



WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

We make it happen

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Guest Artist Karen Clark Sheard joins the Washington Performing Arts Gospel Choirs
at George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium June 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.***

Tickets from \$34

Washington, DC — Get ready for a night of powerful praise, unforgettable harmonies, and soul-stirring performances as **Men and Women of the Gospel Choir, Children of the Gospel Choir, and the Children of the Gospel Alumni Choir** take the stage **with Grammy Award-winning gospel legend Karen Clark Sheard, Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.** The performance takes place at **George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium**. Tickets range \$34-\$50 and are available exclusively through the Washington Performing Arts box office at (202) 785-9727 or WashingtonPerformingArts.org.

Join us as we celebrate this enduring legacy and experience the transformative power of gospel music. The dedicated vocalists of **Washington Performing Arts Gospel Music Programs** bring powerful messages of hope to the region's most prominent stages, continuing a tradition of vibrant musical excellence and spiritual inspiration that spans generations. **Clark Sheard**, known for her incredible vocal range and as a member of the iconic Clark Sisters, adds luster to this powerful intergenerational celebration of gospel music in our nation's capital.

The evening features musical direction by two of the city's most inspiring vocal conductors — Artistic Director of Men and Women of the Gospel Choir **Theodore Thorpe III** and Artistic Director of Children of the Gospel Choir **Michele Fowlin**.

"We are thrilled to unite all of our choirs and, for the first time in over a decade, collaborate with the iconic gospel legend Karen Clark-Sheard," said **Director of Gospel Programming David Powell**.

"Together, we'll deliver a powerful blend of our beloved musical selections, her signature songs, and soul-stirring new arrangements. With the energy of our dynamic 5-piece band, enhanced movement, vivid imagery, and a timely message of faith, we're bringing the music to life like never before. If you're looking to be inspired, uplifted, encouraged, and joyfully entertained, welcome to the Gospel Music Programs experience!"

For over three decades, the auditioned gospel choirs of Washington Performing Arts have served as a launching pad for passionate performers of all ages. Choir alumni consistently credit the program with developing their confidence, discipline, and creative expression. Many have gone on to pursue distinguished careers in the arts, while others carry the leadership skills and resilience they developed into diverse professional paths.

ABOUT KAREN CLARK SHEARD

Four-time GRAMMY® Award-winner and multiple Stellar and GMA Dove Award winner Karen Clark Sheard is a vocalist, songwriter, entrepreneur, wife and mother. She is also a gospel music legend and a part of a musical dynasty. Admired by a wide range of vocalists from various genres, Clark Sheard is renowned throughout the music industry for her signature, one-of-a-kind multi-octave vocal range and ability. Her musical style with the legendary Clark Sisters and as a solo artist has inspired a host of today's brightest pop divas including Beyoncé, Mariah Carey, Missy Elliott, and Faith Evans, among countless others. Clark Sheard also is a partner in ministry with her husband, Bishop J. Drew Sheard, Pastor of Greater Emmanuel Institutional Church of God and Christ in Detroit, MI, where she serves as first lady.

Clark Sheard's current Grammy nominated hit single, "Sunday AM" (pronounced as "Sunday Morning") is produced by multiple award-winning producer Donald Lawrence. The new album "Destined To Win" will be released 2015 through the label's partnership with Entertainment One Music (eOne Music). Clark Sheard is using her ministry to both feed the faithful and connect with new audiences outside of the gospel music and church community. She travels the country as both a singer and an evangelist, and she plans and leads both church-based and national women's conferences. By adding her new TV series and international KCS Ladies Empowerment Summit to the mix, Karen Clark Sheard is doing her part to extend the reach of the family's work and uphold her family's legendary musical legacy.

Artists:

Washington Performing Arts presents

Men and Women of the Gospel Choir - Theodore Thorpe III, Artistic Director

Children of the Gospel Choir - Michele Fowlin, Artistic Director

Children of the Gospel Alumni Choir

Featuring Grammy Award-Winning - Karen Clark Sheard
Anthony Walker, Music Director
Karon Johnson, Choreographer

Event Details:

What: Gospel Concert Featuring Local Choirs & Karen Clark Sheard

When: Saturday, June 7, 2025 / 7:00 p.m.

Where: Lisner Auditorium (730 21st St NW, Washington, DC, 20052)

Tickets are available for purchase at <https://www.washingtonperformingarts.org/event/gospel-choirs-25/>.

ABOUT WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

One of the most established and honored performing arts institutions in America, Washington Performing Arts has engaged for more than half a century with artists, audiences, students, and civic life. The city is truly our stage: for decades, in venues ranging from concert halls and clubs to public parks, we have presented a tremendous range of artists and art forms, from the most distinguished symphony orchestras to both renowned and emerging artists in classical music, jazz, international genres, and more. We also have an ever-expanding artistic and educational presence on the internet, envisioning ongoing opportunities for online connection and community.

Washington Performing Arts deeply values its partnerships with local organizations and other arts institutions. Through events online and in myriad performance venues and neighborhoods, we engage international visiting artists in community programs and introduce local artists to wider audiences. We place a premium on establishing artists as a continuing presence in the lives of both young people and adults through residencies and education programs.

Our achievements have been recognized with a National Medal of Arts and with three Mayor's Arts Awards from the DC Government. We have now embarked upon our second half-century, ever inspired by the motto of our founder, Patrick Hayes: "Everybody in, nobody out."

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