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Concert: Essence of Joy

Essence of Joy

Anthony Leach

Matthew Weaver

Dante Ford

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**Essence of Joy
Spring Break Tour Repertoire 2013
(to be selected from the following)**

**I.
The Soul of Essence**

Hear My Prayer		Moses Hogan
Yemaya Asesu		arr. Brian Tate
Jesus Is the Light of the World/Walk in the Light		Kenneth Louis/Anthony Leach
	Matthew Neal, Eric Williams, Mark O'Reilly, soloists	
Lift Every Voice and Sing		arr. Roland Carter
Ave Maria		R. Nathaniel Dett
	David Schmiech, soloist	
Triumph In My Song		Adolphus Hailstork

II.

Will There Really Be A Morning?		Victor C. Johnson
Ogo Ni Fun Oluwa		Rosephanye and William Powell
O Holy Lord		R. Nathaniel Dett
Precious Lord		arr. Roland Carter
	Kiena Williams, soloist	
Clap Praise		Diane White-Clayton
	Ashley Lope, soloist	
	Eric Williamson, narrator	


III.

Great Day		Marques L. A. Garrett
Deep River		arr. Mark Lehnowsky
	Jarrett Smith, soloist	
Ain't It a Shame		arr. Roy Belfield, Jr.
	Kyrah Nagy and Patrick Kelly, soloists	
You Must Have That True Religion		arr. Roland Carter
	Kelsey Hendler, soloist	

Intermission

**IV.
The Spirit of Essence**

Lord Send Your Spirit		Raymond Wise
I Will Look To The Hills		Glenn E. Burleigh
Trust Me		Richard Smallwood
It Happened At Calvary		Raymond Wise
Lead Me To Calvary		arr. Kenneth Louis
Now Behold the Lamb		Kirk Franklin
	Kiena Williams and Lauryn Brady, soloists	
Everybody Ought To Know		Kevin Paul Turner
	Eric Williamson, soloist	
Spiritual		Donald Lawrence
	Fanta Love, soloist	
Rejoice		Smokie Norful and Tim Bailey
	Kiena Williams and Leia Wasbotten, soloists	
I Just Want To Say Thanks		Raymond Wise
The Lord Is My Light		Darius Brooks
Anticipation		V. Michael McKay



**Essence of Joy
Spring 2013**
Anthony Leach, music director
Matthew Weaver and Donte Ford, student conductors
Aquila Kikora Franklin, choreographer
Eric Williamson, assistant choreographer
Olatobi Jewoola, Donte Ford, Darrin Thornton, percussion
Neal Holter, electric bass

Soprano

Lauryn Brady
Regilynn Haywood
Kelsey Hendler
Jo Lash
Ashley Lope
Amy Mayer
Adanna Morgan
Madelyn Mulert
Eva Swanson
Leia Wasbotten
Kiena Williams

Tenor

Alex Jay Barskey
Seth Cornwall
Elijah Jones
Jeffrey Kangar
Matthew Neal
Mark O'Reilly
Dylan Phillips
David Schmiech
Jarrett Smith
Eric Williamson

Alto

Marielena Balouris
Maya Kouassi
Jenne Lahov
Megan Lister
Fanta Love
Rebekah Mackley
Shannon McCoy
Kyrach Nagy
Maggie Ortbal
Elizabeth Peter
Marchelle Roniet

Bass

Joshua Crooke
Chris Dickson
Peter Favilla
Emanuel Gamble
Olatobi Jewoola
Patrick Kelly
Andrew Neal
Russell Poole
Alex Porcelli
Anthony Royster
Matthew Weaver

Choir Officers

President – Elizabeth Peter
Vice President – Marchelle Roniet
Secretary – Kelsey Hendler
Treasurer – Matthew Neal



Essence of Joy

Press Kit

February 2013





GENERAL FACT SHEET

Name: Essence of Joy

Affiliation: The Pennsylvania State University

Founded: 1991

Description: Essence of Joy has been presenting sacred and secular music of the African and African-American choral tradition for more than twenty years. The choir is a credit bearing class at the Pennsylvania State University and under the artistic direction of Dr. Anthony T. Leach. The group has performed extensively in the United States, Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Members: The choir is composed of a diverse group of approximately 45 singers. The choir involves undergraduate and graduate students from many academic programs at Penn State.

Artistic Director: Dr. Anthony T. Leach – Professor of Music and Music Education at the Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Leach holds a Ph.D. in music education and masters in conducting from Penn State, and a bachelors in music education from Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pa.

Contact Information:

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Email: atl105@psu.edu

Website Address: www.essenceofjoy.org

Twitter: [@PSUEssenceOfJoy](https://twitter.com/PSUEssenceOfJoy)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/essenceofjoy>. Alternatively, search for our fan page or link out from our main website.

Recordings: The choir has released six compact disc recordings, including the 2012 album Peace.Love.Joy, which included songs from the last 8 years, with a focus on commissioned works. The choir's latest CD and sample performance clips are available for purchase here: <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/essenceofjoypennstateuni>

Significant Performances:

- The American Choral Directors Association National Conventions
- The Music Educators National Conference National Convention
- The Eastern Division of the American Choral Directors Association
- The Eastern Division of the Music Educators National Conference
- The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association
- The National Board of the NAACP
- The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
- The James Weldon Johnson Society, Schomburg Museum, New York
- Riverside Church Theatre, New York
- Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York

Spring 2013 Performances:

- Feb. 2 – Celebration of African American Music Festival, Penn State
- Feb. 24 – Trinity Lutheran Church, State College, PA
- Feb. 28 – York High School, York, PA
- Mar. 1 – Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, PA
- Mar. 2 – Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA
- Mar. 3 – First Presbyterian Church, Clarks Summit, PA
- Mar. 4 – Abington Heights HS, Clarks Summit, PA
- Mar. 4 – Athens High School, Athens, PA
- Mar. 5 – Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY
- Mar. 24 – Zion United Methodist Church, York, PA
- Mar. 24 – St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Lancaster, PA
- Apr. 21 – Spring Campus Concert, Esber Recital Hall
- May 6-18 – Concert Tour of Spain and France



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