



WESTMINSTER
CHOIR COLLEGE

An English Christmas

Westminster Concert Bell Choir

Kathleen Ebling Shaw, *conductor*



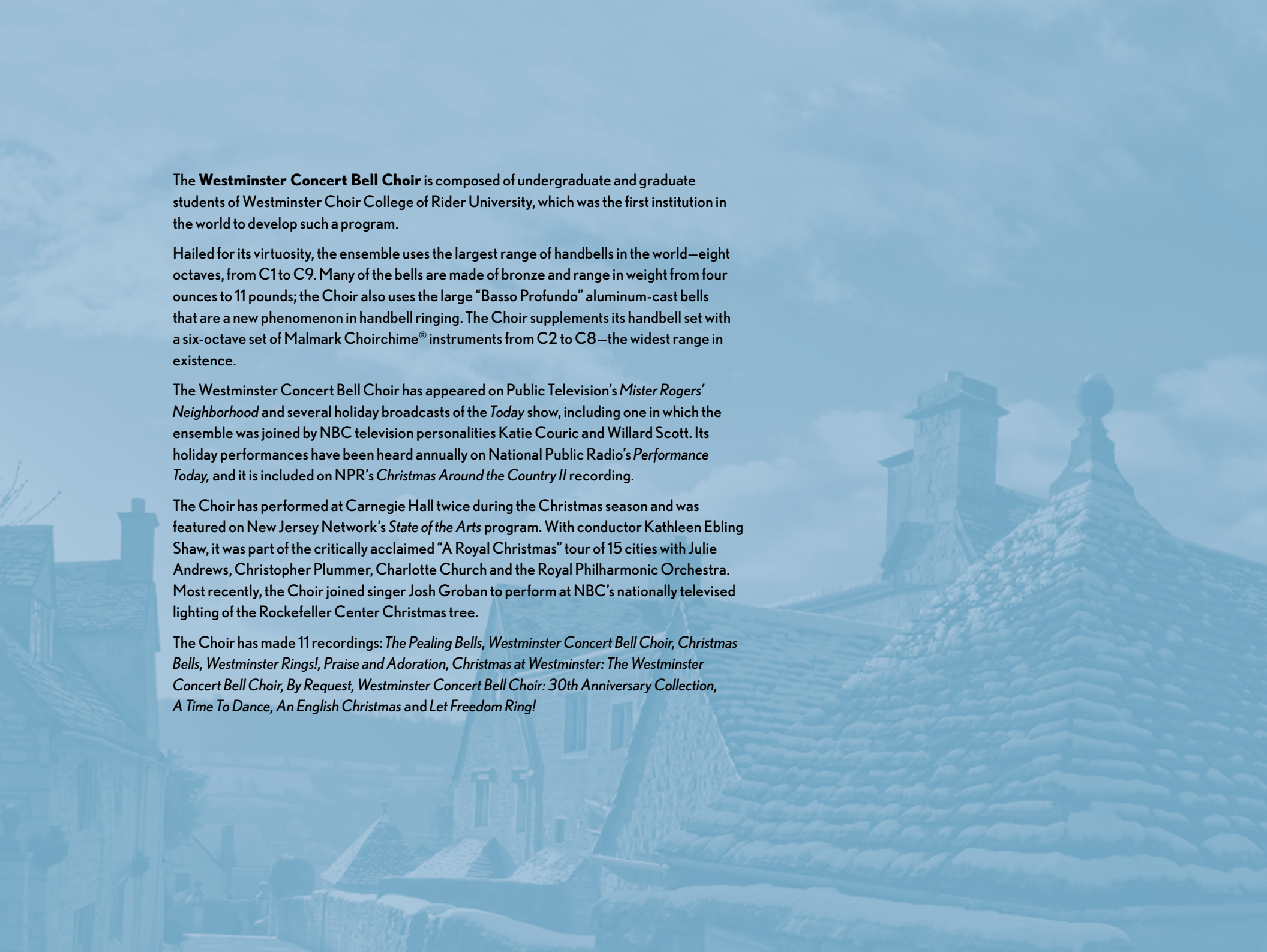
An English Christmas

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1. God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen • 18th-century carol, arr. Gregory M. Pysh	2:35
2. Greensleeves • 16th-century carol, arr. Cathy Mokebust	5:39
3. On This Day Earth Shall Ring (Personent Hodie) • 14th century, arr. Cathy Mokebust	2:40
4. Stille Nacht (Silent Night) • Franz Gruber, arr. James E. Weber, Jr.	4:09
5. Sussex Carol • 17th-century carol, arr. Philip M. Young	1:53
6. Coventry Carol • 16th-century carol, arr. Richard E. Frey	4:08
7. Wexford Carol • 12th-century Irish carol, arr. Hart Morris Emmanuel Acosta, tenor	3:30
8. An English Carol (Good King Wenceslas) • 16th-century carol, arr. Arnold B. Sherman	3:38
9. Slumber Song • Traditional Welsh Tune, arr. Margaret R. Tucker	3:35
10. Masters in This Hall • 18th-century carol, arr. Arnold B. Sherman	3:13
11. In the Bleak Midwinter • Gustav Holst, 20th-century carol, arr. Karen Lakey Buckwalter	4:13
12. Ding, Dong, Merrily On High • 16th-century carol, arr. Fred Gramann	2:13
13. Boar's Head Carol • 16th-century carol, arr. Kevin McChesney	3:01
14. I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day • J. Baptiste Calkin, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski	4:02
TOTAL PLAYING TIME:	48:29

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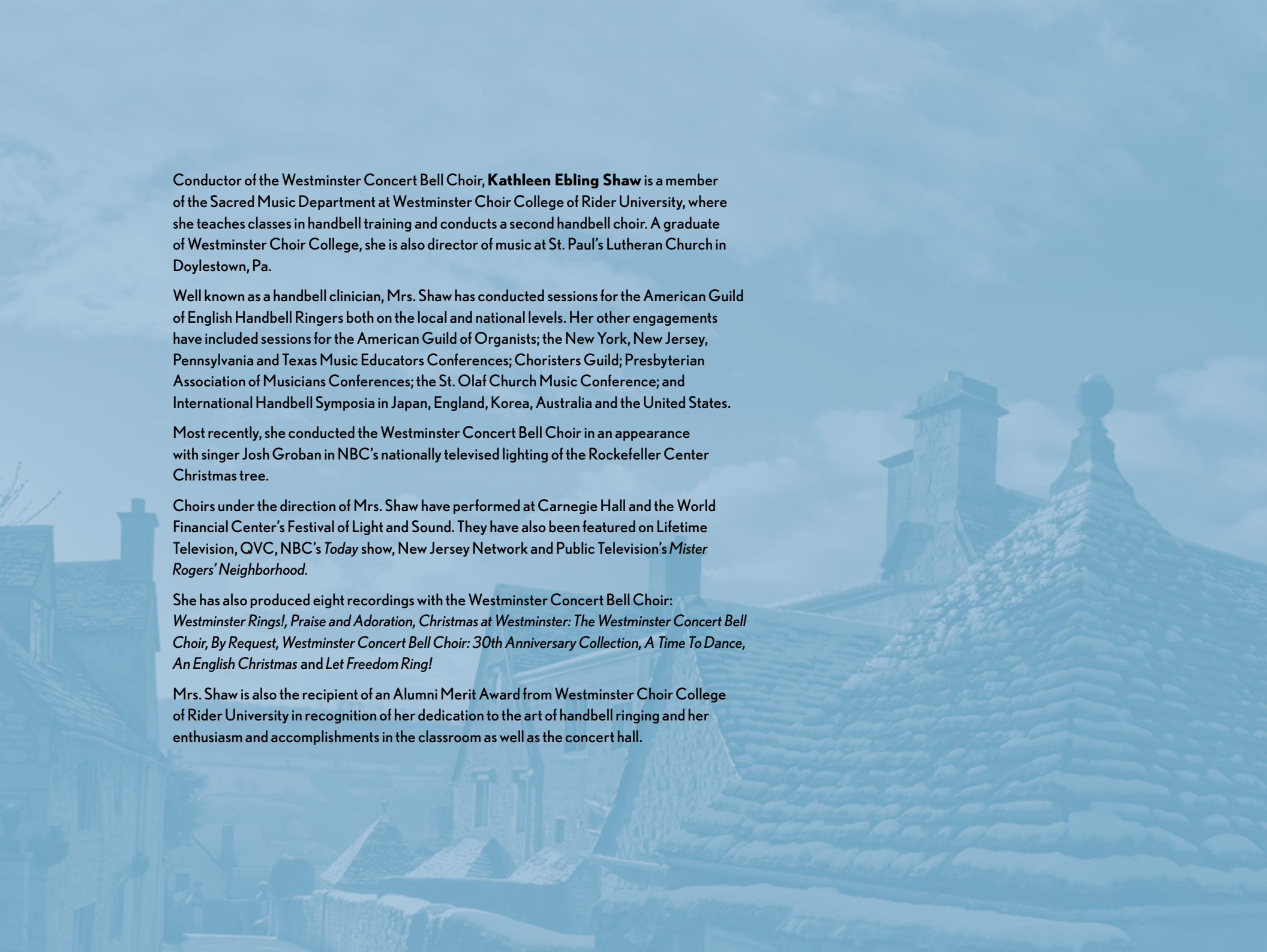
The **Westminster Concert Bell Choir** is composed of undergraduate and graduate students of Westminster Choir College of Rider University, which was the first institution in the world to develop such a program.

Hailed for its virtuosity, the ensemble uses the largest range of handbells in the world—eight octaves, from C1 to C9. Many of the bells are made of bronze and range in weight from four ounces to 11 pounds; the Choir also uses the large “Basso Profundo” aluminum-cast bells that are a new phenomenon in handbell ringing. The Choir supplements its handbell set with a six-octave set of Malmark Choirchime® instruments from C2 to C8—the widest range in existence.

The Westminster Concert Bell Choir has appeared on Public Television’s *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* and several holiday broadcasts of the *Today* show, including one in which the ensemble was joined by NBC television personalities Katie Couric and Willard Scott. Its holiday performances have been heard annually on National Public Radio’s *Performance Today*, and it is included on NPR’s *Christmas Around the Country II* recording.

The Choir has performed at Carnegie Hall twice during the Christmas season and was featured on New Jersey Network’s *State of the Arts* program. With conductor Kathleen Ebling Shaw, it was part of the critically acclaimed “A Royal Christmas” tour of 15 cities with Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Charlotte Church and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Most recently, the Choir joined singer Josh Groban to perform at NBC’s nationally televised lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree.

The Choir has made 11 recordings: *The Pealing Bells, Westminster Concert Bell Choir, Christmas Bells, Westminster Rings!, Praise and Adoration, Christmas at Westminster: The Westminster Concert Bell Choir, By Request, Westminster Concert Bell Choir: 30th Anniversary Collection, A Time To Dance, An English Christmas* and *Let Freedom Ring!*



Conductor of the Westminster Concert Bell Choir, **Kathleen Ebling Shaw** is a member of the Sacred Music Department at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where she teaches classes in handbell training and conducts a second handbell choir. A graduate of Westminster Choir College, she is also director of music at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Doylestown, Pa.

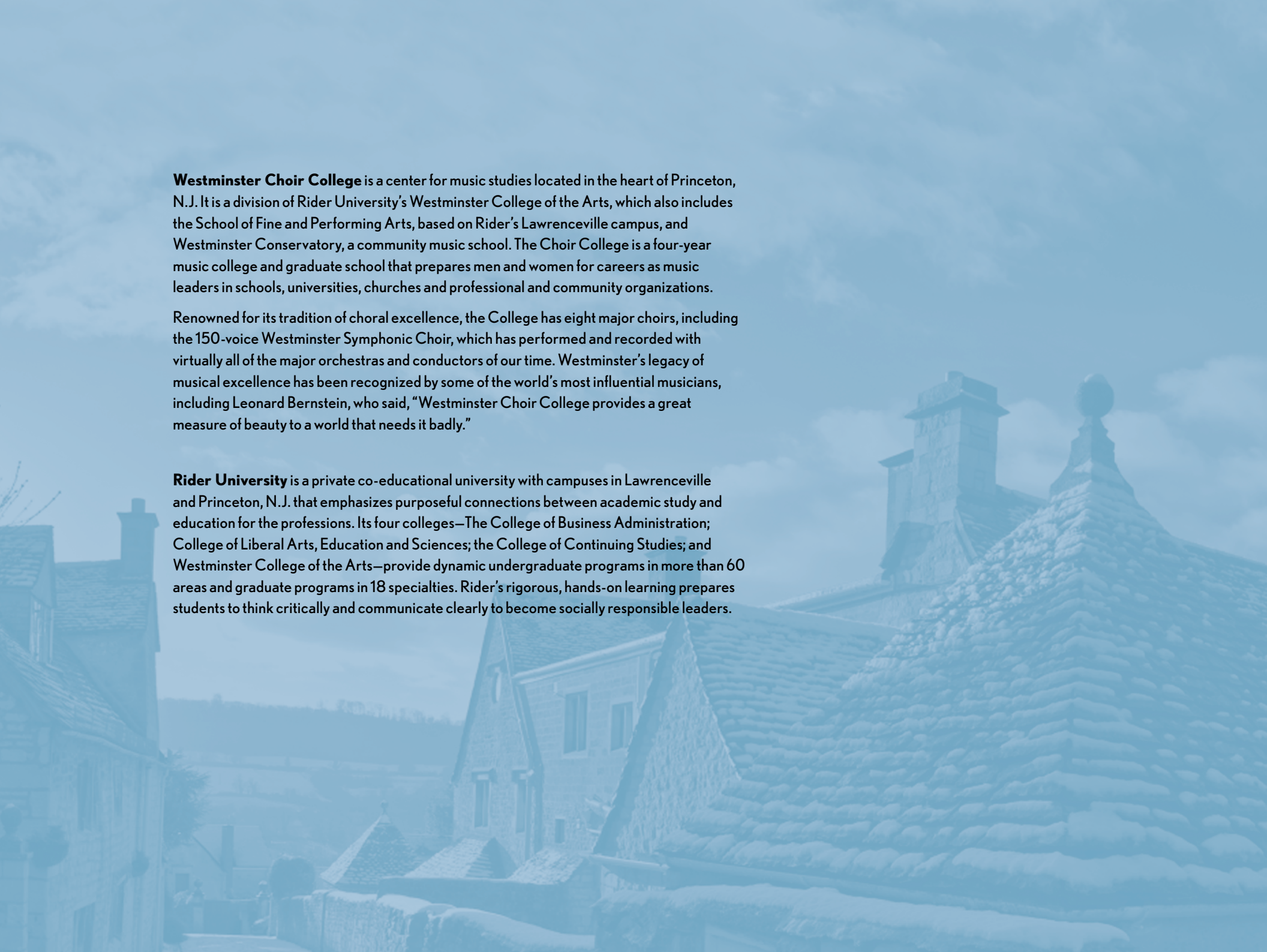
Well known as a handbell clinician, Mrs. Shaw has conducted sessions for the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers both on the local and national levels. Her other engagements have included sessions for the American Guild of Organists; the New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Texas Music Educators Conferences; Choristers Guild; Presbyterian Association of Musicians Conferences; the St. Olaf Church Music Conference; and International Handbell Symposia in Japan, England, Korea, Australia and the United States.

Most recently, she conducted the Westminster Concert Bell Choir in an appearance with singer Josh Groban in NBC's nationally televised lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree.

Choirs under the direction of Mrs. Shaw have performed at Carnegie Hall and the World Financial Center's Festival of Light and Sound. They have also been featured on Lifetime Television, QVC, NBC's *Today* show, New Jersey Network and Public Television's *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*.

She has also produced eight recordings with the Westminster Concert Bell Choir: *Westminster Rings!*, *Praise and Adoration*, *Christmas at Westminster: The Westminster Concert Bell Choir, By Request*, *Westminster Concert Bell Choir: 30th Anniversary Collection*, *A Time To Dance*, *An English Christmas* and *Let Freedom Ring!*

Mrs. Shaw is also the recipient of an Alumni Merit Award from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in recognition of her dedication to the art of handbell ringing and her enthusiasm and accomplishments in the classroom as well as the concert hall.



Westminster Choir College is a center for music studies located in the heart of Princeton, N.J. It is a division of Rider University's Westminster College of the Arts, which also includes the School of Fine and Performing Arts, based on Rider's Lawrenceville campus, and Westminster Conservatory, a community music school. The Choir College is a four-year music college and graduate school that prepares men and women for careers as music leaders in schools, universities, churches and professional and community organizations.

Renowned for its tradition of choral excellence, the College has eight major choirs, including the 150-voice Westminster Symphonic Choir, which has performed and recorded with virtually all of the major orchestras and conductors of our time. Westminster's legacy of musical excellence has been recognized by some of the world's most influential musicians, including Leonard Bernstein, who said, "Westminster Choir College provides a great measure of beauty to a world that needs it badly."

Rider University is a private co-educational university with campuses in Lawrenceville and Princeton, N.J. that emphasizes purposeful connections between academic study and education for the professions. Its four colleges—The College of Business Administration; College of Liberal Arts, Education and Sciences; the College of Continuing Studies; and Westminster College of the Arts—provide dynamic undergraduate programs in more than 60 areas and graduate programs in 18 specialties. Rider's rigorous, hands-on learning prepares students to think critically and communicate clearly to become socially responsible leaders.

Westminster Concert Bell Choir
Kathleen Ebling Shaw, *conductor*

Emmanuel Acosta	Kristian C. Kohler
Matthew Astone	Robert James Lamb
Matthew Barbosa	Erin MacKenzie
Julia Beckmann	Ryan McCann
Adam Bergstresser	Maria Gabriella Milazzo
Gillian Erlenborn	Karisa Millington
Karina Fengler	John Joseph Mitchell
John Franek	Bethan K. Neely
Patrick Freund	Elizabeth Nowik
Holly Gordon	Raymond Nugent
Layton S. Graves	Christina Marie Pacheco
Michelle Handy	Sarah Palermo
Shalanda Jackson	Willis Reifsnyder
Emily K. Johnston	Philip Rice
Laura Grace Kalis	

The Westminster Concert Bell Choir is grateful to have on loan the lower eighth and ninth octave bass handbells and the lower seventh octave Choirchime® Instruments from Malmark, Inc.–Bellcraftsmen, Plumsteadville, Pa.
www.malmark.com

Recorded in Bristol Chapel January 2012, 2015
Westminster Choir College of Rider University
Princeton, N.J.

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