

# **Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth**

presents

# **Dartmouth College Gospel Choir**

Ahmaya Knoelle Higginson, guest director

**Wednesday, October 25, 8:00 pm**

Rollins Chapel • Dartmouth College • 2023

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*Funded in part by the Stephenson Fund for Student Ensembles, the Richard F. Mattern 1970 Fund, the Slade 1976 Fund and gifts from Friends of the Contemporary Pop Ensembles.*

*We thank Mrs. Selma Bornstein for her generous donation of the Petrof Concert Grand Piano, given in loving memory of her husband Dr. Murray Bornstein and used for tonight's concert.*

# Program

*Approximate duration: 90 minutes*

Program to be announced from the stage.

## About the Artists

**Ahmaya Knoelle Higginson**, award-winning teaching artist and global performer, serves as Co-Founder and Artistic Director at the acclaimed music and arts institution in Harlem USA, The Mama Foundation for The Arts, home of the longest Black Off-Broadway theater musical in the history of American Theater, *Mama I Want To Sing!* After attending The Manhattan School of Music for Jazz Vocal Studies and graduating from the American Musical And Dramatic Academy (AMDA) for Musical Theater studies, Ahmaya traveled singing on world stages in various productions including *Porgy and Bess* and starring in *Mama I Want To Sing!* Ahmaya and her mother Vy Higginsen, creator of the musical *Mama I Want To Sing!* came back to their home village of Harlem where their family has lived over 100 years. They built a 501(c) 3 Non-Profit music and arts institution passing on their knowledge and history of the music and theater industry, building curriculums which have now served thousands of youth and adults with free music and performance

education for the past 20 years. With the continued mission to preserve African American music as an “art form” through the next generation, Ahmaya gathered students from her Harlem institution and founded the award-winning Sing Harlem, a commercial traveling ensemble and choir in which she currently serves as Artistic and Musical Director. She has booked, curated and musically directed opportunities for the group with SZA on *Saturday Night Live* (SNL) and the 60 Annual Grammy Awards, twice with Chance The Rapper on *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon, Ariana Grande at the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting and more. Additionally, they have performance credits with Pharrell Williams, Alesia Cara, Likke Li, Madonna, headlining Brooklyn’s AFROPUNK, Carnegie Hall, Metropolitan Museum of Art, the APOLLO theater and Chicago’s Ravinia Festival. In 2021, she joined the faculty at the conservatory of music at SUNY Purchase, Ahmaya currently serves as the Musical Director of the SUNY Purchase Soul Voices Course and Ensemble.

# Dartmouth College Gospel Choir

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Amara Jones-Myers '25	Cindy Heath
Amber Wylie	Sue Englaer
Anthony Fosu '24	Daniel Lin
Barbara Abraham	Betty Barba
Catherine A. Scholl	Penny McConnel
Chennelle Channer GR	Molly McBride
Cynthia Stadler	Rachel Pentecost
Faye Gillespie	Samson Verny
Francesca Gabourel	Abrm McQuarters
Grace Caldwell '26	Anna Kay
Grace Farr	Ashkenaz Songdl
Irene Schaperdoth	Carolyn Sanders
Jacqueline Kalan	Danice Antoine
Toni Hover	David Inderboun
Joanna Olagundoye '24	Lynne Li
Karen Harris	Nicole Conn
Karin Rothwell	Niel Sebastien
Laine Gillespie	Sean Taylor
Laura Wilder	Lily Hemmins
Layse de Souza	Eliot Aiman '26
Leslie Dustin	Lexy Piton '24
Lloyd Gabourel	Uma Alagappan '23
Marjie Bish	Isabelle Jennings '26
Mary Ann Stanford	Colby Lish '25
Meghan Corbin	Bill Banks
Melissa MacDonald	Noah Martinez '27
Ross Henriques	Cesar Almeida '27
Sarah Latario	Laura Wilder
Sarah Grace Mun-Ying Williams '25	Leslie Dustin
Shamar Simmons	Phoebe Rodman
Sharon Wight	Jordan Meier '26
Sharry Keller	Zofia A. Czerska '27
Stephanie Gardner	Enzo La Hoz Calassara '27
Suzanne McDowell	Glenn Gabriel D. Shepard '27
Veneda Gabourel	Noelle Vitt
Charolette Carmody	Manu Onteeru '24
Riley Carbone	Asa Dow '26
Susan Engler	Ann Spencer
Libby Curran	Brigit Livingstone
Andrée Solé GR	

GR = Graduate Student

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*Assistive Listening Devices  
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