#### **About the Chorus**

**Parker Elementary School's Advanced Chorus** is part of the 37 year old music magnet program at Parker Elementary School, a Houston Independent School District (HISD) Magnet School for Music. Its excellence has been recognized by the National GRAMMY® Foundation which named it a Signature Elementary School of the Year in 2002.

Over 270 students participate in the choral program at Parker Elementary School. The Parker Advanced Chorus is comprised of seventy five fourth and fifth grade students. The Chorus' high level of performance has been recognized in the state of Texas and in our Nation. Under the direction of Marianna Parnas-Simpson, Parker's Chorus was selected to perform at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention in San Antonio in 2003 and 2005. In March, 2007 Parker's Chorus was the only elementary school chorus invited to perform at the National Convention of the American Choral Director's Association (ACDA) in Miami, where Parker's Chorus performance was considered to be the "highlight of the entire Convention".

In March, 2010 Parker's Advanced Chorus was selected to perform at the National Conference of the Kodaly Educators in Dallas, TX.

The Parker Advanced Chorus performs extensively for community events in the city of Houston and throughout the state of Texas.



## Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus

Marianna Parnas-Simpson, Director Kay Wasden, Accompanist

FEBRUARY 8-11, 2012 HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS



## **Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus**

Allison Abrams Kiana Ardoin Cristian Astorga Karina Benson Alyssa Blankenship Christine Bowyer Jordan Brooks Asia Cabigon-Kegler Giani Cavitt Amanda Cedillo Leah Clemons Ashley Coleman Mary Currie Branch Jada Dean Maxx Denning Alphonso Drummond Reagan Duffey Anaya Duncan Leah Ellis Mary Ellis Emma Endlich Jalene Evans Samantha Fernandez Cyrus Fontenot Amayah Gabriel

Craig Gilmore Thomas Girardet Matthieu Giradet Kaitlyn Green Marin Hart Nate Hart Ambrose Haskin Amber Hatfield Chase Haves Laura Hernandez Alexander Huff Helen Huneycutt Aletta Husmann Isabella Ibarra Aliya Jackson Jaycee Jamison David Johnson Jonathan Jones Makaiya Jones **Taylor Jones** Emma Klingensmith Kirsten Koe Nicole Lomelo Jesus Martinez Alexandra Maynard

Myah McNair Dwayne Menefee McKenna Miller **Emily Pascual** Maya Perez Mary Phillips **Kyndel Phipps** Michael Prince Alexander Puente Julissa Ramirez A'viyon Robinson **Darcy Segura** Eleena Sherman Morgan Simpson Robel Tadesse Parker Tagtmeier Leticia Tucker Annalise Vanderwater Dallis Williams

Instrumentalists Christopher Houston Ethan Tolibas

#### **About the Director**

Marianna Parnas-Simpson graduated with a Masters degree in Choral Conducting from the St. Petersburg Conservatory, Russia. She founded the award winning St. Petersburg Girls Choir, KAMERTON, which she directed for ten years before coming to the United States. Since 1999, she has taught at Parker Elementary School, a Houston ISD Elementary Magnet school for Music. Under the direction of Mrs. Simpson, the choral program grew from 30 to 270 students and won the National Grammy Award in 2002. The Parker Advanced Chorus was selected to perform for the Texas Music Educators Association Convention in 2003, 2005 & 2012; for the National American Choral Directors Association Convention in Miami in 2007 and for the National Conference of Kodaly Educators in Dallas, TX in 2010. From 2008-2010 Marianna served as an Artistic Director of the summer program for the American Boy Choir in Princeton, New Jersey.

Marianna P. Simpson was named Parker Elementary School Teacher of the Year in 2005 by her colleagues. She is in high demand as a conductor, clinician and adjudicator in the USA. In 2006 Ms. Simpson founded the Treble Choir of Houston at Christ Church Cathedral. She is a founding member of the Houston Chamber Choir and serves as an Artistic Director of Elementary Honor Choir of the Houston Independent School District.

#### **About the Accompanist**

**Kay Wasden** studied piano at Valparaiso University and the University of Illinois. She holds master's degrees in both piano performance and vocal accompanying and coaching. She has taught at Henderson State University in Arkansas, the St. Louis Conservatory and Schools for the Arts, and at Rice University. She has worked with Houston Grand Opera and other opera companies around the United States, and has worked with many singers including Susan Dunn, Eric Halfvarson, Denyce Graves, Nathan Gunn, and Cecilia Bartoli. Ms. Wasden lives in Houston, Texas with her husband and two children, and works there as an accompanist.

#### **TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION** 2012 CLINIC/CONVENTION



2012 TMEA • Parker Elementary School Advanced

#### **Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus**

Marianna Parnas-Simpson, Director Kay Wasden, Accompanist

1. Wir Eilen Mit Schwachen from Cantata #78 Galaxy Music J. S. Bach	1:52
2. Adagio from Clarinet Concerto in A Major Santa Barbara	3:07
3. Kayama from Songs of Sanctuary Boosey & Hawkes	4:51
4. Bashana Haba-A Boosey & Hawkes	3:17
5. In The Meadow (Vo Luzyah) Musica Russica Russian Folk Song/arr. Anatoly Lyadov	1:11
6. Song For The Mira Cabot Trail Music Allister MacGillivray/arr. Stuart Calvert Thomas Girardet, Matthieu Girardet, Amayah Gabriel, & Craig Gilmore, soloists	4:33
7. It Don't Mean A Thing Miller Music Duke Ellington/arr. Mac Huff	2:25





#### **TEXAS MUSIC**

EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION 2012 CLINIC/CONVENTION

- 1. Wir Eilen Mit Schwachen from Cantata #78
- 2. Adagio from *Clarinet Concerto in A Major*
- 3. Kayama from Songs of Sanctuary

- 4. Bashana Haba-A
  - 5. In The Meadow (Vo Luzyah)
    - 6. Song For The Mira
    - 7. It Don't Mean A Thing

### Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus

Marianna Parnas-Simpson, Director Kay Wasden, Accompanist



#### **Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus**

Marianna Parnas-Simpson, Director Kay Wasden, Accompanist

1. Wir Eilen Mit Schwachen from Cantata #78	Galaxy Music J. S. Bach
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- 2. Adagio from Clarinet Concerto in A Major Santa Barbara ........... W. A. Mozart
- 3. Kayama from Songs of Sanctuary Boosey & Hawkes . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Karl Jenkins Christopher Houston and Alyssa Blankenship, percussion & Ethan Tolibas, flute
- 5. In The Meadow (Vo Luzyah) Musica Russica ... Russian Folk Song/arr. Anatoly Lyadov
- 6. Song For The Mira Cabot Trail Music . . . . . Allister MacGillivray/arr. Stuart Calvert Thomas Girardet, Matthieu Girardet, Amayah Gabriel, & Craig Gilmore, soloists
- 7. It Don't Mean A Thing Miller Music ....................... Duke Ellington/arr. Mac Huff Maya Perez, trumpet, & Marvin Sparks, percussion

#### **Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus**

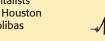
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# Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus

Marianna Parnas-Simpson, Director Kay Wasden, Accompanist

FEBRUARY 8-11, 2012 HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Alexandra Maynard

**School Advanced** 

Chorus

#### TEXAS MUSIC

EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION 2012 CLINIC/CONVENTION

- 1. Wir Eilen Mit Schwachen from *Cantata #78*
- 2. Adagio from *Clarinet Concerto in A Major*
- 3. Kayama from Songs of Sanctuary

- 4. Bashana Haba-A
  - 5. In The Meadow (Vo Luzyah)
    - 6. Song For The Mira
    - 7. It Don't Mean A Thing

### Parker Elementary School Advanced Chorus

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