

THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC CONCERT

JEWISH VOICES, AMERICAN SOUND SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026 7:30pm

\$18 General Admission for concert only

In recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary, Shepherd School of Music students present a program celebrating the Jewish American composers — Gershwin, Copland, Bernstein, and others — whose music helped define an American sound.

Reception following concert

9:00 PM S'lichot Service

We begin the season of repentance with the observance of S'lichot. Each year we gather on the Saturday evening before Rosh HaShanah to reflect on the past year and the changes we wish to make in the upcoming one. Our service this year will include Maya Zemach, cello, and Isaac Foreman, piano to enhance this intimate and reflective experience.



VOLUNTEER CHOIR ANNUAL SHOWCASE

KEEP MARCHING!
CELEBRATING AMERICA AT 250

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026 | 4 PM

A musical showcase highlighting the journeys of America's diverse people and their struggles for freedom and equality. Featuring historic folk songs, inspiring medleys from musical theatre, and music by celebrated Jewish composers.



CHANUKA-CAPPELLA WITH BERKALIT

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

BerKalit is a national award winning Jewish a cappella group based in Boston, MA founded and directed by Mayta Cohen. Touring nationwide to share their music, BerKalit pushes the boundaries of Jewish music with nothing but their voices.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2026

6:00 PM Chanukah Shabbat Evening Service
Followed by a community dinner

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2026

10:30 AM Shabbat Morning along with Cantor Simmons

7:00 PM Community Chanukah concert and
candle lighting

\$18 General Admission

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2026

10:30 AM Adult Education:
The Beauty of Vocal Harmony

Go behind the music to discover how the ensemble creates its beautiful harmonies, then experience the joy of singing with them. No prior singing experience is necessary.



MLK SHABBAT WITH THE PHILLIP HALL SINGERS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2027 | 6:00 PM

Our renowned pianist, Phillip Hall, brings his choir to enhance our Friday Shabbat worship as we honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy. The Phillip Hall Singers are a unifying force to all who hear them, regardless of age, gender, culture, ethnicity or socio-economic background, bringing truth to the idea that music is the "great unifier." Along with our volunteer and youth choirs, let us fill the Barish Sanctuary with joyful song!

FROM BROADWAY TO BIG BAND: THE JEWISH VISIONARIES OF AMERICA'S SONGBOOK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2027 | 7:30PM

\$36 General Admission

Discover the legendary Jewish composers who helped shape America's musical identity and define the swing era. This concert traces the journey of songs by George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, Irving Berlin, and Harold Arlen—from the Broadway stage to iconic big band arrangements—featuring vocal classics made famous by bandleaders Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw.

Enjoy an evening of light bites, drinks, and dancing in this soulful, swinging tribute to the pioneers who gave jazz its enduring heart. *In partnership with the ERJCC.*



SACRED INTERSECTIONS A CONCERT CELEBRATING PLURALISM AND PRESENCE

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2027 | 4 PM

ROTHKO CHAPEL

Suggested Donation \$10–25

Where do our traditions meet? Where do they stand apart? *Sacred Intersections* is a musical journey through the meeting points of faith and culture. Featuring Cantor Simmons, musicians and faith leaders from diverse backgrounds, this concert honors the distinct beauty of each tradition while uncovering the shared human experiences that connect us across lines of belief and practice.

Rothko Chapel



BECOME A FRIEND OF MUSIC AT EMANU EL

Our donor level names are inspired by the instruments of Psalm 150. When you join FRIENDS of **MUSIC AT EMANU EL**, you become part of a sacred orchestra that makes the music happen. Your generosity helps to underwrite programming costs and guest artist fees. Your contribution will also allow us to keep ticket prices for selected performances at a reasonable level.

- CANTOR ROLLIN SIMMONS

HORNS - \$3600+

Benefits of Harps, plus...

Reserved parking on the first floor of Gaylor Parking Facility for all **MUSIC AT EMANU EL** events

HARPS - \$1800

Benefits of Lyres, plus...

An evening of dinner and music at a private home on Saturday, April 10

LYRES - \$1,260

Benefits of Timbrels, plus...

Two additional reserved seats for programs in the **MUSIC AT EMANU EL** series listed below

TIMBRELS - \$720

Benefits of Lutes plus...

Two reserved seats for *From Broadway to Big Band* concert

LUTES - \$540

Benefits of Flutes, plus...

Havdalah concert at a private home on Saturday, October 17

FLUTES - \$360 (2 SEATS)/CYMBALS - \$180 (1 SEAT)

Reserved seat(s) to the following programs in the **MUSIC AT EMANU EL** series:

- Shepherd School of Music concert
- Volunteer Choir Annual Showcase
- Chanuka-Cappella with Berkalit Community Chanukah concert
- Rothko Chapel concert

Invitation to **FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT EMANU EL** receptions following:

- Volunteer Annual Showcase
- Rothko Chapel concert

Recognition of generosity on website and in marketing materials

Feel a special connection to one of this season's events?
Enhance your support — event sponsorships start at \$5,000.



WELCOME TO OUR
FIFTH SEASON OF
**MUSIC AT
EMANU EL**

We have arrived at the fifth season of **MUSIC AT EMANU EL**. I am deeply grateful for all we have shared over the past four years and delighted to share another season of extraordinary music with you. This season, we continue our collaborations with the Shepherd School of Music, the Phillip Hall Singers, and the Evelyn Rubinstein JCC, while beginning an exciting new partnership with the Rothko Chapel. We also look forward to bringing the Houston community together for a joyful a cappella Chanukah concert. As our nation celebrates its 250th anniversary, this season's performances reflect the many voices that have shaped our shared American story.

Please consider becoming a **FRIEND OF MUSIC AT EMANU EL** (see inside panel).

We hope you'll join us for this exciting season of music and connection!

Cantor Rollin Simms



Congregation Emanuel El

1500 SUNSET BLVD.
HOUSTON, TX 77005

**DON'T MISS A CAPPELLA,
BIG BAND, INTERFAITH
CONNECTIONS
AND MORE!**



FIFTH SEASON

2026 — 2027