Greetings, and thank you for your interest in Music at Marsh Chapel.

Considered to be one of the most vibrant parts of the greater university community, Music at Marsh Chapel enjoys a rich heritage of quality music making both in worship and concert. The Marsh Chapel Choir is at the very heart of our musical programming, and by virtue of our weekly broadcast on National Public Radio (WBUR 90.9), we enjoy a reception and reputation that extends far beyond Commonwealth Avenue. Each year, the Chapel Choir presents an extensive and ambitious program of repertoire, mostly drawn from the European classical traditions. Members of the Chapel Choir find themselves welcomed into and enveloped by a family—a family whose life together is fed by our responsibility and care for musical excellence.

Information about the audition process is available elsewhere in this document. I invite you to peruse this brochure and encourage all interested singers to consider the Marsh Chapel Choir as their musical home at Boston University. The members of the Choir and I are eager to welcome you to BU and to Boston.

Warmly,

Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett
Director of Music
Highlights of the Marsh Chapel Choir’s 2019|2020 Concert Season

The Thirteenth Annual Bach Cantata Series
September 29, 2019: Jesu, nun sei gepreiset, BWV 41
November 17, 2019: Gottlob! nun geht das Jahr zu Ende, BWV 28
February 9, 2020: Herr Gott, dich loben wir, BWV 16
April 26, 2020: Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied, BWV 190

Concert Series
October 26, 2019: HAYDN Mass in B-flat major (Schöpfungsmesse)
December 6, 2019: University Lessons and Carols Service
March 28, 2020: HANDEL L’Allegro, il Pensieroso, ed il Moderato
April 10, 2020: KALLEMBACH Most Sacred Body [Marsh Chapel Commission]

General Information about the Marsh Chapel Choir
Selected by audition, membership in the Marsh Chapel Choir is drawn from all parts of the University community and includes undergraduates, graduate students, alumni, and staff. Though the context of a collegiate chapel enables us to sing a variety of musical styles in many languages, we sing primarily music from the European classical tradition represented by composers such as Palestrina, Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn, Brahms, and Britten. For many years, the Marsh Chapel Choir—along with our resident orchestra, the Marsh Chapel Collegium—has presented an on-going concert series focusing on the choral/orchestral works of Johann Sebastian Bach. Because the Sunday morning service is broadcast on Boston’s NPR station, WBUR (90.9FM), we enjoy a large listening audience throughout Boston and New England, as well as internationally on the Internet through live streaming of our broadcast.

Music Staff
The work of the Chapel Choir is made possible by our excellent staff of Choral Scholars and Administrators. The Choral Scholars function as section leaders and provide vocal and musical guidance for their particular section.

Director of Music
Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett

Associate Director of Music
Justin Blackwell

Music Program Administrator
Margaret Weckworth

Marsh Chapel Choral Scholars
MaryRuth Lown, Sarah Yanovitch, TBD, sopranos
Wee Kiat Chia, TBD, altos
Patrick T. Waters, Ethan DePuy, TBD, tenors
Craig Juricka, Matthew O’Donnell, basses
Time Commitment
The Marsh Chapel Choir rehearses each Thursday from 6:30–9:00 p.m. while the University is in session. We sing for the University's Interdenominational Protestant worship service at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday morning, with rehearsal beginning at 9:15 a.m. The service ends around noon. For concerts, there are additional calls, but almost always at night, after classes have ended for the day.

Audition Process
Though membership in the Marsh Chapel Choir is by audition, we encourage everyone interested in joining to come to rehearsal.

Please arrive at 6:00 p.m. on EITHER Thursday, September 5, 2019 OR Thursday, September 12, 2019 to meet with the director and the music staff. Each applicant will sing a brief audition with the director consisting of vocal exercises, after which he/she will be invited to join the full choir for rehearsal. Please plan to stay for the entire rehearsal period, which ends at 9:00 p.m. Once rehearsal begins, we will position you in the choir next to a returning member and invite you to join in. The music staff will meet at the rehearsal break and check in with you about how things are going. On Friday, September 13, those auditioning will be notified by email of the results of the audition. Because of the amount of music covered and the fast pace of the rehearsal, singers with limited or no choral experience might be overwhelmed. If this is the case, we invite you to consider joining the Marsh Chapel Thurman Choir, a non-auditioned choir that rehearses twice a month. An informational pamphlet about the Thurman Choir is available in the Marsh Chapel Narthex.

If you plan to audition on either day, please email the music staff at musicmar@bu.edu indicating your intention. In the email, be sure to include your name, your voice part (soprano, alto, tenor, or bass), your contact information, and the date you plan on auditioning so that a folder may be prepared for you.

Chapel Choir for Academic Credit
Currently enrolled students who successfully pass the audition may register for Chapel Choir for one or two hours of elective credit. The course is offered through the School of Theology (Course Code: STH TA 808). Students who enroll to receive credit are expected to have exemplary attendance and help with additional duties as directed by the music staff.

For more information about Marsh Chapel, our program and ministry opportunities, a word from Dean Hill, or other important information, please visit our website at bu.edu/chapel.
The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill
Dean and Chaplain of the University

Br. Lawrence A. Whitney, LC†, PhD
University Chaplain for Community Life

Jessica Chicka, PhD
University Chaplain for International Students

The Rev. Dr. Karen Coleman
Associate Chaplain for Episcopal Ministry

Ray Bouchard
Director of Marsh Chapel

Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA
Director of Music

Justin Thomas Blackwell
Associate Director of Music

Heidi Freimanis-Cordts
Director of Hospitality