Clement

CHOOSE LOVE



TO CELEBRATE  
VALENTINE'S DAY, WE  
SING ALL ABOUT LOVE,  
INCLUDING CHORAL MUSIC  
AS WELL AS A CABARET  
OF SOLO ACTS BY OUR  
CHOIR MEMBERS.

FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 13  
7:30 PM  
Moscow, ID

SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 15  
4 PM  
Lewiston, ID

Our "Choose Love"  
concert is the perfect  
event for your Valentine's  
Day plans.

Purchase tickets TODAY!

You'll see new faces in  
our final concert:  
"Earth Teach Me"

New members of PCS  
who auditioned in  
January will perform.



Simpson United Methodist Church, Pullman, WA

Just after Earth Day, we show respect for the earth by singing  
selections dedicated to land and the environment.

MAY 1  
7:30 PM

MAY 2  
3:00 PM