

THE HOP

Hopkins Center for the Arts
presents

Dartmouth College Gospel Choir

Ahmaya Knoelle Higginson, director

Thu, Feb 26, 7:30 pm

David A. Graves Stage
at Spaulding Auditorium
Hopkins Center for the Arts
Dartmouth • 2026

*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
Dartmouth Gospel Choir.*

Co-sponsored by

Dartmouth *Coop*

Program

Approximate duration: 120 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 Higginson, 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

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Aiyana R. Banks
Betty Barba
Anthony Bergeron '29
Marjie Bish
Liebe Blekh
Sally Boyle
Evelyn Chang
Lisa Christie
Nicole Conn
Susan Croom
Alex Daum
John Ejiogu MED
Pleyiwon Forfor '28
Lloyd Gabourel
Veneda Gabourel
Gayle Giovanna
Karen Harris
Walter Hawkins
Julie Hogue
Toni Hover
Jan Hutslar
Ene Igomu TH
Sharry Keller
Sarah Latario
Ashley Li
Bridget Livingstone

Martina Lundstrom
Linda Mayo
Molly McBride '15
Emma Mwanza GR
Nancy Pellegrini
Dana Read
Melinda Ricker
Karin Rothwell
Joyce (Joy) Roy
Irene Schaperdoth
Larry Schissel
Mary Schissel
Nancy Serrell
Ann Spencer
Jacob Spitzer '26
Cynthia Stadler
Sophie Starr
Tie-Ese Stewart '26
Valerie Stinson
Ellen J. Taylor
Devan Tracy
Emmanuel Osasere Uyifue '28
Samson Steven Whetstone
Sharon Wight
Judy Anne Williams
Amber Wylie

GR = Dartmouth College graduate student
TH = Thayer School of Engineering
MED = Geisel School of Medicine student