



Because of people like you...

... People who have an interest in enjoying and supporting the arts, the Artist Series launched in 2019 at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church in Huntley, IL. The Artist Series has not only survived the Covid-19 Pandemic, but even thrived, thanks to technology and creativity, and the generous support from people who believe in the mission of the Artist Series.

Artist Series Mission Statement

The mission of the Shepherd of the Prairie (SOTP) Artist Series is to provide a platform where gifted artists can share their God-given talents, extending SOTP's community outreach by providing affordable, accessible cultural opportunities to the congregation and the region. Soli Deo Gloria!!

The History of the Artist Series

Key Dates

- **February 26, 2019:** First Meeting of the Artist Series Team. Subsequent meetings have been held every 3rd Monday of each month since.
- **August 23, 2019:** Gathering at the Solem Home to establish founding donors
- **June 17, 2022:** Celebration party for major and prospective donors at the Solem Home

Programming

2019

- **August 18:** Martin Marty, celebrated Lutheran theologian
- **October 12:** Illinois premiere of "*The DaVinci Notebooks*" by Jocelyn Hagan, featuring The Heartland Voices and Elgin Youth Symphony
- **November 16:** Christopher Jackson, Tenor
- **December 15:** Christmas with The Heartland Voices, with participation from the SOTP Adult Choir

2020*

- **January 25:** *“Mi Latinidad,”* an evening of LatinX singing, dancing and culture, featuring SOTP member Alix Rhode.
- **March 7 and 8:** Wartburg College Castle Singers (The choir gave a Saturday Evening concert and led Sunday 9 a.m. worship.)
- **December 12:** *“Christmas Reflections of Hope, Comfort and Joy”* (a live-streamed concert gala hosted by SOTP member and WGN radio personality Orion Samuelson, featuring sacred and secular music celebrating the Christmas season, with selections ranging from J.S. Bach to Irving Berlin)

** Programming during the 2020 season was severely abbreviated due to the Covid-19 pandemic*

2021

- **May 8:** *Angelic Harp Duo*
- **July 3:** *“Happy Birthday, America”:* an instrumental ensemble featuring patriotic music
- **September 18:** *“Beyond the Neighborhood”:* the music of Fred Rogers, adapted by jazz artists Kevin Bales and Kerri Johnsrud.
- **December 4:** *“Christmas Joy”:* a concert featuring brass works and The Caroling Party (an ensemble of Dickens – costumed carolers)

2022

- **March 11:** *“The Noble Call”:* Paddy Homan, Irish Tenor and friends
- **May 22:** *“Sing-a-thon of Celebrated Songs: a Program for Families to Play Together,”* featuring Jim Gill
- **July 3:** *“An American Celebration,”* featuring Mark Olen and his American Classics Orchestra
- **September 17:** *Monroe Crossing* (acclaimed Bluegrass Band)
- **December 4:** *“The Twelve Dames of Christmas”* featuring Angela Ingersoll

2023

- **February 11:** *“Dueling Pianos,”* featuring Ted Oliver
- **March 18:** Paddy Homan (Irish Tenor) featuring “The Noble Call”
- **June 10:** University of Illinois (Champaign / Urbana) Alumni Concert Choir, Dr. Chester Alwes, director
- **July 2:** *“What’s More American Than Broadway,”* featuring vocalists Paul Marinaro and Alyssa Allgood, with Mark Olen and his Stars and Stripes Orchestra

Artist Series Team

Jane McMullen, Chair

Chris Brittain
Lynn Broederdorf
Janet Fry
Curt Gerald
Sandy Johnson

Jenifer McCann
Orv McElfresh
Chris Solem
Sara Solem

Thank you for your interest!