BACH
COLLEGIUM
FORT WAYNE

KOJI OTSUKI
Artistic Director



2026–2027 Season

celebrating 25 years

BC
FW

BCFW celebrating 25 years



Dear Friends of Bach Collegium Fort Wayne,

Welcome to the BCFW's 2026–27 season! I am overwhelmed with joy and gratitude that, with your support, we can continue to present Bach's profound vocal works along with the choral and instrumental works of other composers. Our core mission remains focused on staying true to Bach's original intentions. By speaking Bach's musical language through period instruments and paying attention to his musical-rhetorical designs, we strip away centuries of varnish to reveal the substance in music that may be difficult to find elsewhere.

We are leaning, as always, into the vastly underexplored world of Bach's church cantatas. While the masterworks are universally famous, these intimate, weekly cantatas represent the true heartbeat of Bach's daily creative life. They are a treasure trove of dramatic expression and profound spirituality that few get to experience live. We are deeply committed to bringing this brilliant, forgotten genre directly to the people of Fort Wayne, making these gems accessible and alive for our local community.

That said, the crown jewel of this season is our monumental joint performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion on March 14, 2027, at the Embassy Theatre. For this profound undertaking, we are deeply honored to join forces with another local organization, Heartland Sings, and its brilliant artists. Bringing together our period instrument specialists and chorus with their peerless vocal forces, along with Fort Wayne Children's Choir's angelic unison, we will create a once-in-a-generation artistic harmony. This work demands vast emotional and physical resources. It will be an unforgettable experience to hear all the united voices and sounds fill the Embassy Theatre. This project represents the very best of what our local arts community can achieve when we build bridges together.

Bringing meaningful Bach performance to our region requires immense dedication and support. Ticket sales cover only a fraction of the true cost of mounting Bach cantata concerts. If you find meaning, beauty, and community in our concerts, we invite you to stand with us through a financial gift. Your support directly funds artist fees and covers operating costs. No amount is too small to make a real difference in keeping our music alive and accessible in Northeast Indiana. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation on our website or speaking with the BCFW board members after an event or concert. More than anything, we want you in the seat sharing the music with us. Thank you for believing in our mission, our musicians, and the enduring genius of J.S. Bach. And thank you for being an integral part of the Bach Collegium Fort Wayne family!

Warmest regards,

Koji Otsuki
Artistic Director
Bach Collegium Fort Wayne

Provided with support from Arts United, the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency,
the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne













2026-2027 Season
Bach Collegium Fort Wayne

Concert I
Sunday, November 15, 2026, at 4:00 pm
Zion Lutheran Church, 2313 S. Hanna St., Fort Wayne

J.S. Bach: *Jesus schläft, was soll ich hoffen*, BWV 81
J.S. Bach: *Wo Gott der Herr nicht bei uns hält*, BWV 178
A. Bruckner: *Os justi*, WAB 30
J.S. Bach: *Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ*, BWV 33
J.S. Bach: *Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder*, BWV 135

Vocal soloists: **Ashlee Bickley**, *mezzo-soprano*
Eric Finbarr Carey, *tenor*
Ryne Cherry, *baritone*

Concert II
Sunday, March 14, 2027, at 3:00 pm
Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne

St. Matthew Passion, BWV 244

Orchestra I Vocal Soloists (BCFW)
Sarah Shafer, *soprano*
Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Eric Finbarr Carey, *tenor (Evangelist, Aria)*
Elijah Blaisdell, *baritone (Jesus, Arias)*

Orchestra II Vocal Soloists (Heartland Sings)
Renee Gonzales, *soprano*
Alejandra Sandoval-Montañez, *mezzo-soprano*
Jason Pandelidis, *tenor*
David Bobay, *baritone*

Concert III
Sunday, April 25, 2027 at 4:00 pm
Zion Lutheran Church, 2313 S. Hanna St., Fort Wayne

J.S. Bach: *Ach Gott, wie manches Herzeleid*, BWV 58
J.S. Bach: *Gott soll allein mein Herze haben*, BWV 169
G.P. Telemann: Overture in D major, TWV 55:D15
J.S. Bach: *Selig ist der Mann*, BWV 57

Vocal soloists: **Sarah Shafer**, *soprano*
Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Edward Vogel, *baritone*

Note: Program repertoire is subject to change

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We grow together!









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Bach Collegium Fort Wayne is a community organization and the region's only vocal and instrumental ensemble specialized in performing J.S. Bach's vocal works. What makes us different from other early music ensembles is our passion for Bach and our unyielding efforts to understand the composer's underlying designs in his works. Bach Collegium Fort Wayne strives to present concerts in a historically informed manner using period instruments, but not to reenact; we believe that being fluent in Bach's musical language is the most effective way to allow his music to work as he intended. And we simply choose the suitable instruments to speak the language.

Our choir, composed of local singers, is integral to our mission.

And the choir's commitment to our goal matches that of our professional vocal soloists and instrumentalists—we are one, and we grow together!

Our Mission:
Bach Collegium Fort Wayne is a community of singers and instrumentalists who offer insightful performances of the vocal music of J. S. Bach to our listeners and supporters.

Your support sustains us!
What makes our performances possible is the financial support from people like you. Ticket sales cover only part of our expenses. Because we are a 501(c)(3) corporation, all donations to Bach Collegium Fort Wayne are tax-deductible. Donations may also be given in memory of departed loved ones, and as sponsorships for singers and instrumentalists.

Your support will help Bach Collegium Fort Wayne fulfill its mission.
Tickets for concerts are $30, with student tickets at $10 and children 12 & under free with an adult. For groups of 5 or more adults, ticket prices are $20 each when purchased at least 24 hours before a concert through our website: www.bachcollegium.org.

Yes, I want to support Bach Collegium Fort Wayne!

____ Tickets @ $30 each $ _____
____ Student Tickets @ $10 each $ _____
____ Messiah Sing-Along tickets @ $5 each $ _____

Yes, I want to donate to Bach Collegium Fort Wayne!
☐ $100 ☐ $250 ☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ____ Other

Total _____

Please make checks payable to: Bach Collegium Fort Wayne, P.O. Box 11832, Fort Wayne, IN 46861
You can buy tickets and make donations online at www.bachcollegium.org and also at the door.