

University of Missouri School of Music

2025-2026 Series • Large Ensemble

SANKOFA CHORALE

Dr. Brandon Boyd, director

Jade Leung and Sabelo Mthembu, assistant directors

Dr. Gale Jones Murphy, *Guest Artist in Residence*

Nakeesha Long, guest soloist

Joe Kingsbury, percussion

October 28, 2025 • 7:30PM

Sheryl Crow Hall

Concert Program – *Lessons of Life*

Botho **arr. Mbuso Ndlovu (Tswana)**

Sabelo Mthembu, baritone

Sikirileke **arr. Sabelo Mthembu (Southern Sotho)**

Dwell in the House **by Gale Jones Murphy**

Dr. Gale Jones Murphy, Guest Artist in Residence

O Give Thanks **by Jeffrey LaValley**

Nakeesha Long, alto

Safety **by Oscar Williams**

Liana Willis, soprano | Grace Gard, soprano

Dr. Gale Jones Murphy, Guest Artist in Residence

I Sing Because I'm Happy **arr. Rollo Dilworth**

Color Purple **by Allee Willis, Brenda Russell, and Stephen Bray**

Grace Gard, Jaydin Milner, Braden Konick, small group

Kaitlyn Oliver, soloist

Anthem of Praise **by Richard Smallwood**

Nakeesha Long, alto

Guest Artist Biography



Dr. Gale Jones Murphy is a concert pianist, choral director, recording artist, and composer of more than 800 works. She holds music degrees from Southern Adventist University and the University of Memphis, and serves on the Board of the Steinway Society of Central Florida. She and her husband, William, enjoy music, family, and sunsets at their home in Florida.

Sankofa Fall 2025 Roster

Soprano

Victoria Barnette
Treana Carson
Angela Danso Gyane
Diana Firsova
Grace Gard
Tara Garner
Emma Harper
Natasha Haverly
Mia Henry
Regan Martinez
Ruth Opoku
Jayla Parsons
Anna Pohranychna
Marina Porto
Harlie Sneller
Liana Willis

Tenor

Paul Anderson II
Maurey Bland Jr.
Connor Command
Braden Konick
Connor Noland
Daryus Shurn
Ediri Viegbesie

Alto

Elizabeth Dorman
Emily Flagg
Faith Glasgow
Nadia Gresham
Lauren Griffith
Lydia Helldoerfer
Sydney LaCour
Jade Leung
Kate Lopez
Carsyn McPheeters
Jaydin Milner
Kaitlin Oliver
Dulcina Rahn
Shalina Reed
Susan Worstell

Bass

Elijah Andrews
Sam Conley
Patrick Meyers
Sabelo Mthembu
Henry Rusten
Noah Symes
Garrett Tucker

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