

A benefit for Working In Concert
in memory of our friend, entertainer and gardener Andy Bossov

You've Got a Friend

Sunday, August 3, 2025 at 4 PM

Music Director Howard Pfeifer and Coordinator Claudia Hommel

Beth Halevy	<i>You've Got a Friend</i> Carole King
Rae-Myra Hilliard	<i>Not While I'm Around</i> Stephen Sondheim
Valerie Chestnut	<i>Wind Beneath My Wings</i> Jeff Silbar & Larry Henley
Christian Halvorsen	<i>Old Friend</i> Gretchen Cryer & Nancy Ford
Michele Williams	<i>God Only Knows</i> Brian Wilson
Carla Gordon	<i>You'll Always Be Beside when I Sing</i> Carla Gordon
Sheri Flanders	<i>Home</i> Charlie Smalls
Partrick Davis	<i>Lean on Me</i> Bill Withers
Lauren Lassen	<i>My Buddy</i> Gus Kahn & Walter Donaldson
Barb Smith	<i>Come in from the Rain</i> Melissa Manchester & Carole Bayer Sager
Ruth Fuerst	<i>What Did You Do?</i> Susan Werner
Deborah Good	<i>True Colors</i> Billy Steinberg & Tom Kelly
Claudia Hommel	<i>I Like You, You're Nice</i> Blossom Dearie & Linda Albert
Patricia Mosley	<i>Thank You for Being a Friend</i> Andrew Gold

INTERMISSION

Barb Smith & Carolyn Broquet	<i>Friendship</i> Cole Porter
Valerie Chestnut	<i>That's What Friends Are For</i> Burt Bacharach & Carole Bayer Sager.
Michele Williams	<i>Make Someone Happy</i> Jule Styne, Adolph Green & Betty Comden
Christian Halvorsen	<i>Old Friends</i> Stephen Sondheim
Carolyn Broquet	<i>I Won't Last a Day without You</i> Roger Nichols & Paul Williams
Sheri Flanders	<i>Just Friends</i> Cole Porter
Vicki Graff	<i>Just Another Lover</i> Vicki LW Graff (with Pat Spaeth)
Carrie Hedges	<i>I Got Rhythm</i> George & Ira Gershwin
Patrick Davis	<i>Drift Away</i> Dobie Gray
Sue Susman	<i>Lullabye</i> Billy Joel
Patricia Mosley	<i>To Sir with Love</i> Don Black & Mark London
Barb Smith	<i>You've Got to Have Friends</i> Barry Manilow
Ruth Fuerst	<i>Wonderful Friends</i> Pete Seeger & Lorre Wyatt

*When I think of the ways that I've grown, I know I couldn't of made it alone
I owe a lot to the sharing, caring, daring wonderful friends that I've known.*

OUR PERFORMERS

Carolyn Broquet studied Doo Wop at Old Town School and has harmonized her way with The Mamas and Papas Ensemble, Higher Choir, and now the Swingin' Sisters.

Valerie Chestnut is graphic designer and soloist for Chicago Cultural Center's Renaissance Chorus, CPS muralist/art teacher, and popular wedding singer.

Patrick Davis loves to croon and belt, from church choir to jazz, cabaret, rock, pop or R&B. He is a founding member of the award-winning Black Voices in Cabaret.

Deborah Good A linguist and teacher by profession, Deborah often solos at the Bahá'í Temple in Wilmette and in other ensembles and the Cabaret Connexion.

Vicki Graff is a retired communications manager, writer, editor, creative director, photographer, former teacher, songwriter, and poet.

Beth Halevy performed in regional theatres in Alabama, Chicago, and New York, including leading roles in *The Boyfriend*, *Company*, *Oklahoma*, *Once upon a Mattress*, and *There's a Girl in My Soup*, before pursuing a career in law. She's back!

Christian Halvorsen. Having sung in Staten Island's Children's Choir at Our Lady Help of Christians, he found his voice while managing the Gentry of Chicago. He favors obscure Broadway tunes because it's not a solo if everybody is singing with you.

Carrie Hedges joined SongShop upon her retirement as Staff Attorney for the US District Court. Past president of the International Wizard of Oz Club, she offers solo shows inspired by the books of Wizard of Oz, songwriters Arlen & Harburg, Rodgers & Hart.

Rae-Myra Hilliard regularly programs works featuring Black-American composers and lyricists or written for a classical singer of color. She teaches at the Theatre Conservatory of the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University.

Claudia Hommel, singer-actor, is co-founder of Chicago Cabaret Professionals, the Chicago Paris Cabaret Connexion, and the performing arts Working In Concert. She has led SongShop since 2003.

Sheri Flanders, actor, comedian, vocalist, is a member of the Playground Chicago Theater Company. Her film and theater criticism appears in *Chicago Sun-Times* and the *Chicago Reader*, and featured on WTTW Chicago Tonight and WGN Radio.

Ruth Fuerst Psychotherapist by day, Ruth dispenses wisdom as a cabaret singer by night. She has created several group and solo shows; with *Quirky*, her newest premiering November 9 at the Fulton Street Collective.

Lauren Lassen grew up performing and producing musicals at home with her older brother and singing in choir. She moved to Chicago to pursue a future on stage.

Patricia Mosley, from church choir, a cappella Choral Thunder and the Lakeside Singers to solo jazz singer. Pat toured with Bradley Williams's 21st Century Review Orchestra to Jerusalem Jazz Festival and India and soloed in Dubai.

Howard Pfeifer has worked in Chicago and LA as pianist, composer, arranger, and musical director with an extensive roster from Patti LaBelle to *Hamilton*.

Sue Susman, a published poet, has studied voice with David Edelfelt and Jackie Allen and is a longtime participant in SongShop Live.

Barbara Smith, From folk singer to winner of Skokie Idol 2018, VP of Working In Concert, 1/3 of the Swingin' Sisters. Stay tuned for Barb & Friends, Sept. 28!

Michele Williams curates Ladies Nite Production quarterly shows with Sami Scott, to feature women exploring a theme thru storytelling, poetry and song.
renaissancewomanmichele.com.