

Final Songs:

Where Would I be by Smokie Norful

Soloists: Aunrika Tucker-Shabazz, Marcela Osorio, Naomi Francois
Doris Mbabu, Jasmyne Grismore, Jasmine Thomasian, Ana Solares
Kim Kiplagat, Sharldine Desire, Felicia-Wrae Morgan

Ride on-Traditional

Choir Members

Sopranos

Mei Mei Chan '17
Sharldine Desire '16
Naomi Francois '17
Ana Solares '17

Altos

Jasmyne Grismore '15
Kimberly Kiplagat '16
Schuyler Melore '17
Doris Mbabu '15
Marcela Osorio '15

Tenors

Stanley Ewala '16
Felicia-Wrae Morgan '15
Jasmine Thomasian '15
Aunrika Tucker-Shabazz '17

Special thanks to:

Avery Sharpe, Jonathan Myers, and the Music Department.

And our Musicians:

Abe Sanchez, piano; Heshima Moja, bass
Eliezar Martinez, drums; Jack Schweighauser '15, guitar
Paul Heggeseeth, trumpet; Jordan LaMothe '17, tenor saxophone
Jeffrey Sload '17, trombone; Scott Daniel '17, violin
Kaleb 'Tseo 17, cello.

***The Williams Gospel Choir and
Department of Music present:***

**“Never Would Have Made It:
The Power of the Testimony”**

Written by Felicia-Wrae Morgan '15
and Sharldine Desire '16

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Saturday, November 22, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Chapin Hall

Williamstown, Massachusetts

Please turn off cell phones. No photography or recording is permitted.

When You Praise by Fred Hammond
Soloists: Stanley Ewala and Felicia-Wrae Morgan

In Pursuit Of Your Glory by Bishop Paul S. Morton
Soloists: Jasmine Thomasian and Marcela Osorio

Praise Is What I Do by Shekinah Glory Ministry
Soloist: Stanely Ewala

Every Praise by Hezekiah Walker

Oceans by Hillsong United
Poem Recited by Mei Mei Chan
Soloist: Naomi François

Thirsty by Marvin Sapp
Poem Recited by Schuyler Melore
Soloist: Aunrika Tucker-Shabazz

I Am What You see by Bishop Paul S. Morton
Poem Recited by Aunrika Tucker-Shabazz

Help by Trey McLaughlin and the SOZ
Poem Recited by Marcela Osorio
Soloist: Kimberly Kigplat

Yes by Shekinah Glory Ministry
Soloist: Jasmyne Grismore

Press in Your Presence by Shana Wilson
Soloist: Marcela Osorio

Never Would Have Made It by Marvin Sapp
Soloist: Aunrika Tucker-Shabazz

Revealed by James Fortune
Soloists: Sharldine Desire and Felicia-Wrae Morgan

Overflow by Kevin Vassar
Soloist: Marcela Osorio

This semester's concert combines gospel music, spoken word and theatre to present a narrative of survival in the midst of trials. For its members, Gospel Choir is a place of refuge, where the love of God and the support of choir mates allows them to navigate this campus. It is this testimony we wish to share with you tonight.

As college students, and humans as general, we have struggles. At the end of every Gospel Choir practice, we take the time to share our struggles and rejoice in each other's successes. Tonight we would like to share this experience with you, as a reminder that no one on this campus is alone; if you are struggling please reach out—we will listen to you, we will pray for you, we will love you, and will wait with you until the storm breaks.

Oceans— Williams hosts a large number of first generation student, about 16% of students here are the first in their family to attend college. Often being a first generation student comes with the baggage of family history and pressure to succeed. In the poem "*Inheritance*" (written by Sharldine Desire) our friend* shares that burden and explains that this burden was one given to them; there's nothing they could do to change their parents' history. Thus, inheritance.

Thirsty— At our school, the drinking culture is prominent. For fun on the weekends, it could be for a celebration, maybe a kickback. But sometimes the drinking isn't for fun. Many of us have addictions, the ones we go back to even when we know it hurts us. Something that was once an escape but it know an anchor that we can't move no matter how much we want to. In "*Thirst*" (written by Sharldine Desire and Felicia-Wrae Morgan) our friend shares this feeling.

I Am What You See— The media throws a lot of things at us. It promulgates one standard of beauty the stops us from appreciating the different types of beautiful all around us. It comes from all angles, the movies, the music videos, the sports industry, even the Axe body spray ads and Mac makeup catalogs. "*Beauty*" (written by Felicia-Wrae Morgan) tells the story of someone trying to see their own beauty.

Help—Like all of these issues, depression doesn't just have one face. It looks different on different people. It's a hard situation to identify, which is why it's important to share. In "*Hidden*" (written by Felicia-Wrae Morgan) our friend does exactly that.