

Hopkins Center for the Arts

at Dartmouth

presents

Dartmouth College Gospel Choir

Ahmaya Knoelle Higginson, director

Thursday, February 27, 8 pm

Rollins Chapel • Dartmouth College • 2025

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.

Program *Approximate duration: 60 minutes. Program to be announced from the stage.*

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 for 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, Alessia Cara, Lykke Li and Madonna, headlining Brooklyn's AFROPUNK, Carnegie Hall, the 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

Ahmaya Knoelle Higginson, director

Daniel Amoateng '25
Betty Barba
Asha Bergeron
Joseph Bergeron
Marjie Bish
Maria Bishop
Robert Bishop
Kennedy Brown
Sasha Campana GR
Riley Carbone MED '27
Lisa Christie
Nicole Conn
Alphonso Croom
Susan Croom
Libby Curran
Bella D'Alessandro
Leslie Dustin
Susan Engler
Pleyiwon Forfor '28
Francesca Gabourel
Lloyd Gabourel

Veneda Gabourel
Gayle Giovanna
Arne Grette '25
Annie Hanaway
Karen Harris
Walter Hawkins
Ymani Hawkins
Toni Hover
Sophia Jiang '28
Cindy Johnson
Amara Jones-Myers '25
James Joy GR
Sharry Keller
Sarah Latario
Ashley Li
Bridget Livingstone
Mary Lloyd-Evans
Maria Lopez
Mary Magavern
Molly McBride
Conner McLeod MD

Emma Mwanza GR
Dana Read
Melinda Ricker
Karin Rothwell '82
Joy Roy
James Rushton
Irene Schaperdoth
Larry Schissel
Mary Schissel
Andrée Solé GR
Cynthia Stadler
Val Stinson
Devan Tracy
Sasha Usher '25
Emmanuel Uyigüe '28
Alysha Webster
Sharon Wight
Sarah Williams '25
Amber Wylie
Simeon Zaragoza GR

MED = Medical school student
GR = Graduate student



*Please turn off your cell
phone inside the theater.*



*Assistive Listening Devices
available in the lobby.*



**DARTMOUTH
RECYCLES**

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