

Where voices rise, horizons expand, and change takes flight.

[visit our website](#)



The first of its kind anywhere, 21V is a beacon for the Bay Area arts scene as it redefines the treble choir by liberating it from binary gender roles.

Our mission is to be a **catalyst for social change** and a vehicle for greater harmony. We invite conversations in a **radically inclusive** space where all voices have a seat at the table.

Who We Are

San Francisco's Bay Area 21V is an innovative ensemble of soprano and alto voices, all genders united, singing the stories of the 21st century Americas. We engage wholeheartedly in an exploration of change by shining a spotlight on non-conforming artists and activists.

Here's a behind the scenes view of our first season, "[The Making of 21V.](#)"



Milestones

- Founded**
March 2021
- Secured \$38,000 in launch funding**
June 2021
- First recording project**
November 2021
- Hired Artistic Administrator**
March 2022
- Inaugural concerts 'Beyond Binary'**
April 2022
- 'Sonic Reflections' concert**
April 2023
- 21V Steering Committee formed**
January 2024
- 30,000 individuals reached for our 'Reclaiming Radical' concerts**
April 2024

Problems

- We find ourselves in an unparalleled era of social fragmentation and isolation.
- The classic music industry is traditionally non-inclusive, and gender has created access barriers.
- 'American' music has been narrowly defined, leaving behind music that can enrich and broaden our horizons.



Solutions

- 21V has been described as a powerhouse of connection and fosters deep engagement between the artists and the community we serve through socially engaged programming.
- 21V furthers true inclusivity with its deliberate recruitment of soprano and alto singers of all genders and gender identities.
- Each 21V concert raises awareness and advocacy for music of the underrepresented American continent, weaving modern melodies from North, Central, and South America.

FAQs

Who are your singers?

21V is a multi-racial professional ensemble of soprano and alto voices of all gender identities, including cis and transgender women, and cis, nonbinary, and intersex countertenors.

What music do you perform?

We perform music of the 21st century of the 3 Americas, bringing awareness of underrepresented voices of our continent. 21V is also an active commissioner of new works, specially written for our ensemble.

What are your concert themes?

Our music explores contemporary social justice issues such as gender inclusivity, mental health, #metoo, racial equity, and challenges existing social boundaries and assumptions.

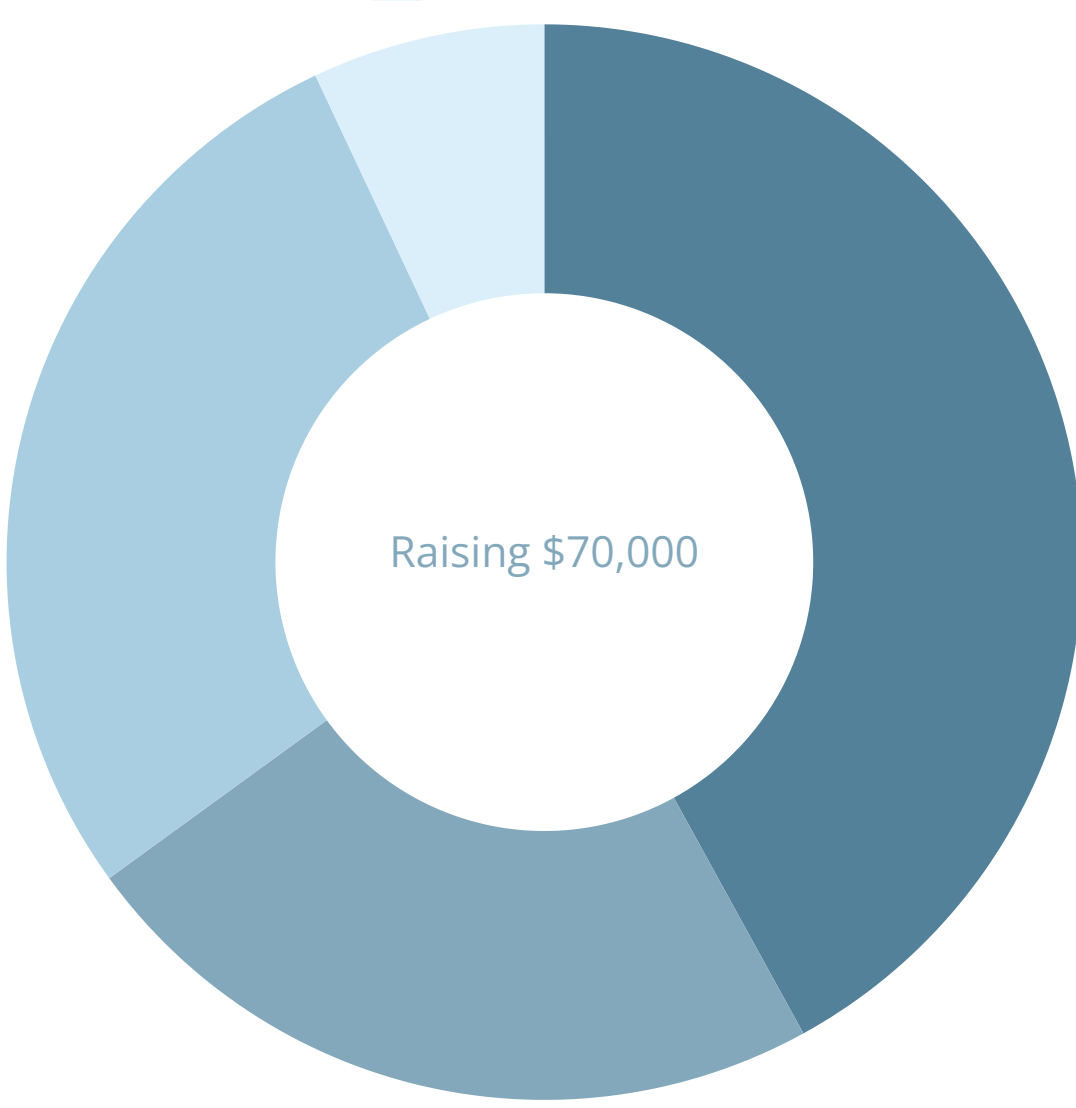
What's behind the name 21V?

Our ensemble presents on stage twenty-one highly skilled vocalists at each of our concerts. Our programming features exclusively music of the 21st century.

Who is your audience?

21V's diverse audience comes from six Bay Area counties, is multi-generational - 18-24 (16%), 25-54 (54%), and 55+ (30%) - is 61% white, 74% cisgender, and 63% heterosexual, with the remaining percentages representing an array of races, gender identities, and sexual orientations.

42% Artistic honoraria and music program costs
23% Operations
28% Venues and Production
7% Marketing



Leadership



Dr. Martín Benvenuto Founder & Artistic Director

Martín Benvenuto (he/him) is leading choral conductor in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. A native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dr. Benvenuto is active as a clinician, panelist, and guest conductor. Recognized for his exacting technique, and a passion for drawing the finest choral tone, Benvenuto's repertoire is extensive. Dedicated to commissioning new works from upcoming and established composers from the U.S. and abroad, his choirs have been selected to perform at Chorus America and American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) conferences, and have earned honors in international competitions.

www.martinbenvenuto.com



Dr. Lauren Vanderlinden Artistic Administrator

With a deep background in choral music as a singer, Lauren Vanderlinden (she/her) is a passionate administrator with experience in non-profit organizational management at equity-focused institutions. Lauren holds a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



Steering Committee Marion Atherton

A strategic arts administrator with over 20 years' experience in non-profit leadership, Marion Atherton's (she/her) expertise spans financial and operational oversight, fundraising, strategic planning, board relations, and community engagement. She is currently the Executive Director for the Berkeley Symphony.



Susan Fish

Sue Fish (she/her) has had a varied career that includes coaching children's gymnastics, running her own catering business, and serving as chairperson of Save the Children global organization for 20 years in the UK.



Alex Varghese

Alex Varghese (he/him) is a trial attorney with the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender. He holds vocal performance degree from Westminster Choir College, and his repertoire includes operatic Basso roles and art-song literature, which he has performed at home and in Europe.



Gail Doering

Gail Doering is a Presbyterian Pastor with transitional executive experience who has served in a variety of church sizes and settings. Her skills include coaching, church consulting, pastoral counseling, and conflict resolution.

21V is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization. Fractured Atlas will receive grants for the charitable purposes of 21V, provide oversight to ensure that grant funds are used in accordance with grant agreements, and provide reports as required by the grantor. Contributions for the charitable purposes of 21V must be made payable to Fractured Atlas and are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.