

CHAPLAINCY MUSIC

newsletter

During periods of uncertainty, there is one truth to which I hold fast: music unites and sustains us through the most challenging times of our lives.

While this past year was unlike any other in numerous ways, we still had a late night virtual Halloween concert, a recorded musical reflection for the winter holidays, and a student string quartet for our prerecorded Baccalaureate Ceremony. We also incorporated live music into virtual Protestant Evening Worship every week. Naturally, it was different doing all of this remotely, but we were still present, and uplifted by the ways we could be together.

Whether you are new to Tufts or if you have been active in our community for years, know that the gifts of the Music Program are here for you. This coming year we are excited to premiere a new multifaith and multicultural winter celebration called Pax et Lux. We welcome your musical and creative involvement! Please don't hesitate to reach out if you are interested in singing or performing with us, or would like to learn more about the Music Program within the University Chaplaincy. We would be so glad to get to know you.

Thomas B. Dawkins

University Chaplaincy Music Director



**Music Director and Organist,
Thomas B. Dawkins**

"My time at Tufts has been marked by music that brings me back to Protestant Evening Worship each Sunday night."

– Dash Wedergren, A22

Halloween Concert

In Fall 2020, we hosted a virtual Halloween concert, programmed and performed by the Music Director from his own home, which premiered live on YouTube on Halloween weekend. We were able to provide the traditional cider donuts at the campus through a grab-and-go pick up earlier the same day (pictured right).

While we missed the atmosphere and decoration of Goddard Chapel, it was still exciting to feel a sense of

togetherness and levity, and continue this tradition in a safe way. This year's program included Bach's *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor*, Grieg's *In the Hall of the Mountain King*, Sibelius' *Valse Triste* with special video effects by our invaluable Tufts audio visual staff, and Vic Mizzy's theme to *The Addams Family* played on double reed instruments by the Music Director. You can still find the video on our YouTube channel if you are interested.

Curry Brinson, A22, and Connor Elliot, A22, hand out cider donuts for the Halloween Concert



Protestant Evening Worship (PEW)

Each Sunday night, the Protestant Chaplaincy hosts an evening worship service, held virtually this past year. While the community was not able to sing together, each week the Music Director sang specially-selected hymns for the liturgical season, and ensured lovely musical accompaniment for the service. We were able to feel the encompassing presence of God even through screens.

Top: A virtual worship service with guest preacher Reverend Vicki Flippin. Bottom: Iverson Eliopoulos, A21, cello, and Julia Moss, A21, viola, play as part of the 2021 ceremony.



Baccalaureate

The 2021 Baccalaureate Ceremony was a beautiful, pre-recorded offering to the graduating class. This year, the ceremony included many of the traditional components, and musical interludes recorded by Music Director Thomas B. Dawkins. To incorporate music further into the ceremony, a student string quartet, including two senior musicians, played *Deep River*, a spiritual made popular in a version by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and arranged by Iverson Eliopoulos, A21. You can find the Baccalaureate Ceremony on our YouTube channel, including the musical performances.



“Music has always been an important part of worship for me, so the last school year was difficult for me because we couldn’t sing on campus. I am so grateful that we were blessed by Tom’s presence at service each week. He would play and sing the hymns for us, and even if we couldn’t participate, it was a much-needed bit of normalcy.”

- Alice Dempsey, A21

Support the University Chaplaincy Music Program

Goddard Chapel is home to several beautiful and historic instruments: the carillon bells, some of which date back to 1908, the original chapel organ by Hook & Hastings from 1883 with nearly a thousand pipes, and a Steinway piano. Donations to the Music Program at the University Chaplaincy help us to be good stewards of these instruments, use them to their fullest potential, and preserve them for generations to come.

\$25

Contributes to our guest musician fund

\$75

Funds new resources in our Interfaith Library about musical traditions in world religions

\$150

Tunes the piano for use in concerts and worship

To discuss a major gift, endowment, or bequest to the Music Program, please contact our Advancement liaison Lorraine Sparrow: (617) 627-2052 | Lorraine.Sparrow@tufts.edu

Thank you for your generosity and support.