University of Missouri School of Music

2026-2027 Series • Large Ensemble

Mizzou's Sankofa Chorale

Dr. Frances Fonza, guest conductor

Frank McGinnis, guest collaborative pianist

Dr. Brandon A. Boyd, conductor

Paul Anderson II and Sabelo Mthembu, assistant conductors

October 27, 2026 • 7:30PM

Sheryl Crow Hall

Program

O Sing Unto The Lord ..... **Diane White-Clayton**

This Little Light of Mine ..... **Anthony Leach**
Andrew Jaggi, trombone

Eloyi ..... **Mbuso Ndlovu & Sydney Masetlhe**
Grace Gard, soloist

Amazing ..... **Stephanie Oplacio & Hezekiah Walker**
Nakeesha Long, soloist

Kanono ..... **Sabelo Mthembu**

Holy Is Your Name ..... **Jeffrey LaValley**

Lord, I Owe You ..... **Kyle Kelley**
Nakeesha Long, soloist

Psalm 134 ..... **David Frazier**

Lord, I Know I Been Changed ..... ***arr.*** **Diane White-Clayton**

He Reigns Forever (We Sing Praises) ..... ***arr.*** **Carol Cymbala**

Guest Artists



Frances Fonza serves as the Director of Choral Activities at Southeastern Louisiana University, where she imparts her passion for music education and conducting to both undergraduate and graduate students and directs the Concert Choir, Bella Voce (Treble Ensemble), and Gospel Choir.

Dr. Fonza has a rich background in choral music education, having taught at the middle and high school levels in

Kentucky and served as the choir director and sight-singing teacher at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C. She earned a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Missouri-Columbia and master's and doctoral degrees in choral music education and conducting from Florida State University.

Prior to her role at Southeastern, Dr. Fonza was Assistant Professor of Music Education and Director of Choral Activities at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. She has also been a faculty member at Stephen F. Austin State University and the University of Central Arkansas. Choirs under her direction have performed at state, regional, and national music festivals.

Dr. Fonza is an active singer, clinician, and adjudicator, frequently engaged for guest conducting opportunities both nationally and internationally. She has conducted all-state, honor, public school, community, and church choirs, and had the honor of leading the All-National Honor Choir in 2020 and 2023. Her research interests include community partnerships, healthy singing in Gospel music, the versatile voice, and innovative tone-building strategies for the choral classroom. She is an active member of the National Association for Music Educators and the American Choral Directors Association.



Frank McGinnis Jr., a native of Pensacola, Florida, is a pianist, organist, conductor, educator, and creative producer whose work spans sacred, classical, and contemporary musical traditions. He holds a Master of Arts in Music from Florida State University and dual undergraduate degrees from Oakwood University: a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

At Oakwood, he studied piano with Dr. Wayne Bucknor and Dr. Frank Contreras and joined the world-renowned Aeolians, with whom he went on to tour extensively as an accompanist for more than a decade. His years at Oakwood, a historically Black university, shaped his musical versatility and laid the foundation for a career defined by artistry and service.

His conducting credits include Guest Conductor for the 69th Annual Charlotte Singing Christmas Tree and Choirmaster for the Charlotte Symphony's *Soulful Christmas.* Beyond performance, his work includes artistic programming, arranging, creative production, and technical direction for concerts and special events.
He currently serves as Director of Music and Arts at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. He also serves as University Accompanist at Johnson C. Smith University, and as Adjunct Choral Faculty at Wingate University, where he directs the Gospel Choir.

Sankofa Choral Fall 2026 Roster

Soprano
Victoria Barnette
Grace Gard
Tara Garner
Angela Gyane
Rokiatu Konneh
Brielle Montanez
Annabelle Moore
Jayla Parsons
Maya Serafimov
Riley Simmons

Tenor
Paul Anderson II
Brock Bordenkircher
AJ Fisher
Lyla Forbes
Abbri-elle Fox
Win Grace
Andrew Jaggi
Braden Konick
Daryus Shurn
Ediri Viegbesie

Alto
Olivia Arnold
Emily Flagg
Madeline George
Carsyn McPheeters
Omolara Ogunmola
Abby Potts
Grace Williams
Susan Worstell
Ella Wujcik

Bass
Patrick Meyers
Sabelo Mthembu
Henry Rusten
Noah Symes
Emory Tilghman
Garrett Tucker

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