

# ESSENTIAL VOICES USA

Judith Clurman's **Essential Voices USA (EVUSA)** is one of New York's Judith Clurman's Essential Voices USA (EVUSA) is one of New York's preeminent choral ensembles. EVUSA performs in many of the city's iconic venues and events, and records and premieres works by America's finest composers and lyricists. The ensemble is comprised of a talented roster of seasoned professionals and auditioned volunteers, dynamically fitted to the unique needs of each project.

Regularly on stage with The New York Pops in its Carnegie Hall subscription series, EVUSA held a month-long residency at National Public Radio, participated in President Obama's Inaugural activities, and performed on NBC's July 4<sup>th</sup> Macy's *Fireworks Spectacular* and at the Rockefeller Center Tree Lighting.

The group has produced *The Composer Speaks* at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music, a series of musical performances complemented by panel discussions with composers and lyricists. EVUSA has premiered works and collaborated with composers Milton Babbitt, Robert Beaser, Jason Robert Brown, David Chase, Shawn Crouch, Bill Cutter, Marvin Hamlisch, Rupert Holmes, Sheldon Harnick, Jake Heggie, Jennifer Higdon, Andrew Lippa, Nico Muhly, Stephen Schwartz, David Shire, Howard Shore, Mark Sirett, James Sizemore, Georgia Stitt, and Jonathan Tunick.

They have recorded with opera and musical theater luminaries, including Jamie Barton, Brian Stokes Mitchell, and Kelli O'Hara. And their recordings include *America at Heart*, *Celebrating the American Spirit*, *Appalachian Stories*, *Cherished Moments: Songs of the Jewish Spirit*, *Holiday Harmonies: Songs of Christmas*, *Cradle Hymn*, *May You Heal*, *Season of Light: Songs of Thanksgiving*, *Christmas*, *Chanukah*, *New Year*, *Rejoice! Honoring the Jewish Spirit*, *Winter Harmonies*, and *Words Matter*.

The group's educational program, EVUSA Youth Workshop, has provided select high school students the opportunity to sing with the chorus on recordings and in concerts at Carnegie Hall. They recorded Howard Shore's work *Peace*, for the composer's *Palace Among Ruins* recording, at the Washington National Cathedral, with the St. Albans School for Boys and National Cathedral School for Girls. They participated in anti-bullying workshops with choruses at the Edward R. Murrow High School in Brooklyn, NY, where they studied the piece *Testimony* by Stephen Schwartz.

During the 2022-2023, EVUSA will return to Carnegie Hall, perform with the New York Pops, in a tribute to Stephen Sondheim and on the holiday concert. They will record a Tiny Desk concert at NPR, collaborate in workshops and performances with high schools, and record new works