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**Notes from editor (not for publication):**



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Spring concert honors 30 years of music and Becky  
2 Graber's farewell Brattleboro Harmonia performance

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 Brattleboro Harmonia (formerly the Brattleboro Women's  
6 Chorus) will present its 30th anniversary spring concert, "The  
7 Sound Shelter of a Thousand Songs," on Mother's Day, May 10, at  
8 4 p.m. at the Latchis Theatre.

9 This afternoon of music will mark a milestone: the  
10 conclusion of Becky Graber's 30-year tenure as the director of the  
11 choral group she founded in 1996.

12 In a symbolic passing of the pitch pipe, Graber will co-  
13 direct this final performance alongside the chorus' future director,  
14 Anna Patton, joined by nearly 100 singers and a distinguished  
15 instrumental ensemble featuring Stefan Amidon on percussion,  
16 Cathy Martin on piano, and Lisa McCormick on guitar.

17 The performance serves as both a retrospective and a  
18 debut, weaving together the chorus' three-decade history with  
19 new creative horizons. The singers will reprise "Adiemus," a  
20 movement from a major work the chorus first performed in 2002,  
21 and share contemporary favorites, like MaMuse's "Home in the  
22 Holy," Coco Love Alcorn's "The River," and "The Baton" by Katie  
23 Gavin.

24 Highlighting the event are two world premieres: Graber's  
25 own 10-movement setting of Matty Weingast's translations of  
26 poems by early Buddhist Nuns, and a new composition by  
27 Patton, "Sound Shelter," written specifically to honor Graber's  
28 enduring legacy.

29 "The walls of the Latchis will reverberate with this  
30 celebration of multi-generational community music making,  
31 celebrating the chorus' history and launching Brattleboro  
32 Harmonia's next chapter," wrote organizers in a news release.

33 "It has been such a gift to work with and learn from  
34 Becky over the last two years, and I feel lucky as can be to be  
35 continuing her legacy by becoming the new director of  
36 Brattleboro Harmonia," said Patton in a news release. "I  
37 especially love the parting gift of her brand new songs in this  
38 program.

39 "For one thing, Becky's wonderful compositions and  
40 arrangements have been so central to the chorus' sound. Also, it's  
41 a great inspiration to me to see her, on the cusp of retirement  
42 after 30 years, not just reflecting on the past but brimming with  
43 new ideas. That is something to aspire to!"

44 Tickets are available online at [BrattleboroHarmonia.org](http://BrattleboroHarmonia.org)  
45 on a sliding scale of \$15-\$40.

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