

As we approach the end of 2019, I want to thank you all for your support and encourage you to join us for our two remaining concerts in February and April.

The February concert – performances of the 1723 Leipzig audition cantatas of J. S Bach and Christoph Graupner – will feature an augmented vocal ensemble, with a total of eight singers, just as sang the first performances of these pieces. I am excited about this music and the wonderful and talented group of musicians that I have been able to gather for the concert. With an ensemble that includes trumpets, timpani, oboes and bassoon, in addition to the usual strings, this is one of largest endeavors. We will be presenting this program in a new venue for us, Holy Cross Lutheran Church in south city, a church dating back over a century and a community working to support the arts in St. Louis. Please join us.

Then, in April, we will be focusing on the vocal chamber music of the Bononcini family: father Giovanni Maria, and his two sons, Giovanni Battista and Antonio. This concert will bring to St. Louis music that has not been performed here before. We will be at Third Baptist Church, another new venue for us.

I have been so encouraged and grateful for the number of donations we received as part of our Fall fund drive this year. With the loss of our major grant, we had to really hope and believe our supporters would step up because they realize what the Collegium Vocale brings to the community. And you did, with many increasing the size of their donations. We are still short of our goal, though, and there is the opportunity to include us in your end of year giving, if possible.

Again, thank you for your support and belief in what CVSL does. Happy Holidays and I hope to see you in the new year at our concerts.