



Performances by the
Ron and Sheilah Gates
 Department of Music

March 6-10, 2026



DAKOTA WESLEYAN
 UNIVERSITY

1200 W. University Ave.
 Mitchell, SD 57301 • www.dwu.edu/music
Learning, leadership, faith and service

DWU SPRING TOUR

*featuring **The Highlanders**
 and **Wesleyan Bells***

- March 6 at 7 p.m. • Gregory United Methodist Church (Gregory, S.D.)**
- March 7 at 7 p.m. • St. Paul's United Methodist Church (Papillion, Neb.)**
- March 9 at 7 p.m. • Asbury United Methodist Church (Sioux Falls, S.D.)**
- March 10 at 2 p.m. • Hanson Schools (Alexandria, S.D.)**
- March 10 at 7 p.m. • Unite Church (Salem, S.D.)**

The Highlanders
 Under the direction of Dr. Clinton Desmond

Dies Irae.....Ryan Main

Dies iræ, dies illa,
 Solvet sæclum in favilla:
 Teste David cum Sibylla.

Quantus tremor est futurus,
 Quando iudex est venturus,
 Cuncta stricte discussurus!

Day of wrath and doom impending!
 David's word with Sibyl's blending,
 Heaven and earth in ashes ending!

Oh, what fear man's bosom rendeth,
 When from heaven the Judge descendeth,
 On whose sentence all dependeth.

Eatnemen Vuelie (Song of the Earth)..... Frode Fjellheim, Arr. Emily Crocker
 Erin Desmond, hand drum

Fire and Ice.....Emily Crocker

Prayer for Shalom.....	Kyle Peterson
How Great Thou Art	Stuart K. Hine, Arr. Lloyd Larson
Shout to the Lord.....	Darlene Zchech, Arr. David Angerman
Come in From the Firefly Darkness	Amy F. Bernon
Contess Reyos, soprano; Elise Foster, mezzo-soprano; Jack King, alto; Trenten Skorepa, bass	
Fly Away Home	PINKZEBRA
Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story (From Hamilton).....	Lin-Manuel Miranda, Arr. Andy Beck
KayLee Door, alto; Troy Thompson, speaker; Kamryn Boettcher, speaker	
Stayin' Alive	The Bee Gees, Arr. Andrew John Kim
Love Shack	The B-52s, Arr. Deke Sharon
Peightan Thomsen, soprano; Rose Wehlander, alto; Brody Riggs, speaker	

Wesleyan Bells

Under the direction of Erin Desmond

Celebration Fanfare	Ron Mallory
This Joyful Day.....	Douglas E. Wagner
A Time for Joy.....	Cynthia Dobrinski
When the Saints Go Marching In.....	Traditional, Arr. Kirtsy Mitchell
Crown Him With Many Crowns.....	Traditional Hymn, Arr. Derek K. Hakes
On Eagle's Wings.....	Michael Joncas, Arr. Douglas E. Wagner
The Avengers.....	Alan Silvestri, Arr. Ron Mallory

The Highlanders and Wesleyan Bells

An Irish Blessing.....	Traditional, Arr. Lorie Line and Kevin McChesney
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The audience is invited to sing with the choir and bells after the soloist.

May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be al-ways at your back. May the

5

sun shine warm up - on your face. May the rains fall soft up - on your fields. And un-

9

til we meet a - gain, un - til we meet a-gain, May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Wesleyan Bells

Erin Desmond, conductor

Veronica Arevalo-Flores
Hannah Conkling
KayLee Door
Rian Douvier
Elise Foster
Brylee Grof
Ainsley Kurtz
Malorie Mattke
Regan Pilker
Troy Thompson
Julianna Uphoff
Camille Zachrison

Music Education
Music Education
Psychology with Counseling Emphasis
Theatre
Criminal Justice
History
Elementary Education
Accounting
Music Education
Theatre
Nursing
Psychology

Huron, S.D.
Sioux Falls, S.D.
Kennewick, Wash.
Mitchell, S.D.
Mitchell, S.D.
Elkhorn, Neb.
Chamberlain, S.D.
Huron, S.D.
Colton, S.D.
Rolette, N.D.
Custer, S.D.
Fargo, N.D.

The Highlanders

Dr. Clinton Desmond, director

Erin Desmond, piano

Kamryn Boettcher
KayLee Door
Elise Foster
Michael Freeman
Jack King
Malorie Mattke
Contess Reyos
Brody Riggs
Trenten Skorepa
Troy Thompson
Peightan Thomsen
Calvin Wallace
Rosalie Wehlander
Camille Zachrison

Theatre/Digital Media and Design,
Psychology with Counseling Emphasis
Criminal Justice
Digital Media and Design
Music Education
Accounting
Criminal Justice/Psychology
Elementary Education/Special Education
History Education
Theatre
Psychology
Criminal Justice
Digital Media and Design
Psychology

Ipswich, S.D.
Kennewick, Wash.
Mitchell, S.D.
Ethan, S.D.
Pierre, S.D.
Huron, S.D.
Albuquerque, N.M.
Ethan, S.D.
Scotland, S.D.
Rolette, N.D.
Fargo, N.D.
Huron, S.D.
Esmond, S.D.
Fargo, N.D.

Directors



DR. CLINTON DESMOND is the director of choral activities, professor of music at Dakota Wesleyan University, and also the chairman for the Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Music. He received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Valparaiso University, his Master of Music degree from Illinois State University and his Doctor of Musical Arts from Michigan State University. At DWU, he conducts the Dakota Wesleyan Choir, The Highlanders, LyricWood Orchestra, and also teaches voice, music theory, music history and conducting, and courses in the vocal music education curriculum. Desmond has taught junior high and high school choir, directed several church music programs, and has sung leading roles in opera and musical theatre. He debuted the role of Doctor Higgins in the 2005 world premiere performance and recording of Nancy Van de Vate's "Where the Cross Is Made" and sang the role of Jean Valjean in Dakota Wesleyan's production of "Les Misérables." He also collaborates with his wife, pianist Erin Desmond, on annual recitals for the DWU campus and the surrounding community. Since joining the DWU faculty in 2010, Desmond has made teaching his passion and has dedicated himself to the growth and development of the music department. Ensembles under his direction embark on yearly concert tours and have been invited to perform for the South Dakota American Choral Directors Association and the South Dakota Music Educators Association. Desmond received the university's Presidential Award for Outstanding Service in 2012 and the prestigious Clarke Award for Teaching Excellence in 2017.



ERIN DESMOND, associate professor of music at Dakota Wesleyan University, teaches voice and music theory, is the university's accompanist and conducts the Wesleyan Bells, the only collegiate handbell choir in the Dakotas. Desmond is also the accompanist for the choirs at Mitchell High School. She received her Bachelor of Music Education from Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind., and her Master of Music degree from Illinois State University. Previously, she taught music at Ethan School in Ethan, general and vocal music at Belvidere South Middle School in Belvidere, Ill., and vocal music at Willowcreek Middle School in Portage, Ind. She also was the assistant and accompanist for the Southlake Children's Choir from 2005 to 2007. Desmond is a member of the Handbell Musicians of America, National Association of Teachers of Singing and American Choral Directors Association.

Upcoming Events

March 20-22 and 27-29

DWU Theatre presents:

"The Three Musketeers"

DWU Black Box Theatre

Spring Concerts

Instrumental: **April 26**, 4 p.m.

DWU Sherman Center

Vocal: **May 3**, 7 p.m.

DWU Sherman Center

Performing Arts Hall of Fame Awards and Banquet

May 2, 6 p.m.

Pratt Alumni Board Room, DWU School of Business, Innovation and Leadership

[Tickets available here.](#)