



Chara

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE SM



PRESS KIT



About Chara Percussion

(χαρά, Greek for "Finding Joy despite circumstance")

Chara Percussion Ensemble from Orleans, Massachusetts, seeks to bring hope and inspire joy in audiences young and old through the vehicle of percussion ensemble. Chara offers a fresh voice to classical music ranging from early polyphony to classical, impressionist, and contemporary works, as well as performing pieces written for percussion ensemble. Repertoire includes works by J. S. Bach, Bartok, Burritt, Bruckner, Byrd, Deane, Debussy, Dvořák, Eben, Gjelo, Hale, Handel, Keck, Krasa, Leontovych, Merulo, Mozart, Pergolesi, Piazzolla, Rachmaninov, Reich, Shostakovich, Trevino, Vivaldi, and Westlake.

Members of Chara hold over 100 years of combined percussion ensemble experience, and are all alumni members or associated with Spirit Winter Percussion, the world-renowned competitive indoor percussion ensemble recognized for bringing subtlety and complexity to the art of keyboard percussion. Members have performed in countries including Australia, Canada, Italy, S. Korea, S. Africa, and across the United States, at venues including opera houses, stadiums, cathedrals, and school auditoriums. Performance venue highlights include Seoul Opera House (South Korea); Johannesburg Opera House (South Africa); Siena and Pisa Cathedrals (Italy); Church of the Transfiguration (Orleans, MA); University of Dayton Arena (Dayton, OH); Stadiums including Gillette, AT&T and Lucas Oil. Members of Chara performed John Luther Adam's *Inuksuit* with over ninety other percussionists at The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University in 2018. They have taught percussion to middle, high school, and college-age students, as well as independent percussion ensembles, marching bands, and drum corps in the United States and Canada, as well as workshops in South Africa.

Chara Percussion Ensemble is a premiere performing ensemble of **Arts Empowering Life**.

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CHARAPERCUSSION.ORG



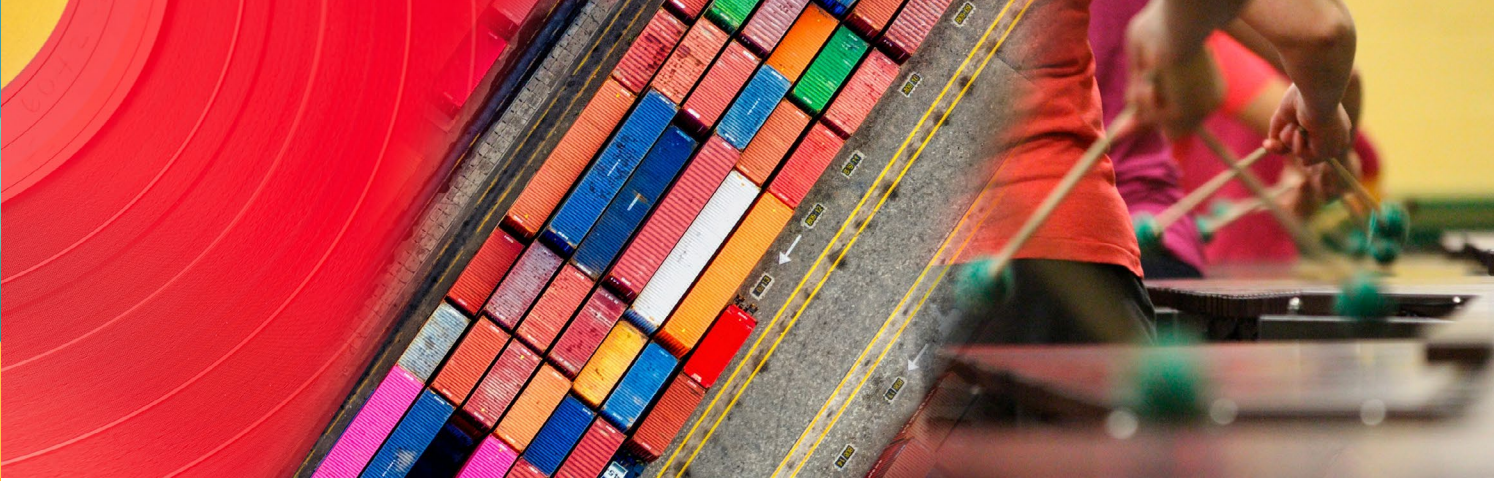
ARTSEMPOWERINGLIFE

The Human Spirit Emboldened for Change

About Arts Empowering Life

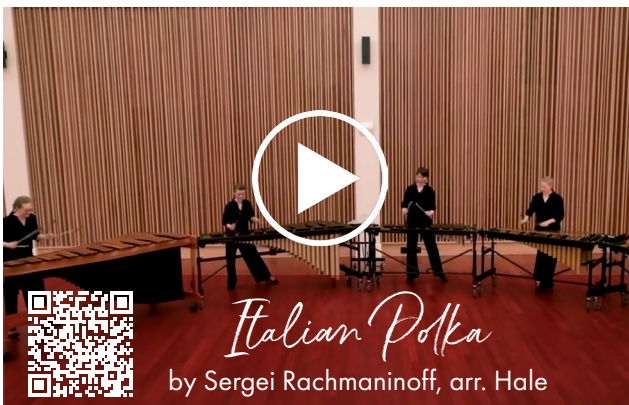
Arts Empowering Life (AEL) is a non-profit Arts foundation based on Cape Cod, MA, dedicated to the pursuit of beauty, truth, and faith in the Arts, sharing inspiration and education with people across many nationalities, cultures, and traditions. AEL incorporates both performing ensembles and visual artists who have toured in twenty-six countries and throughout the United States, performing at the highest levels, leading workshops, and fostering cultural exchanges. They have performed in venues ranging from regional high school football fields in downtown Chicago, to cultural exchanges at Inkamana Abbey in South Africa, to performing at Rockefeller Center in New York City, the Parliament House in Sydney, Australia, Siena Cathedral and San Marco in Italy, and the Hall of Columns in Moscow. AEL has a rich history of reaching out to America's youth through the arts in the form of workshops, camps, and the Youth Performers Outreach Program, which offers free tickets to all events for children and students. Performing ensembles include Gloriæ Dei Cantores, the founding ensemble of Arts Empowering Life; Elements Theatre Company; Organists of the St. Cecilia Organ at the Church of the Transfiguration; Gabriel V Brass Ensemble; the Wind Ensemble; Gaudete Baroque Ensemble; and Chara Percussion Ensemble. artsempoweringlife.org

After thirty years of sustained artistic growth, Arts Empowering Life has put its roots down with a new, innovative, multi-purpose Performing Arts Center in Brewster, MA. This center provides a creative space for education, rehearsal, and inspirational work for the greater community. It surrounds both the young and the established artist with beauty and design, inspiring all who walk through its doors to create with a greater purpose. This new center is a bricks and mortar commitment to the importance and integrity of the Arts. Current society is facing challenges of isolation and divisiveness. We seek to uphold the Arts in a mission of healing, restoration, and wholeness, both now and for future generations. To learn more about the building, visit performingartscentercapecod.org.



Media

See Chara's music videos and concert clips on their website:
charapercussion.org/media



 *Italian Polka*
by Sergei Rachmaninoff, arr. Hale



 *Bach Partita*
Cape Cod, MA



 *Slavonic Dances*
By Antonín Dvořák, arr. Hale



 *See all Chara videos*



Photos

