### Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth

presents

# **Dartmouth College Gospel Choir**

Ahmaya Knoelle Higginson, director

#### Thursday, November 14, 8:00 pm

Rollins Chapel • Dartmouth College • 2024

Dartmouth College Gospel Choir is funded in part by the Stephenson Fund for Student Ensembles, the Richard F. Mattern 1970 Fund, the Slade 1976 Fund and the 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.

## **About the Director**

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 60th 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 and 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**

Daniel Amoateng '25 Betty Barba Asha Bergeron Marjie Bish Maria Bishop Robert Bishop Kennedy Brown **Riley Carbone MED** Deven Carkner '28 Lisa Christie Aiden Cole '28 Alphonso Croom Susan Croom Libby Curran Asa Dow '26 Leslie Dustin Sophia Dubbelde '27 Susan Engler Pleviwon Forfor '28 Francesca Gabourel Lloyd Gabourel

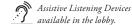
#### Ahmaya Knoelle Higginson, director

Veneda Gabourel Faye Gillespie Gayle Giovanna Annie Hanaway Karen Harris Walter Hawkins Ymani Hawkins Toni Hover Crawford Hovis Jan Hustlar Cindy Johnson Amara Jones-Myers '25 James Joy GR Sharry Keller Sarah Latario Bridget Livingstone Siomara Luna-Garcia '28 Mary Magavern Dan Markwood '28 Molly McBride Emma Mwanza GR

Melinda Ricker Karin Rothwell Joyce Roy Irene Schaperdoth Mary Schissel Catherine Scholl Rita Severinghaus Andrée Solé GR Ann Spencer Cynthia Stadler Sean Taylor Emmanuel Uvigue '28 Sheila White Sharon Wight Sarah Williams '25 Alexandra Wingo '28 Amber Wylie Simeon Zaragoza GR

MED = Medical school student GR = Graduate student







If you do not wish to keep your playbill, please discard it in the recycling bin provided in the lobby. Thank you.