



Austin Cantorum
presents
BEDTIME STORIES

Singers

Benedict Anwukah
Isaac Arterburn
Mary Ashton
Lilly Boessen
Natalie Brennan
Michael Evans
Katie Gleason
Jenny Houghton
Kylie Jensen
Eric Johnson
Michel Kennell
Will Konitzer
Stephen Maus

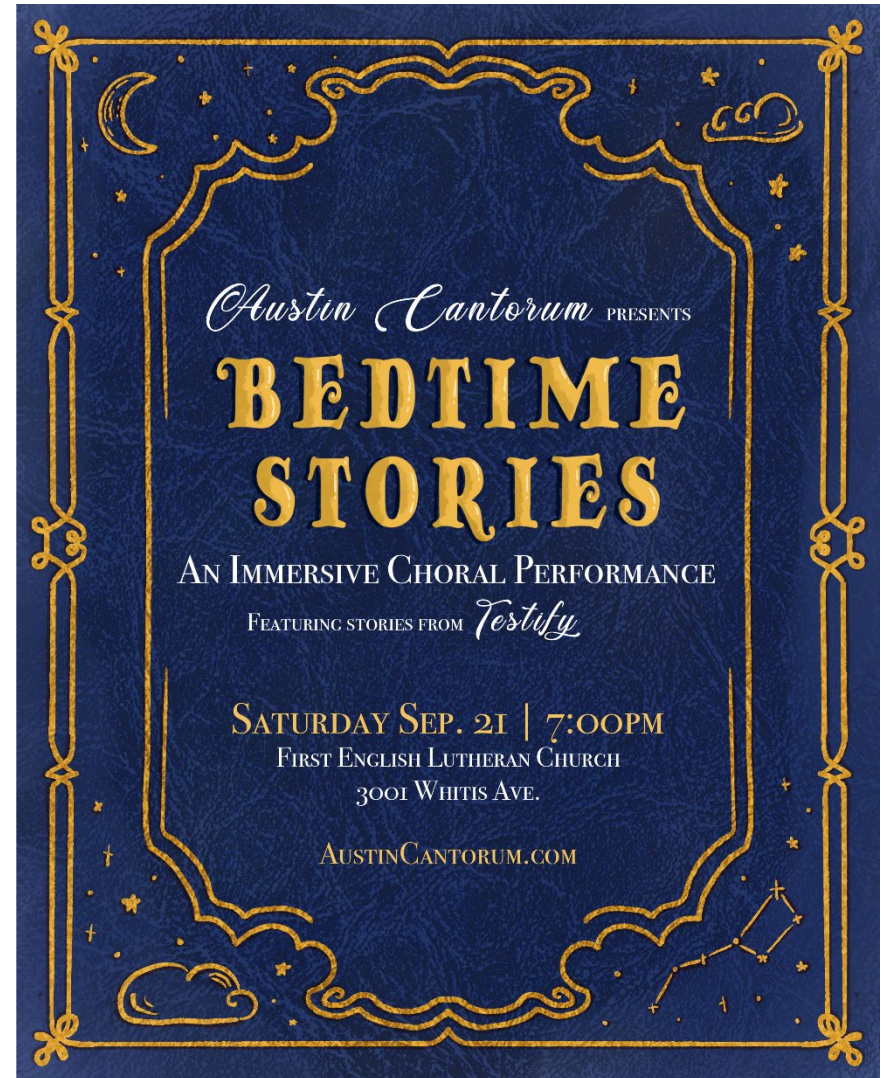
Heather Lewis
Steve Olivares
Andrea Pobanz
Daniel Robertson
Holt Skinner
Lester Tanquilut
Chris Tuggey
Cassidy Wallace
Jennifer Wang
Braden Weitzel
Curtis White
Andy Young
Erin Yousef

Storytellers

Mark Gifford
Leta Moser
Gloria Rabil
Richard Ver Steeg

Special Guest Reader

Katrina Saporsantos



Adrienne Pedrotti Bingamon, Artistic Director
Ladislao Loera, Testify Creative Director
Benjamin Dia, Piano

Katie Gleason, Operations Manager
Kylie Jensen, Media and Design
Jennifer Wang and Andy Young, Administrative Support

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to Bedtime Stories! We're excited to bring you an evening of music and stories. With a concert title like this one, you might expect to start nodding off fairly quickly. If that happens, first of all, we're honored, and second of all, you're forgiven! But we hope you'll find that this performance takes you on a varied and reflective journey through life experiences of bedtime stories and how they've shaped us.

This past spring, I was asked to recite a poem during Conspirare Symphonic Choir's first concert back after the pandemic. The poem was beautiful, but I couldn't help but tense up at the thought of having to read it! I can sing any old time, but read a poem? Cringe! I mustered my courage, read it a million times to make sure I really "got" it (I still don't get it), and tried my best. I think it worked—the concert was beautiful and the poem served as a special moment within it—but all along the way I kept thinking that I would be much more comfortable telling a story than reading a poem. Aha! I searched for storytellers in Austin, found Testify's website, and asked if they might like to collaborate on a concert. Ladi Loera emailed me back within a few hours, ecstatic about the idea.

Testify specializes in true stories, believing that everyone has a story to tell. Storytellers workshop their stories for weeks, honing their product and crafting engaging and meaningful connections with their audiences. We decided to go a little meta for tonight's theme—stories *about stories*. Testify provided me with a selection of stories and I tried to find the perfect music to accompany them. My sincere thanks to all of tonight's storytellers.

But let's not forget about the music! In addition to choral lullabies and classics, you'll hear some brand new pieces on tonight's program. We're excited to present the Texas premiere of Tara Mack's *Nighttime Ninja*, a charming piece about a boy who sneaks out of bed at night imagining he is a ninja on a mission to get ice cream from the fridge. We're also excited to give the world premiere of the choral version of "Prayer of Goodnight" by Aimee Jensen and Neala Sheehy. This one is pretty special to me, with music by a dear family friend and poetry by my own sister.

Thank you so much for being with us tonight. Settle in and get comfy. Let us tell you a story...

--Adrienne Pedrotti Bingamon, Artistic Director

About Testify



Testify is a monthly storytelling show, now in its 11th year. To date, Testify has brought over 215 storytellers and 386 stories to the stage. Anchored in the belief that everyone has a story, the storytellers range from professional performers to people standing on a stage for the first time in their lives. Each month has a different theme, and stories are selected that each reflect different aspects of that theme, connecting the stories and tellers in sometimes surprising ways.

More Information on our Book Drive



Thank you for supporting our book drive to benefit Women's Storybook Project of Texas, sponsored in part by BookPeople.



The Women's Storybook Project prison program helps incarcerated mothers maintain contact with and bring comfort to their children. They help mothers record stories and messages of love for their children and then mail the recordings along with the books so the children can hear their mother's voice and know that she is thinking of them.



Save the Date

We're already dreaming up another concert for the holiday season. Mark your calendars and join us on December 21. More details to come!

Austin Cantorum
Presents
Bedtime Stories

September 21, 2024

- COME, LISTEN -

I-i-o-hi-ho
ft. Jenny Houghton

arr. Erland von Koch

Escucha (excerpt)

Carlos Cordero

- INNOCENCE -

Out of the Forest

Leta Moser

Moonset

Don Macdonald

ft. Natalie Brennan, Jen Wang, Andrea Pobanz, Holt Skinner, Chris Tuggey,
Michael Evans, Stephen Maus, Steve Olivares

The Lamb

John Tavener

Goodnight Moon

Eric Whitacre

ft. Lilly Boessen

- MISCHIEF -

The Tooth Pillow

Mark Gifford

El Hambo

Jaakko Mäntyjärvi

ft. Jen Wang, Heather Lewis, Lester Tanquilut, Eric Johnson

Nighttime Ninja

Tara Mack

ft. Katie Gleason

Edo Lullaby

arr. Paul Smith

ft. Erin Yousef, Kylie Jensen

(*Program Continues on Reverse*)

Program Notes and Donations

austincantorum.com/donate



- LESSONS LEARNED -

Bait and Switch

Gloria Rabil

No Mirrors in My Nana's House

Ysaye M. Barnwell

ft. Lilly Boessen, Michel Kennell, Curtis White, Benedict Anwukah,
Andy Young

No One Is Alone

Stephen Sondheim

ft. Benjamin Dia

arr. Fred Hersch

Gute Nacht, o Wesen | *Jesu, Meine Freude*

J.S. Bach

- THE STORIES OF OUR LIVES -

A Boy, a Bear, and a Dog

Richard Ver Steeg

We Tell Each Other Stories | *Considering Matthew Shepard*

Craig Hella Johnson

ft. Mary Ashton

Lay Me Low

arr. Kevin Siegfried

ft. Natalie Brennan, Will Konitzer, Isaac Arterburn, Daniel Robertson

Prayer of Goodnight

Aimee Jensen

ft. Cassidy Wallace, Braden Weitzel

text by Neala Sheehy

- ALL OF US -

Sleep

Eric Whitacre

All the World

Liz Garton Scanlon

read by Katrina Saporantos

Special Thanks

First English Lutheran Church

Bryan Rust

Brian Kennell

Will Konitzer

Daniel Robertson

Jennifer Wang

Brant Bingamon

Phil Orlandini

Laura Mercado-Wright