

CHRISTMAS *in Paris*

SUNDAY, DEC. 7, 2025
4:00 PM

THE DVORAK CONCERT HALL

1860 7TH STREET | CHARLESTON, IL 61920 | (217)581-3110 | DOUDNATIX.COM

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

BARBARA BONNEKESSEN, DEAN

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™

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David Commanday
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Juliane Sharp
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Yetong Tang
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Camerata Singers
Concert Choir
University Mixed Chorus

Eastern Symphony Orchestra

Jazz Ensembles

Jazz Combos
Jazz Ensemble
Jazz Lab Band

Music Theatre/Opera Ensemble

Percussion Ensemble

University Bands

Concert Band
Eastern Symphonic Band
Panther Marching Band
Wind Symphony

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™

Christmas in Paris

Eastern Symphony Orchestra - David Commanday, Director
EIU Camerata, Concert Choir & University Chorus - Howard Eckdahl, Director
East Central Chorale and Charleston High Advanced Chorus - Juliane Sharpe, Director
Jemma Allen and Cameron Craig, Graduate Assistant Conductors

PROGRAM

Sing We Now of Christmas Traditional, arr. Pederson
Chuxuan Li, piano; Elizabeth Rickfelder, flute

Gloria Francis Poulenc
(1899-1963)

- I. *Gloria*
- II. *Laudamus te*
- III. *Domine Deus*
- IV. *Domine Fili unigenite*
- V. *Domine Deus, Agnus Dei*
- VI. *Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris*

Jamille Lea, soprano

Il est né, le divin enfant Traditional, arr. Alwes
Ethan Schobernd, oboe; Aiden Payer, flute; Annie Mason, bassoon

Festival First Nowell Traditional, arr. Forrest

—INTERMISSION—

A Christmas Festival Leroy Anderson
(1908-1975)

The Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(1840-1893)

- Danses Caractéristiques*
- Marche*
 - Danse de la Fée-Dragée*
 - Danse russe Trepak*
 - Danse Arabe*
 - Danse Chinoise*
 - Danse des Mirlitons*
 - Valse des Fleurs*

Three Holiday Songs from “Home Alone” John Williams
(b. 1932)

- I. Somewhere in My Memory
- II. Star of Bethlehem
- III. Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas

BIOGRAPHIES

David Commanday, is Director of Orchestral Activities and Instructor of Applied Cello at Eastern Illinois University, Professor Commanday is also Artistic Director and Conductor of the Heartland Festival Orchestra, and an active guest conductor. His career combines international accomplishment as professional conductor, national prominence as a leader in the youth orchestra field, and distinction in the Academy of higher education. Among many awards received, the Illinois Council of Orchestras recognized Commanday as Illinois Professional Conductor of the Year.

Professor Commanday has a distinguished record of accomplishment with young musicians. As Music Director of the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, he received three ASCAP Awards for innovative programming of American music and for works he commissioned and premiered.

Professor Commanday is a cum laude graduate of Harvard College, and was awarded highest honors in his State Diploma of Orchestral Conducting at the University of Vienna. He has taught and conducted at Harvard, MIT, Boston University, Montclair University, Eureka College, and Bradley University, and was tenured Associate Professor on the faculty of Virginia Commonwealth University. At Eastern Illinois University he is the cellist of the Eastern Piano Trio with colleagues Shichao Zhang and Ji Myung Kim.

Howard Eckdahl, is Director of Choral Activities at Eastern Illinois University, where he conducts three ensembles, oversees a graduate program in choral conducting, and teaches courses in conducting, literature, and arranging. His orchestrations have been featured near and far to acclaim. A keen performer, he works professionally in the Chicago choral scene and sunlights as an organist when needed. Eckdahl has previously served on the faculties of Notre Dame, Western Michigan University, and Augustana College.

BIOGRAPHIES

Jamille Lea, Soprano received her Master's degree at the University of Texas at El Paso. She received her undergraduate degree in Vocal Performance from the University of North Texas where she studied under tenor, Richard Croft. During her undergraduate career she performed the roles of Lucy in *The Three Penny Opera*, Oberto in Handel's *Alcina* and was a featured soloist during the A Cappella choir tour of South Korea. Jamille Lea has been a member of the Gilbert and Sullivan Company of El Paso for many years and has performed lead roles in *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, *The Sorcerer*, *Patience*, *The Gondoliers* and *Trial By Jury*. She also made her debut as Cosette in the UTEP Dinner Theater's production of *Les Misérables* in the Spring of 2014. Jamille Lea served as a Young Artist with El Paso Opera for two years under the direction of Justin Lucero and David Holloway. Most recently, she performed the roles of Zweite Dame and Papagena in El Paso Opera's production of *Die Zauberflöte*. Jamille Lea is currently pursuing her Doctorate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign under bass-baritone, Ricardo Herrera. While pursuing her doctorate, Jamille Lea was the soprano soloist in the world premiere of The El Paso Requiem and she performed the role of The Countess in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

FRIENDS OF DOUDNA

Concourse Level

Ann Sidwell
Severson Family
Tim & Melanie Mills
Randy & Sue Taylor

Dvorak Level

Glenna Murphy
Linda K Keeler
Barbara & Michael Watts
Randy Wells
Bill & Linda Perry



Don't forget to refill your Doudna Drink Cup at intermission! Doudna Drink Cups also allow you to bring your drink into the venue to enjoy during the show. Visit the Doudna Box Office to purchase your cups and drink vouchers!

EASTERN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Violin I

Dr. Ji-Myung Kim,
Concertmaster

Eva Hall
Basia Niles-Latawiec
Luke Brann
Hanna Woo

Violin II

Ezekiel Oyediji
Noel Chi
Kaity Parker
Terry Coulton
Emellie Schout +
Matthew Schiermeyer
Victoria Lim +

Viola

Dominika Targosz
Quran Woods
Elaine Fine
Ruth N. Riegel
Tanya Reed

Cello

Esmé Bryson
William Schultz Jr.
Jennifer Murphy
Patrick Schout +
Jeri Matteson Hughes

Bass

Race Brighton
Brad Decker
Margaret Briskin

Flute

Aiden Payer
Elizabeth Rickfelder
Kaity Harr

Oboe

Ethan Schobernd
Robin Dunagan

Clarinet

Addie Willis
Maci Reed

Bassoon

Jay Dawson
Annie Lyle Mason

Horn

Karina Herrera Zambrano
Alejandro Guzman
Molly Frederick
Joseph Goldstein

Trumpet

Brian George
Charles Koprowski-Barr

Trombone

Ross Oller
Aidan Gomez
Colin Lakatos

Tuba

Karson Landsaw

Timpani

Megan Garcia

Keyboard

Yetong Tang

Organ

Howard Eckdahl

+ Playing in the Symphonic
Honors Initiative Program
for exceptionally gifted pre-
college musicians.

FOR TICKETS TO FUTURE EVENTS

Call the Doudna Fine Arts Center Box Office at 217-581-3110! The Box Office is open Tuesday - Friday 11:00am - 5:00pm and one hour prior to every ticketed event. You can also visit www.eiu.edu/doudnatix and purchase/print your tickets at home and skip the line all together!

CHOIR

Sopranos

Jemma Allen^{...}
 Erica Badger[°]
 Lois Baker^a
 Sarah Bowman[°]
 Ashley Bunting[^]
 Robyn Carr[°]
 Abby Cheesman[^]
 Phoebe Frey^a
 Haley Fryer[°]
 Maliyah Harrison^a
 Charlotte Hedberg^{..}
 Alexis Highland^{..}
 Jeri Hughes[°]
 Neamoni Jarrett[^]
 Madi Johnson[^]
 Brittney Kelley[°]
 Bella Kokonas^{..}
 Lydia Lock^a
 Maliyah Madlem^a
 Addison Martin^{..}
 Jacky McKibben^a
 Makayla McPhedran^{..}
 Maria Ochs^{..}
 Faith Ogle^a
 Emily Ritter^{..}
 Aanya Sharpe[^]
 Jacey Smith^a
 Lizzie Snider^a
 Elaina Sutula^{...}
 Olivia Theirl^{...}
 Lauren Wahls^a
 Amelia Williams[^]
 Erica Workman^a

Altos

Ash Allison[^]
 Jan Allison[°]
 Rhianna Carter[^]
 Autumn Carson^a
 Katie Chumbley^{..}
 Madison Colby^{..}
 Allison Cooke^{..}
 Jan Copes[°]
 Alana Dove[·]
 Madi Entrican^a
 Kayla Fleshner^{..}
 Brennah Gerdes^{..}
 Ally Gonzalez^a
 Allie Gray[^]
 Tommi Griffen^a
 Dylan Johnson^a
 Emma Karbassioon^a
 Izzy Keith^a
 Grace Kirkpatrick^{..}
 Brooklyn Howard[°]
 Callie Lawrence^a
 Jay Miller^a
 Laurie Mueth^{..}
 Lia Rigdon^{..}
 Yazira Sanchez[^]
 Nessa Sarmiento[^]
 Katie Shamhart[·]
 Anessa Smith[^]
 Claire Steiner[^]
 Brynn Symonds^a
 Sophia Thomas^{...}
 Savannah Vandever[°]
 Cecelia Vermillion[^]
 Miranda Vineyard[°]
 Ella Viertel^a
 Haley Webb[^]
 Melissa Wheeler[°]
 Faith Worthington^{..}

Tenors

Chris Andrus^{...}
 Johnathan Baker^{..}
 Sam Bates^a
 Carter Davis^{..}
 Brian George[·]
 Harrison Hahn^{..}
 Eli Heise^a
 Hunter Holaway^{..}
 Eli Jones^a
 Michael Morris[°]
 Garrison Reed[°]
 Jack Sharp^a

Basses

Tim Anderson^{...}
 Elliot Bennett^a
 Nathan Blackwell^{...}
 Jonathan Brown^a
 Brayden Cobb^a
 Owen Davis^a
 Daniel Garrison^{..}
 Noah Hardwick^a
 Owen Hough^{..}
 Darek Leschber^{..}
 Noah Northrop^a
 Joaquin Ramirez^{..}
 Channing Ratcliff^{..}
 Xander Rice^{..}
 Jackson Simmons^a
 Armoni Ukachukwu^a
 Danner Van Hise^a

[^] University Choir
^{..} Concert Choir
[·] Camerata
[°] East Central Chorale
^a Charleston High Advanced Chorus

DOUDNA STAFF

Doudna Crew

Paul Nau – Doudna GA
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Gage Matthews
Megan Heise
Tim Anderson
Piper Reynolds
Andrew Whalen
Grant Johnson
Allie Drees
Katie Gillespie
Jaylin Stofferahn
Noah Captain
Daniel Fagaly
Elaina Sutula
Hector Ramirez

Doudna Front of House

Jessica Bailey
Mackenzie Fehrenbacher
Chloe Heineman
Ellis Mansfield
Ella Penca
Emily Ritter
Joash Saha
Laura Severson
James Schnitzler
Ethan Schobernd
Corrinna Tutterow
Sathwik Veduruvada



Jazz combo concert



**TUE
DEC
09
2025**



7:30 PM > THE THEATRE



FREE



PRESENTED BY THE EIU MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The groups will perform classic jazz compositions along with new student compositions and arrangements.



DOUDNA FINE ARTS CENTER

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COMPOSER'S FORUM

THUR
DEC
11
2025



7:30 PM > THE RECITAL HALL



FREE



PRESENTED BY THE EIU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Featuring newly composed works by EIU student composers.

Join us for an inspiring evening of world premieres,
performed by EIU music students!



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DOUDNA FINE ARTS CENTER

PATRON SERVICES GUIDELINES

Usher Staff

Ushers are located at the entrance of the venue. If you have a question or a problem, please let them know and they will contact the House Manager.

Ticket Policies

Please note that all ticket sales are final, and refunds will not be given.

Late Arrival

During classical concerts, late seating will only take place during the first convenient pause in the program.

During jazz, folk, world, or pop concerts, late seating is more casual, but ushers may ask you to wait to be seated between pieces. Please check with an usher regarding when you may enter the venue.

Mobile Devices, Photography and Recording

Please turn off all light-illuminating or sound-emitting devices. Mobile phone use is strictly prohibited inside all venues. Text-messaging and the taking of photographs or videos by phone are not permitted.

The use of cameras - with or without flash - and recording devices is a violation of copyright law and discourteous to other audience members.

Failure to comply will result in being asked to leave the performance without a refund.

Doctor and Parent Emergency Calls

If you are a medical professional/parent with a sitter at home, please put your phone on silent and wait to take the call until you are out of the performance venue.

No Smoking

Eastern Illinois University is a tobacco-free campus. Smoking of any kind, including electronic cigarettes, is prohibited on all university property.

Food and Beverages

Food is not allowed inside any of the venues. Only beverages in the special Doudna drink cup, with a secured lid, are permitted in the venues.

Accessibility

Special seating areas for wheelchair accessibility are available. Contact the Box Office in advance to secure a seat in these areas. Audio amplification is available for the hearing-impaired free of charge. A driver's license or other identification is all that is required for deposit.

In the Event of an Emergency

Emergency exits may be found outside of the venue and are marked accordingly. The lighted "Exit" sign nearest your seat is the shortest route out of the building.

Families

The Doudna welcomes patrons of all ages to experience and enjoy the arts. Please carefully consider whether a performance is appropriate for children before planning to attend with young people. If you have concerns or questions about a specific event, please call the Box Office at (217) 581-3110.

Please be considerate of others in the audience and your young person's comfort. Children who are disruptive will not be allowed to remain in the venue.

Lost and Found

Found items should be left with an usher. To determine whether a personal item has been turned in, please call the Box Office at (217) 581-3110 or the Programming, Publicity, & Promotions Office at (217) 581-8513.

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- Recognition on Lobby Screen
- Backstage Tour

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- Recognition in program
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 - Arranged by the Doudna Fine Arts Center

