



## Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

**NAME OF AGENCY:** Seattle Peace Chorus

**DATE OF AWARD:** 2017 Q3

**ADDRESS:** P.O. Box 30152, Seattle, WA 98113-0152

**CONTACT:** (206) 264-5532, <http://seattlepeacechorus.org>

**GENERAL GOALS:** The mission of the Seattle Peace Chorus is to communicate through music the desire for a just and peaceful world; to consistently present this message through choral excellence and nonviolent activism; to celebrate life in all its diversity; to build and sustain harmonious relationships and cultural bridges locally and globally.

**SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:**

This award went towards programs and operational expenses.

For more information please read the attached report from Seattle Peace Chorus .

## REPORT TO TULALIP TRIBES CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS



### *Seattle Peace Chorus* Premiere of "People of the Drum" by Frederick West

June 24, 2018

Code: Q3 2017 14.2

[www.seattlepeacechorus.org](http://www.seattlepeacechorus.org)

Seattle Peace Chorus' (SPC) 2018 Spring concerts premiered a new work by Music Director Frederick West titled "People of the Drum," a tribute to Native Americans and drumming traditions from diverse cultures. Featured guest artists included Sondra Segundo (Haida singer), Johnny Moses (Tulalip storyteller), Paul "Che oke ten" Wagner (Saanich drummer/flute player) as well as special guests Odin Lonning (Tlingit artist & drum maker), Edie Loyer Nelson (Duwamish elder), and Thione Diop (Master drummer). In addition to the 35 singers in the Chorus, there were 14 guest artists in the orchestra. Funds from Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions helped hire the Native American guest artists and leveraged funds raised through ticket sales and grants from 4Culture, Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, and ArtsWA (Washington State Arts Commission/National Endowment for the Arts). Approximately 360 people attended the two performances including 32 people who used free tickets of the 109 free tickets distributed. Including guest artists, chorus members, and audience members, a total of 415 persons were impacted by these performances.

Of the 114 audience members who responded to the audience survey, 111 or 97% rated the quality of the Chorus' performance as a 4 or 5 with 5 being "High Quality." New information collected in the audience survey this year was age and zip codes. Twelve percent (12%) of respondents were 50 years old or younger, and 88% were over 50. Respondents also live in 40 different zip codes in King County and surrounding counties. The written concert program included detailed notes about all the local tribes as well as notes from the composer explaining his inspiration for each of the 13 pieces. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of respondents said that the concert "considerably" increased their understanding of Native American history and the issues tribes continue to address today (N=112) and 62% said it "somewhat" increased their understanding.

Some of the audience comments from the surveys included the following: 1) "Thank you for honoring our native cultures and their history; increasing understanding and empathy;" 2) Thanks for including indigenous speakers and artists in this concert. Thank you for honoring Native voices and placing that history and culture in the present moment"; 3) "Love the wide range of people involved and the various tribal traditions," 4) The Peace Chorus is truly a gift of consciousness and exquisite music. Quite astonishing in its quality and depth!"

When SPC decided to commission this new choral work, there was pushback from a few in the community who questioned whether this represented "cultural appropriation" by a Caucasian composer and the Chorus, whose singers are predominantly Caucasian. Throughout the development of the pieces, the composer and singers reached out to several local tribes and representatives met with the Chorus to provide additional history and education. When meeting with these tribal representatives, all were asked if they had any problems with the Chorus undertaking this work which honors Native Americans. Every single one praised the Chorus for helping to "tell their story" through this music. Haida soloist Sondra Segundo said it best as follows: *"People of the Drum is a fusion of new music and Indigenous knowledge. This production gives honor to the Indigenous of the Americas who, through it all, continue to honor Creator and care for Mother Earth. It helps bring awareness to social issues caused by colonization that we as a nation continue to heal from. My Native people are resilient and strong. We are still here for a reason. Seattle Peace Chorus is walking alongside us in support as we reclaim our art and culture and relearn our many Indigenous languages. What a beautiful group of people with hearts of gold! This production is a gift of music to all and a reminder that we are all in this together."*

The Chorus also reached out to three non-profit organizations serving Native American communities and raised over \$600 for them at the concerts: United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, Seattle Indian Health Board, and Northwest Indian College. In the future, we would reach out to these organizations earlier in the process to further engage with them. As an all volunteer organization, this type of coordination is sometimes difficult with limited resources.

An exciting moment in the concerts occurred when master drummer Thione Diop from Senegal joined Saanich drummer Paul "Che oke ten" Wagner on stage; completely unrehearsed, the two artists joined their cultures through drumming, demonstrating that music transcends all differences. In addition, a surprising but particularly moving part of the second performance was when storyteller Johnny Moses called up members of his Tulalip Tribe in the audience to the stage to surround and bless Frederick West for creating "People of the Drum."

Seattle Peace Chorus is very appreciative of the support from Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions for helping to fund the premiere of "People of the Drum."

*--Emily Leslie  
Singer/Volunteer Grant Writer  
Seattle Peace Chorus*

## Upcoming Performances/Events

**November 17 & 18, 2018:** *Fall Concerts* – “Immigration Today: Music Transcends Borders”

**January 21, 2019:** *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration* – Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue, WA

**June 1 & 2, 2019:** *Spring Concerts* – “Haydn Mass for Troubled Times: The Folly of War (Missa in Angustiis)”

## Thanks to our concert volunteers!

Seattle Peace Chorus gratefully acknowledges all the generous family members and friends who have volunteered to make this concert possible. Our volunteers, ably led for these concerts by Martha Cohen, donate their time in many ways including managing the entrance lobby, taking tickets, passing out programs, ushering, collecting surveys, and much more. The Chorus is able to concentrate on performance because the volunteers cheerfully serve our audiences giving everyone a satisfying experience. We thank them, each and every one.



**This choir is a proud member of the**

greater seattle  
**CHORAL**  
consortium

Access the rich variety of excellent performances available in our online calendar at [www.seattlesings.org](http://www.seattlesings.org) or scan the image below.



## Seattle Peace Chorus

presents:



*A New Work Composed by Frederick N. West*

**Saturday, June 2, 2018 – 7:30 pm**

*Duwamish Blessing – 7:15*

Seattle First Baptist Church

**Sunday, June 3, 2018 – 7:00 pm**

University Congregational Church



OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE  
SEATTLE



CULTURE

**ARTS**WA

WASHINGTON STATE  
ARTS COMMISSION



National  
Endowment  
for the Arts  
arts.gov



## People of the Drum

### The Journey

*To all the journeys of the First Nations People  
since the earliest migrations by land and sea*  
Soloist: Sondra Segundo

### The Wind

Poet: Tom Sharp

### White Shells of Peace

*Tribute to the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois league);  
The great Peace Makers Hiawatha and Huron Sachem Dekanawida*

### Wakantanka Taku Nitawa

*Many and Great Oh God are your works  
Tribute to the Lakota and Dakota tribes*

### We Walk in Beauty

*Tribute to the Navajo walking back to their sacred homeland*

### Know That You Yourself Are Essential to this World

*The words of Chief Arvol Looking Horse – Cheyenne River Sioux*

### Lift up the Sky — Traditional Tulalip Story

Master Story Teller: Johnny Moses

### Words of Chief Sealth

— *Intermission* —

### Lummi Dive Beneath The Sea — Big Beach - Little Beach

### Tokitae — Song for the Captive Orca Whale

Tenor Soloist: Justin Ferris

### These are the Tears of My People

*Dedicated to Chief Andy de Los Angeles of the Snoqualmie*  
Soprano Soloist: Cristina Tamer

### Talking Story — Turtle Back Drums

*Tribute to the Mandans*

### There's Been a Great Injustice

Soloists: Doug Balcolm, Justin Ferris, Sid Law, and Sondra Segundo  
Gospel Piano: Kent Stevenson & Bass Guitar: Charlie Hiestand

### How Great Thou Art — Gospel Classic

Soloist: Sondra Segundo

### Seven Generations

*Words of Oglala Chief Crazy Horse*

Soloist: Sondra Segundo; Guest Drummer: Thione Diop and Paul "Che oke ten" Wagner

### Traditional song

by Paul "Che oke ten" Wagner

### We are the Future and the Past

*Tribute to Native American Environmental Activists*



The Seattle Peace Chorus is a dynamic, diverse group dedicated to creating connections through music. Founded in 1983 to help bring an end to the threat of nuclear war, the Peace Chorus produces meaningful, collaborative concerts, and tours internationally. The Seattle Peace Chorus seeks to promote peace and justice through the sharing of music and ideas locally and globally.

## Seattle Peace Chorus Board of Directors

Joe Knight, *President*  
Markos Weiss, *Vice President*  
Dee Knapp, *Secretary*  
Jeff Carter, *Treasurer*  
Donna Austin  
Donene Blair  
Lila Henderson  
Tom Sharp  
Frederick N. West, *Ex Officio Member*


## Contact Us

Want to keep up with upcoming performances? Interested in auditioning?  
Interested in serving on the Board of Directors or serving on a committee?

Seattle Peace Chorus  
P.O. Box 30152  
Seattle, WA 98113-0152  
206-264-5532

[info@seattlepeacechorus.org](mailto:info@seattlepeacechorus.org)

[www.seattlepeacechorus.org](http://www.seattlepeacechorus.org)

 Find us on Facebook!

## Seattle Peace Chorus Action Ensemble

Seattle Peace Chorus Action Ensemble, a group of SPC current and alumnus singers, appears at local peace and social justice events and rallies. Those interested in contacting the Action Ensemble to request an appearance should contact Dale Rector, 612-327-6515 or Margarita Munoz, 206-310-4606.

## Donate

Ticket prices cover only a fraction of our operating costs. Your tax-deductible contribution helps pay for basic choir needs such as our Music Director, guest instrumentalists, rehearsal and venue rental costs, etc. You can donate by credit card at [seattlepeacechorus.org/support/donate](http://seattlepeacechorus.org/support/donate) or mail a check to the address above. Thank you for supporting Seattle Peace Chorus!!

**THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL DONORS!**

Cathy Schwartz  
 Afshin & Farangis Sepehri  
 Tom & Liz Sharp  
 Carmen & Bob Shupe  
 Sue Skillman  
 Eric Smith  
 Francis Solomon  
 Harry & Carolyn Stern  
 John Switten  
 Cindy Talley  
 Larry Tice  
 Emily Van Bronkhorst  
 Irma Vega  
 Alex Vega  
 Gary Wallace

Markos & Joan Weiss  
 Tim Williams  
 Fred West  
 Mary Wilson  
 Linda & David Wright

**Businesses & Orgs**

4Culture  
 City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture  
 Washington State Arts Commission  
 National Endowment for the Arts  
 Tulalip Tribes  
 Abe Keller Peace Education Fund  
 City of Bellevue Diversity Advantage Initiative  
 Seattle Digital Video

Metropolitan Building Maintenance Co.  
 Natural Investments  
 Mirus Planning  
 CB Construction  
 Empirical Wealth Management  
 Edward Jones Investments  
 Johnson's Auto Repair  
 West Seattle Recycling  
 Sound Law Center  
 Jones & Associates, PLLC, CPAs  
 Eurocycle  
 Amazon Smile  
 Kroger/Fred Meyer

***COUNT ME IN, TOO!***

Donating to the Seattle Peace Chorus not only helps bring the messages of peace and understanding to our communities and world, it's also easy to do! Just visit our website at [www.seattlepeacechorus.org](http://www.seattlepeacechorus.org), at the "Support – Donate" option. You'll see how you can become involved in and support the efforts of the Chorus with your time and money. Or write a check today and give it to our volunteers at the ticket table. All contributions are tax deductible.

We have an ambitious next five years ahead of us and we cannot succeed without your help. Please consider a generous donation to the Chorus as we continue this important work.

"My people will sleep for one hundred years, but when they awake, it will be the artists who give them their spirit back."  
 – Louis Riel, 1844 founder of Manitoba and political leader of the Metis people of the Canadian prairies

"War can be avoided and it ought to be avoided"  
 – Chief Joseph, 1840-1904 Nez Perce Chief

**Lyrics**

**White Shells of Peace – F. West**  
 Heal your enemies wounds,  
 then your own wounds shall heal,  
 Wounds of nations like sand in the shell,  
 waiting for redeeming pearls,  
 Seeking for white shells of peace,  
 Tree of Life, hold our prayer.  
 Hiawatha, prophet, spirit of peace,  
 your grandmothers' blessings are near,  
 Dekanawida, visionary,  
 the Tree of Life holds our prayer,  
 Dekanawida, miracle child,  
 the Tree of Life holds our prayer.

**Wakantanka Taku Nitawa**  
 Many and great, O God are your works,  
 Maker of earth and sky,  
 Your hands have set the stars,  
 Your fingers spread the plains,  
 At your word the waters were formed.  
 Deep seas obey your voice,  
 Wakantanka taku nitawa,  
 Tankaya qa ota,  
 Mahpiya kin eyahnake ca,  
 Maka kin he duowanca,  
 Mniowanca sbeyawanke cin,  
 Henaoyakihi.

**We Walk in Beauty (Navajo Prayer)**  
 Beauty before us,  
 Beauty behind us,  
 Beauty around us,  
 We walk in beauty,  
 It is finished in beauty.

**Know That You Yourself Are Essential to This World**  
*Words of Chief Arvol Looking Horse*  
 Each of us is put here in this time and place,  
 To personally decide the future of the humankind,  
 Did you think that the Creator,  
 would create unnecessary people,  
 In a time of such terrible danger?  
 Know that you yourself are essential to this world.

**Lummi Dive Beneath the Sea (Big Beach – Little Beach) – F. West**  
 Moon-rise on this shining day,  
 sunlight ticking time away,  
 Children play by enchanted sun,  
 what of our work left undone.  
 Sea sweeps in and sea flows out.  
 Ocean wind and shoes without sea sweeps in,  
 Lummi dive beneath the sea,  
 winds are calm and so are we,  
 George and James tell us their tales,  
 their ancestors rode killer whales.  
 Alberta Thompson comes to soothe,  
 Faith is mighty speaking truth,  
 Moonrise on this shining sand,  
 sunlight paints upon this land.  
 Broken treaties fire that burn,  
 honor lost at every turn,  
 White man's ways are Indian grief,  
 now we harvest dragon's teeth.  
 Fish of waters, whale of sea,  
 sing for them and pray for me,  
 Children in the radiant light,  
 don't give up the day for night.

**There's Been a Great Injustice – F. West**  
 There's been a great injustice here,  
 that's happened in our time,  
 It's happened in the lives of our ancestors dear,  
 It's time to make it right.  
 Before surveyor's stakes,  
 and the low'ring of the lake,  
 You've walked the Earth hand in hand,  
 For ten thousand years and countless tears,  
 There's fire still deep in the land.  
 Columbus crossed the sea,  
 small pox at our shores,  
 People trying to stay free, all the Indian wars,  
 Children taken away, disease ravages the land,  
 Keep sickness at bay— it strikes each woman and man,  
 Remember the trail of tears, Cherokees brought low,  
 Remember Wounded Knee — these people had a soul,  
 There's been a great injustice here,  
 It's time to make it right.  
 Honor native sacred land, now don't give up the fight.

**Lyrics**

**(There's Been a Great Injustice** – verses by Sondra Segundo)

Native American women disappear,  
It happens all the time, Can you imagine their fear,  
This is a terrible crime.  
Residential Schools have torn us apart,  
We've got to bring our babies home  
Too many graves unmarked.

**I See a Time of Seven Generations**

*Words of Oglala Lakota leader, Crazy Horse*

Upon suffering, beyond suffering,  
The Red nation shall rise again  
and it shall be a Blessing for a sick world.  
A world longing for the light again  
A world filled with broken promises  
and selfishness and separations.  
I see a time of seven generations  
When all the colors of human kind  
will gather under the Sacred Tree of Life  
And the whole earth will become one circle again.

**We Are the Future and the Past** – F. West

We are the future and the past,  
authoritarians cannot last.  
Tyranny brings too many tears,  
we've fought this for thousands of years.  
We are the future. We are the past.  
Indigenous people you have proven,  
guide the way and let us align.  
It's time to get our feet a movin',  
look to the sky for Orion.  
Look to the sky and see Orion,  
let the stars guide our way.  
Look up and watch the great canoes,  
racing toward the Milky Way.  
Time to move this meeting to the streets,  
see who Mahatma Gandhi greets.  
Rosa Parks is waiting for you yet,  
Billy Frank Junior with his fishing nets.  
Red Cloud is standing in the great Sunset.  
We are the future and the past.  
I am the first and the last.  
Tyranny brings too many tears,  
I will help you, do not fear.  
We are the future. We are the past.

## Program Notes

We are blessed that many Native peoples in the Pacific Northwest have survived a century of persecution. The active participation in our society of Makah, Lummi, Tulalip, Duwamish, Snoqualmie, Muckleshoot, Nisqually, Puyallup, Yakima, Haida, Tlingit, and other peoples enrich our lives and help protect and restore our natural environment.

It has not been easy. Many people, villages, and tribes have been decimated by diseases, massacres, torture, sexual abuse, forced removals, violent persecutions from military and militia groups, ethnic cleansing, and government policies meant to exterminate them. Native languages and religions were overtly suppressed. We denied people basic human rights. Denial of ownership and environmental damage has deprived peoples of their traditional ways of life.

Scholars estimate that 50 million people speaking 300 languages lived in North America before 1492. The first Bureau of Indian Affairs was created in 1824 by the Secretary of War. Today in the U.S. there are just over 5 million, 1.6% of the U.S. population. Many peoples have not survived; many languages and cultures have been lost or severely reduced. Those who have survived have a right to be proud of their families, languages, traditions, and tribes. We should join with these peoples to restore and protect their rights and the environment that we share.

Tribes cited in People of the Drum and/or that we are honored to work with on the show include:

**Lummi** – The People of the Sea are Coast Salish people originally living on islands and the coasts of the Salish Sea.

**Snoqualmie** – The Strong People of Status, originally living across the Snoqualmie Valley and speaking Lushootseed, a Salishan language, are members of the Snoqualmie and Tulalip Tribes.

***THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL DONORS!***

**GiveBIG Donors 2018**

Donna Austin  
Meta Chessin  
Martha Cohen  
Geoffrey Cole  
Robert Crosby  
Patti Crow  
Patrice Donohue  
Karen Jackson Forbes  
Joyce Halldorson  
Douglas Hoople  
Judy Jones  
Emily Leslie  
Nikki Nichols  
Dale & Sue Hurley Rector  
Alexia Spanos  
Janet Stecher  
Jennifer Sumner  
Richard Sullivan  
Alma Villegas  
Joan Weiss  
Judith Zeh

**Feast for Peace Donors 2018**

Linda Albert Young  
Betsy Alexander  
Bob Andrews  
Donna Austin  
Steve Bauck  
Stefanie Beighle  
Marcia Bennison  
Thomas Berry  
Tom Bertucci  
Donene Blair  
Steve Blair  
Maryanne Blake  
Miriam Blau

Ann & Bill Bowden  
Bill Buchan  
Adrian Carter  
Jeff Carter  
Fran Cavalle  
Meta Chessin  
Sonia Chessin  
Celia Chessin-Yudin  
Dan & Sandy Ciske  
Pat Clayton  
Martha Cohen  
Margaret Collins  
Bill Cote  
Catherine Crain  
Carol Dansereau  
Rosemary Daszkiewicz  
Susan Davis  
Theodore Dietz  
Elisa Del Rosario  
Marty & Mike Dennis  
Josh & Gabrielle Douthitt-Benditt  
Steve Ernst  
Margie Esola  
Tyler Folsom  
Nedra Gaskill  
Dan Gilman  
Mary Giordano  
Colin Glithero  
Gloria Gonzales  
Lee Gresko  
Oscar Halpert  
James & Young Hanlon  
Peggy Hannon  
Carly Heffel  
Dennis & MaryJo Heller  
Alicia Henson  
Jonathan Howe

Ted Hunter  
Jerry Jutting  
Bob & Michelle Kackman  
Anne C. Kimball  
Dee Knapp  
Joe Knight  
Daniel & Simone Kraehenbuehl  
Marv Kvamme  
Helen Lauritzen  
Emily Leslie  
Joey Lind  
Kim Lokan  
Wilda Luttermoser  
Kelly Mak  
David Matthews & Wendy Zieve  
Bill Mclvor  
Liz Mills  
Royce Morrison  
Mike & Marsha Munson  
Margarita Munoz  
Edie Loyer Nelson  
Nikki Nichols  
Helen Nissani  
Alexandra O'Reilly  
Art Pederson  
Terri Pollock  
Roo Porter  
Farrah Ragsdale  
Dale & Sue Hurley Rector  
Andrea Rabinowitz  
Erika & Baback Roshanravan  
Martha Rost  
Molly Ryan  
John Saari  
Doug Balcom & Karen Sanders  
Tim & Marilyn Sanford  
Rosaly Schiller

## Biographies

*Joseph* by Nancy Blaisdell, recording songs for a CD of heavy metal opera and even singing birthday telegrams in costume. Justin is pleased to be in collaboration with the Seattle Peace Chorus once more for the world premiere of Fred West's *People of the Drum*.

### **Cristina Tamer**

*Soloist*

Cristina is a recent transplant from the Midwest, a graduate of the University of Michigan. She is looking forward to once again working with the Seattle Peace Chorus! Cristina has sung with local churches like St. Mark's of Shoreline and as a soloist for choirs in the region, as well as singing with the Seattle Gilbert and Sullivan Society and other opera groups. This summer she will sing The Magic Flute with Chicago Summer Opera. When not singing, Cristina can be found fencing long sword and foil in local clubs and tournaments.

### **Doug Balcom**

*Soloist, Director, Seattle Peace Chorus Action Ensemble*

Doug Balcom is the director of the Seattle Peace Chorus Action Ensemble, the activist arm of SPC that performs at rallies, marches & other gatherings in the Puget Sound area for peace and social justice causes. Doug composes and arranges songs for the Ensemble to perform on stage, writes custom lyrics for traditional protest songs, and leads the Ensemble and our fellow protesters in song during marches. Doug was a soloist with the Northwest Boychoir and Seattle Opera in his youth, and has been singing with SPC periodically since 1994, including frequent solo work. He also serves as an assistant director of SPC as needed.

### **Paul Che oke’ ten Wagner**

*Native American Flutist & Storyteller*

Paul “Che oke ten” Wagner is an internationally performing presenter of traditional songs and stories of his Coast Salish tribal ancestors. Che oke ten is a member of the Wsaanich (Saanich) Tribe of southern Vancouver Island, British Columbia. An award-winning Native American flutist, his songs have come to him with visions of healing and prayer for all relations (tree people, animal people, and human people).

### **Thione Diop**

*Percussionist*

Thione is widely recognized for his powerfully expressive Djembe performances. He is descended from an ancestral line of Griot drummers in Senegal, West Africa, and is a master of the djembe, sabar, tama, and djun djun. In 1998, Thione moved to Seattle to teach and perform; a year later he formed Yeke Yeke, a percussion ensemble that has performed the traditional rhythms of West Africa to delighted audiences for years.

**Duwamish** – The People of the Inside, originally living around Elliott Bay and the lower Duwamish River including the land that Seattle occupies, spoke Lushootseed. Seattle was named after the Duwamish Chief Sealth.

**Seldovia Village** – Seldovia was a trading center for Aleut, Yupik, Alutiq, and Dena'ina peoples across from Homer on Kachemak Bay at the end of the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.

**Mandan** – The Mandan people, originally living along the Missouri River and its tributaries in North and South Dakota and speaking a Siouan language, had permanent villages and an agrarian culture.

**Tulalip** – The Tulalip Tribes include Duwamish, Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Skagit, Suiattle, Samish, and Stillaguamish, Coast Salish people of the mid-Puget Sound region.

**Tlingit** – The People of the Tides, originally living along the Alaska Panhandle and speaking Lingít, a Na-Dené language, are known for their culture, art, weaving, woodwork, and sculpture.

**Haida** – The Haida Nation, people originally living on the islands of the Alaska Panhandle and speaking Xaat Kíl, have occupied Haida Gwaii since at least 12,500 BCE.

**Saanich** – The Saanich Nations, originally living on Vancouver Island, the San Juan Islands, and the southern edge of British Columbia mainland and speaking Saanich, include the Tsaltlip, Pauquachin, Tseycum and Tsawout Coast Salish peoples.

**Haudenosaunee** – The People of the Longhouse or Iroquois Confederacy, a league of nations—Mohawk, Onondaga, Oneida, Cayuga, Seneca, and Tuscarora—living south of the Great Lakes, originally formed in 1142 by Dekanawida, sometimes known as the Great Peacemaker, Hiawatha, and a woman, Jigonhsasee.

**Dakota-Lakota** – The Dakota-Lakota consist of three groups—the Lakota, Eastern Dakota, and Western Dakota. The Lakota consisted of seven bands (of which 4 are named as parts of the Cheyenne River Sioux and Oglala tribes, below)—Sichangu (Burned Thighs), Oglala, Itazipa Cola (Without Bows), Hunkpapa (End Village), Miniconjou (Plants by the Water), Sisasapa (Black Feet), and Owohe Nupa (Two Kettles). Speaking Lakota, they were part of the confederation of seven related Sioux tribes. The Lakota way of life, Wakan Tanka, is the power or the sacredness that resides in everything

**Cheyenne River Sioux** – The Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota is home to the Titunwan People of the Plains—the Mnicoujou (Plants by the Water), Owohe Nupa (Two Kettles), Itazipco (Without Bows), and Siha Sapa (Black Feet) bands, speaking an Algonquian language, originally living in Minnesota but migrating to North and South Dakota where they adopted the horse culture. Chief Arvol Looking Horse is a spiritual leader of the Lakota and the Keeper of the Sacred White Buffalo Calf Pipe Bundle.

**Oglala Lakota** – The Oglala Lakota Nation, one of seven tribes of Lakota and part of the Great Sioux Nation, originally living on lands spanning North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Montana, are mainly settled now on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

**Navajo** – The Navajo people, originally living in the Four-Corners region and speaking a Na-Dené Southern Athabaskan language, raised crops adopted from the Pueblo peoples and herded sheep and goats.

– *Thomas Sharp*

## **Notes from the Composer**

There are deep wounds in this country and in this hemisphere that will only heal when the causes are acknowledged. I was once in the Dominican Republic and visited the cave walls on which Taino people had drawn images. They were images of loud protest and complaint.

I learned that when Columbus originally landed in Hispanola, it was these people that helped him when his ship foundered on the rocks. He wrote kindly about them, praising their honesty. When he arrived, as many as 8 million Taino people were living on the island. In 1514, the Spanish census showed barely 22,000 Indigenous people left alive. The second voyage of Columbus was sponsored by investors seeking a return on their investment. The images on the cave wall were children crying out in distress.

### **The Journey**



We live in a time when through elaborate DNA research a new story is told of the origins of human beings. It is an important story as it dispels the myth that we are very different races and puts the lie to any thinking that would encourage an attitude of racial superiority. The emergence of all the human inhabitants of the world walking out of Africa some period from 130,000 to 70,000 years ago is a profound tale of the human diaspora. The courageous migrations of the people who crossed the Beringian land bridge at different intervals, the last being 11,500 years ago to the new world hemisphere, are a subject of intense interest which originally inspired this song.

I have since become aware that some Native American people are justifiably tired of western science making declarations about Indigenous origins. It is felt that creation stories of various tribes are also to be respected and valued. In this spirit, the opening movement also marks all the journeys of Native American people as they have travelled throughout this land for many thousands of years. One can hear in the music each entrance of diverse instruments signals a new band of people traveling across the land and sea. The spirit is of adventure and being united in spirit.

### **The Wind**

“The Wind” is inspired by the poems of Tom Sharp, one of our baritones who is of Aleut heritage. Tom’s poem is based on the Aleut saying that the wind is not a river, that is, that difficulties subside. Tom’s writings also include a beautiful summary of the principle of sharing.

### **White Shells of Peace**

When my daughter was in the fifth grade, I had the joy to teach music to her class. One of the books I discovered in the school library was called *The Great Peacemakers*. This set forth the epic story of Hiawatha and Dekanawida, which happened before European contact. Their determination to create a peaceful alliance among the warring Iroquois tribes is one of the great lessons of the world and shows the same profound insight into human nature that we learn from Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This is a mantra to me. “Heal your enemies’ wounds, then your own wounds will heal.” Hiawatha and Dekanawida healed the crippled arm of the war leader Atotarho, who had opposed their peacemaking efforts and caused the death of Hiawatha’s entire family. The Iroquois league was so successful that it became a model for our government. We owe more than you might imagine to the first peoples of this continent. I urge you to read the whole story.

### **Wakantanka Taku Nitawa**

“Wakantanka” is based on a song by the same name written by Joseph Renville, born in 1779 to a French fur trader father and Dakota mother. Renville grew up among the Dakota and was considered a member of the tribe. He probably used a popular tune, but he changed it to a more Dakota-sounding melody. The song appeared in the first collection of music written in the Dakota language in 1841 and has been widely sung ever since by Dakota and non-Dakota alike.

In People of the Drum, I have composed a new song, setting the same scriptural verses as Renville. In just a few bars I call upon the Dakota tune of Joseph Renville. This is sung by the basses to honor Renville and played by the bass clarinet representing his Dakota Mother, and then the French Horn to give note to the French fur trader father of Renville. These verses are particularly meaningful as they celebrate the miracle and the beauty of the world which needs our stewardship.

### **We Walk in Beauty**

As more and more settlers arrived in the Southwest, the Navajo and Mescalero Apaches fought back to preserve their way of life. In 1860 under the leadership of Barboncito and Manuelito, some 1000 Navajo warriors brought the army to a standstill. The U.S. army began a concerted effort to remove the Navajo from their lands. Although Kit Carson had been respected by many tribes, the army drafted him to march captured Navajo to the Basque Redondo reservation through two months of harsh winter conditions, which killed 200 people. They were then told to plant crops. The water was so brackish that horses would not drink it and a plague of pests eradicated the crops. In a rare moment of revelation, General Sherman

## **Biographies**

### **Frederick N. West**

### *Music Director, Seattle Peace Chorus*

Frederick West studied composition with Edwin LaBounty, choral conducting with Robert Scandrett and instrumental conducting with William Cole at Western Washington University. He’s continued his studies in conducting workshops over the years with Rodney Eichenberger, Doreen Rao, Weston Noble, Robert Shaw and many others.

Fred has conducted the Seattle Peace Chorus for 17 years, combining music with global peace and justice issues. He’s toured with SPC to Venezuela, Chile and most recently Cuba in 2016 — the chorus’ third trip to the island — participating in international choral festivals and building bridges based on a common love for choral singing with choirs in those countries.

West’s choral compositions include the Balkan inspired *Christmas Cantata* for strings, handbells, timpani, and tapan (1987); an environmental Oratorio, *Upon This Land*, scored for Winds, celli, four soloists and percussion (1990); *Mass for the Children* for choir, bass and soprano soloists, marimbas, cello, flute and oboe (1998); a setting of Langston Hughes poetry entitled *Let America Be America Again* scored for brass quintet, choir, baritone soloists, and percussion (2008); *Diarmid and Grainne* — a Celtic fable scored for choir and Irish instruments (2013); and hundreds of shorter works.

Perhaps most unique of all Fred’s musical adventures has been an annual OrcaSing on San Juan Island which was filmed and broadcast by 60 minutes and seen by millions of viewers in the year 2000 and continues to be a rallying of environmental stewardship focused on preservation of the Salish Sea. Fred has been honored to serve on the Greater Seattle Choral Consortium board. Fred also serves as director of music for the City Cantabile Choir.

### **Sondra Segundo**

#### *Kaigani Haida Artist*

Sondra is a self-taught Kaigani Haida artist who is passionate about using her talents to help keep her NW Coast Indigenous culture alive. She weaves this passion into all aspects of her life. She is a visual artist, an educator, a storyteller & published author/illustrator of children’s picture books "Killer Whale Eyes" & “Lovebirds-The True Story of Raven & Eagle”. She composes songs in her indigenous tongue which she has incorporated into her children’s books. She is long time drum and dance leader for the Haida Heritage Foundation dance group in which she raised funds to start the Haida Roots Language program in 2017. She started singing at a young age with a local South Seattle gospel choir and learned to sing traditional songs with her Haida elders. Today you can hear her singing all around our community: in schools, events, with local Native band, Khu.éex' and as special guest singer in upcoming Seattle Peace Chorus production, "People of the Drum". Sondra plans to release her first album Summer 2018.

### **Justin Ferris**

Justin is a Seattle area Tenor Soloist and Professional Chorister. A Northwest native from Salem, Oregon, Justin attended Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA and has stayed in the area ever since. As a chorister and soloist, Justin has sung with many of the local churches, choirs, and opera companies. In the last year Justin has sung with the Seattle Peace Chorus, Bellevue Chamber Chorus, Svea Male Chorus, Cascadian Chorale, Klapa Doowopella, City Cantabile, Puget Sound Concert Opera, The Finnish Choral Society, First Covenant and St. Michael's and All Angels. In addition, Justin has done independent works such as being Joseph in the world premiere of *The Story of*

## **The Performers**

# Seattle Peace Chorus

Music Director: Frederick N. West

## Sopranos

Martha Baskin\* Emily Leslie  
Miriam Blau Nikki Nichols  
Pat Clayton Rosalyn Schiller  
Carly Heffel Cristina Tamer  
Dee Knapp

## Altos

Donna Austin\* Sue Hurley Rector  
Donene Blair\* Anita Lenges  
Meta Chessin Cindy Talley  
Liz Douthitt Sharp Wendy Zieve  
Mary Giordano

## Tenors

Doug Balcom Justin Ferris  
Jeff Carter Joe Knight  
Bill Cote\*

## Bass/Baritones

Bob Andrews Ted Hunter  
Steve Bauck\* David Matthews  
Bill Buchan Dale Rector  
Stephen Ernst John Ruth  
Felix Eickemeyer Adam Sepehri  
Dean Grainger Tom Sharp

\* *Section Leader*

## Guest Artists

Tom Bell – *Accompanist*  
Josefina Mutascu – *Flute*  
Logan Esterling – *Oboe & English Horn*  
Jim Hendrickson – *French Horn*  
Mary Kantor – *Bass Clarinet*  
Fred Winkler – *Soprano Sax*

Mathew Weiss – *1st Violin*  
Elizabeth Alexander – *2nd Violin*  
Jenn Glenn – *Viola*  
Karen Fardal – *Cello*  
Attila Kiss – *Double Bass*  
Kent Stevenson – *Piano*

Sid Law – *Drums, Electric Guitar, & Vocals*  
Paul "Che oke ten" Wagner, *Native American Drummer and Singer*  
Charlie Hiestand – *Bass Guitar*  
Thione Diop, *Master Senegalese Drummer*

**Sunday Opening Speaker** – Odin Lonning, *Tlingit Artist and Drum Maker*

**Poet and Narrator** – Tom Sharp, *Seldovian Tribe of Alaska*

**Duwamish blessing given by** – Edie Loyer Nelson, *Duwamish Elder*

**Tulalip Story Teller** – Johnny Moses

who arrived at the reservation in 1868, decided to return much of the traditional Navajo lands to the people. The U.S. government admitted that the reservation had been a complete failure.

These words came from their 400-mile trek back to their sacred lands. "Beauty before us, beauty behind us, beauty around us, we walk in beauty, it is finished in beauty." The double bass leads the walk, slow but steady and ultimately celebrating their return. The Navajo today are the largest of all the tribes. I recently heard a young Navajo woman, Y. Gorman from Bellingham, sing these words in her native language. If we are lucky, she might show up tonight!

## Know That Yourself are Essential to this World

So often we look back through time to sift out the words of great thinkers and philosophers to help guide our lives. These words spoken in our time, by the 19th generation Keeper of the White Buffalo Calf pipe call for us all to be involved in the care of this living planet.

"It is more important than ever to pray for and protect the sacred that is Mother Earth. Each of us is put here, in this time and place, to personally decide the future of Humankind. Did you think that the Creator, would create unnecessary people in this time of such terrible danger? Know that you yourself are essential to this world" — Chief Arvol Looking Horse. These profound words have guided our journey as we seek to raise our voices for peace and justice in a very troubled world.

## Lift Up the Sky

When I first spoke to Johnny Moses asking if he could join us this evening, I had just read the "Lift Up the Sky" story and composed music for it. He said, "ah that is my Grandfather's story." We are now fortunate to have a living treasure from the Native American story telling tradition with us tonight!

## Lummi Dive Beneath the Sea (Big Beach – Little Beach)

Last Summer, my Aleut friend, Tom Sharp, and I went to visit the Lummi center just north of Bellingham. The Seattle Peace Chorus had been honored that year by singing for the Totem pole blessing at St. Mark's Cathedral, and at another event raising awareness of the Lummi struggle to hold back oil and coal trains from coming through and impacting their traditional fishing grounds, as well as the environmental health of the whole region.

Kurt Russo, one of their main organizers, met us and we soon were being regaled with stories by Marcos James about his deep-sea diving business of harvesting manilla clams. He described how he would have to make sure the sea lions saw his bubbles otherwise they would grab him by the foot and drag him around. The double bass is the deep-sea diver. Doug James is a fabulous singer in the Shaker style and I asked if he could teach me one of his songs, as they were especially beautiful to my ear. He said, "if I ever run into you again, I will think about it."

"Lummi Dive Beneath the Sea," was a tune originally composed as I watched my daughter and her friend play in the surf. As with so much of what I write it is with her generation in mind, as I gather my community together to make our best decisions based on the welfare of our children and grandchildren. We sing this now tonight to remember those precious moments with the Lummi Tribe, and pictures of children at play by the water's edge.

## Tokitae

I spoke with Doug James on the phone a few months ago and he recounted the incredible story of how his tribe is trying to free Tokitae from her 48 years of captivity as a Seaquarium performer in a very small pool with two dolphin companions. The pool is 35 ft. wide by 45 ft. by 20 ft. at the deepest. Within hours I composed this song and I heard the voice of our fabulous tenor, Justin Ferris, soaring out over the sea. Just recently I had a chance to share this song with Doug as they came through with their Orca totem pole.

Orcas are thought to be among the most intelligent beings on the planet. They are our elders having evolved over millions of years with complex language and a matrilineal pod structure. To put a 21 ft. long, highly intelligent being in a small pool enclosure whose natural habitat is the entire Salish sea is like putting Mandela in jail for 28 years. Tokitae's pod would still be able to communicate with her today. We sing this song for another species, older and perhaps far wiser than our own, and in solidarity with the Lummi Totem pole journey, and all the Coast Salish tribes who have had a deep kinship with the Orca whales.

## These are the Tears of My People

Many years ago, in the early 90s, I had befriended Andy de Los Angeles of the Snoqualmie tribe. He used to pick me up in his red jeep and take me to the other side of Snoqualmie Falls and show me the forest there. He came in his button blanket and sang one of his traditional songs for a concert I put together called the Chapel and the Drum. Soon after that, I had the great fortune to perform with the Dave Brubeck Quartet and the City Cantabile Choir. Many of us went to visit the grave of Chief Sealth and Chief Kitsap. Dave Brubeck and I had both set some of Chief Sealth's famous speech to music. This was particularly meaningful for the legendary jazz performer.

After the sold-out performance, where Brubeck mixed his virtuosic jazz expression with a tribute to Chief Sealth, Andy came up on stage with gifts of eagle feathers for the two composers of the evening, Dave Brubeck and myself. That very week his tribe had at long last achieved federal recognition which opened many opportunities for them. He declared that these feathers were the tears of his people. I now in turn dedicate this song to my friend Andy de Los Angeles-chief of the Snoqualmie.

### Talking Story

I have read everything I could about the famous Lewis and Clark expedition. Two women really were responsible for that expedition's success. Watkuwies of the Nez Perce tribe who spoke up for the expedition and of course Sacagawea whose very presence signaled a peaceful intent by the explorers. Sacagawea joined the party with captor-husband Toussaint Charbonneau. When the expedition desperately needed horses from the Shoshone people, it was the joyful reunion between Sacagawea and her brother the Shoshone chief that opened the gates for a peaceful trade.

Now if it were not for the winter hospitality of the Mandan people, the expedition would certainly have gotten stalled and the history of the Northwest may have been very different. The Mandan were famous for being a trading center and all enmity was put aside to accomplish mutually beneficial trade. Of all the things that make up peace on Earth, trade is maybe the most important practical enterprise in keeping violence at bay, when it is fair to all parties and all laborers. I say, let's have a hand for the Mandans. This—a wonderful creation story from these people.

### How Great Thou Art

I first met Sondra Segundo at the Daybreak Star Pow Wow last summer. I happened to be talking with my friends Carol King and Judy Hightower who are both fabulous gospel singers. Upon hearing this, Sondra sang for the three of us a portion of the Gospel classic "How Great Thou Art." Her story of how she came to sing this in her grandmother's language is so compelling that I later reached out to her to do the solo work in our concert here tonight. We are truly blessed to be collaborating with her tonight as she shares some of her heritage. Here she will be accompanied by Gospel great Kent Stevenson on piano.

### Seven Generations

These words of the Great Oglala Sioux leader Crazy Horse, (*1842 - 1877*), were retold by Chief Joe Chasing Horse, his relative. They were translated from the grandmother who was sitting there while Crazy Horse sat smoking the sacred pipe with Sitting Bull for the last time. This was 4 days before he was treacherously bayoneted to death and lay for 5 hours dying, after he had surrendered to the U.S. troops.

After writing this choral work I spoke to Germain Garnier, the current executive Director of the Oglala Sioux Pine Ridge reservation. I told her how inspired I was by these words. To show respect for the descendants of Crazy Horse, I offered to make a contribution to one of the programs that they were offering. She said that would be fine and they would welcome financial contributions. I had just read a fascinating account of Red Cloud who had uniquely closed down the Bozeman trail following his many victories. I also had read of the visions of Crazy Horse. We talked for a long time. She is a direct descendant of Chief Red Cloud, and I was honored to hear directly from her about his life and that of Crazy Horse. She told me that her tribe had very little resources now and suffered greatly over the years from alcohol problems. But many of her people persevered and became skilled and highly educated. I said that we wanted to make this contribution and walk with her in our hearts and song. I would send her a copy of tonight's recording. "Wolpila Ha," she replied. "Thank you." And I said "Thank you"-- I know that we can all do much more.

### We are the Future and the Past

"We are the Future and the Past" is a song of motion, walking in the streets, walking with strangers who share a common love of peace and justice, and a determination to be good stewards of the planet. It celebrates the Great Oglala Sioux leader, Red Cloud, and the Nisqually fishing rights champion, Billy Frank Jr., alongside Rosa Parks and Mahatma Gandhi.

Our Native American brothers and sisters are not waiting around to change the balance in the U.S. Senate. They have had very few friends in the White House over these past two centuries and they are not waiting for the next election cycle to act and lift their voices. They are determined and imaginative and open to alliances. "We are a part of everything that is beneath us, above us, and around us. Our past is our present, our present is our future, and our future is seven generations past and present." The words of this song are my own and are inspired by the Haudenosaunee teachings and the rise of First Nations people today.

The soloists sing "look to the sky and see Orion." This is a reference to the universality of the stars as guides for the traveler and for the imagination of our collective stories. The Chinook people saw the constellation Orion as a canoe race. One canoe is the belt, the other, the dagger. They are both racing toward a fish (the bright star Sirius) in the Milky way.

A year ago, SPC Action Ensemble went to Olympia to join a march and rally organized by a coalition of Native American groups. Two Lakota sisters began by distributing tobacco for people to offer to the lake and a group of drummers and singers started a powerful song that I think was called Eagle Soaring. There was an absolute torrent of rain and I admired the woven hats of the drummers and singers that shed the water better than anything I had.

In the last several years people in the environmental movement (I hope that includes all of us), have been energized and inspired by Native American groups from Standing Rock to the opposition of the Kinder Morgan pipeline.

---

I have read a lot about Native American people in order to have some understanding of their lives and history and what I could learn. I have been fortunate to develop some very meaningful friendships and connections in this world. Among the most incredible books are two written by Native American authors. I want to give you a glimpse from "Living in Two Worlds," by Charles Eastman (Ohiyesa), given to me by my friend, Bill Cote. "We were taught generosity to the poor and reverence for the 'Great Mystery.'" Religion was the basis of all Indian training. My Grandmother would say, "be strong of heart – be patient!" She told me of a young chief who was noted for his uncontrollable temper. While in one of his rages he attempted to kill a woman, for which he was slain by his own band and left unburied as a mark of disgrace; his body was simply covered with grass. If I ever lost my temper she would say, "Hakadah, control yourself, or you will be like that young man I told you of and lie under a green blanket."

"Old age was in some respects the happiest period of life. Advancing years brought with them much freedom, not only from the burden of laborious and dangerous tasks, but from those restrictions of custom... which were religiously observed by all others." "Men may slay one another, but they can never overcome the woman, for in the quiet of her lap lies the child! You may destroy him once and again, but he issues as often from that same gentle lap---a gift of the Great Good, in which man is only an accomplice."

And from the beautifully written "Braiding Sweetgrass," by Robin Wall Kimmerer, enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She is speaking of the Three Sisters garden: corn, beans, and squash. "Polycultures are less susceptible to pest outbreaks than monocultures. In agribusiness, a dose of ammonium nitrate substitutes for the partnership of the bean. Tractors return with herbicides to suppress weeds in lieu of the squash. There were certainly bugs and weeds in the Three Sisters gardens but they flourished without insecticides.

Of all the wise teachers who have come into my life, none are more eloquent than these, who wordlessly in leaf and vine embody the knowledge of relationship. "The gifts of each are more fully expressed when they are nurtured together than alone. In ripe ears and swelling fruit, they counsel us that all gifts are multiplied in relationship. This is how the world keeps going." Let us reach out to each other and find how we create the rich and beautiful partnerships of diverse people on this planet, to keep this world going for all of our children and grandchildren.

– *Frederick N. West*

SEATTLE PEACE CHORUS presents

FEATURING

**Sondra Segundo,**

Haida Singer

**Johnny Moses,**

Tulalip Storyteller

**Paul “Che oke ten” Wagner,**

Saanich Drummer/Singer

SPECIAL GUESTS:

**Odin Lonning,**

Tlingit Artist & Drum Maker

**Edie Loyer Nelson,**

Duwamish Elder

**Thione Diop,**

Master Drummer

A new work written for  
full chorus, flute, oboe,  
bass clarinet, soprano  
saxophone, horn,  
strings, piano,  
Native American drum,  
& soloist Sondra Segundo



# PEOPLE OF THE DRUM

A Tribute to Native Americans and Drumming Traditions from Diverse Cultures

**Saturday, June 2, 7:30 pm:** Seattle First Baptist Church (Duwamish blessing Saturday at 7:15 pm)  
1111 Harvard Avenue, Seattle

**Sunday, June 3, 7:00 pm:** University Congregational Church  
4515 16th Avenue NE, Seattle

# “PEOPLE OF THE DRUM”

A NEW WORK COMPOSED BY FREDERICK N. WEST, DIRECTOR



Seattle Peace Chorus  
P. O. Box 30152  
Seattle, WA 98113

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #3621  
SEATTLE WA

**“I look forward to hearing this musical tribute  
to Native American people.”**

- Snoqualmie Tribal Chief Andy de Los Angeles,

who has donated three beautiful blankets to be given to honored guests at the concert.

**“People of the Drum** is a fusion of new music and Indigenous knowledge. This production gives honor to the Indigenous of the Americas who, through it all, continue to honor Creator and care for Mother Earth.

It helps bring awareness to social issues caused by colonization that we as a nation continue to heal from. My Native people are resilient and strong. We are still here for a reason.

Seattle Peace Chorus is walking alongside us in support as we reclaim our art and culture and relearn our many Indigenous languages.

What a beautiful group of people with hearts of gold! This production is a gift of music to all and a reminder that we are all in this together.”

- *Sondra Segundo, singer and keeper of the Haida language*

**Tickets: [Brownpapertickets.com/event/3111663](https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3111663) | 800.838.3006  
\$22 Advance • \$27 At the Door • \$20 Students, Seniors, Special Needs**

Thank you to our funders



**Questions?** [seattlepeacechorus.org](https://seattlepeacechorus.org) or call 206.264.5532

