



CON BRIO AT CHRIST THE KING CHURCH



**Music Director**  
Dr. Stephen Bruce

**Associate Music Director**  
Sue Saltus

**Officers**

President: Peter Amos  
Vice-President: Barbara Quinn  
Treasurer: Tom Meisenzahl  
Secretary: Suzanne Kitchings

# The Story of Con Brio

## Membership & Audience

Formed in 1997, Con Brio is the realization of a vision of eight experienced choristers with a goal of achieving uncompromising musical excellence in an auditioned, amateur chamber choir. Today with more than 70 dedicated choristers, the group has created its own "Con Brio style" with varied, exciting and challenging programming – from Bach, Beethoven, Handel, Haydn and Mozart to twentieth century composers such as Britten, Vaugh Williams, Kodaly, Rutter and Bernstein, in addition to American spirituals, Christmas carols and works by modern American Composers – but always in genres that its growing loyal audience loves. Con Brio rehearses weekly at St. Paul Episcopal Church (Old Saybrook) and performs three concerts annually at Christ The King Church (Old Lyme) with a professional orchestra and soloists to an enthusiastic audience of more than 1,200 people, primarily mature active shoreline and Connecticut River Valley residents with interests in the arts, culture and quality performances.

Con Brio's motivated singers from Branford to Glastonbury to Groton and beyond are both professional musicians and enthusiastic amateurs alike. Many of Con Brio's members sing or have sung with other choruses including Concora, Hartford Chorale, The New Haven Chorale, Pro Arte Festival Chorus, the Oratorio Society of New York, the Royal Choral Society, the London Philharmonic Choir, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Connecticut, Mystic River Chorale, Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Cappella Cantorum.

## Awards & Grants

Con Brio has been awarded support from the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of the Arts and Choral Arts of New England, and is a proud member of Chorus America, Association of CT Choruses, American Choral Directors Association and the Shoreline Arts Alliance.



Con Brio prepares for its concert with orchestra.

## Dr. Stephen Bruce Music Director

Dr. Bruce is the founding Music Director and Conductor of Con Brio. His conducting experience includes a wide variety of choirs and ensembles. At the college level, he has directed concert choirs, vocal jazz groups, and madrigal ensembles at Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio, the University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon, and Hartt College in West Hartford, Connecticut. He has directed church choirs in Mooresville, North Carolina, Torrington, and Old Greenwich, Connecticut, Eugene, Oregon, and Wapakoneta, Ohio.



# Con Brio European Tours

Con Brio has enjoyed six European Concert Tours and invites singers and non-singers to join these memorable trips. Con Brio trips are fully paid for by the touring members themselves, and are not supported in any way through the general budget. Con Brio has made the following concert tours:

- 2005: Northern Italy
- 2008: Germany, Czech Republic
- 2010: Southern Italy and Sicily
- 2012: Southern Spain
- 2014: Catalonia and France
- 2016: Portugal and Western Spain

Each of these tours has had very special moments and memories for Con Brio.



*Santa Maria Church  
Lake Bled, Slovenia*

***Con Brio's seventh European Concert Tour, visiting Croatia and Slovenia, takes place from May 23 to June 6, 2018.***

## Finances & Giving Opportunities

### PROGRAM ADVERTISING RATES

All advertisements are offered in color and will appear in all three concert programs.

QUARTER PAGE	\$100
HALF PAGE	\$175
FULL PAGE	\$350
INSIDE BACK COVER	\$400
INSIDE FRONT COVER	\$500
OUTSIDE BACK COVER	\$600
CONCERT UNDERWRITER	\$1,200

Con Brio, initially privately funded by its Founding Members, has been additionally supported by member dues, ticket sales and program advertising. Further revenue has come from Corporate Grants, performance fees and contributions from members and friends, but our ambitious program needs additional income to support the high cost of staging concerts.

Ticket sales, plus our member's dues and donations, cover a full 2/3 of our annual budget! This very high percentage demonstrates the health and vibrancy of Con Brio, in the community and among our own members.

We are therefore fully confident in asking you to join with us by purchasing advertising space in our programs or making a direct tax-deductible contribution to Con Brio, a not for profit 501(c)3 organization registered in the State of Connecticut.

Con Brio also offers donors the options of making matching gifts, restricted endowment gifts, as well as planned legacy giving. Your support will help Con Brio continue to offer splendid, exciting choral music, performed locally, by your friends and neighbors, for our friends and neighbors..



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[www.conbrio.org](http://www.conbrio.org)