

The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society  
Directed by Curtis Nolley  
-Presents-

# Come, Lovely Spring

Featuring

## Requiem

Maurice Durufle'

with

## Songs and

## Poetry

## of Spring

April 14, 7:30 pm

April 16, 3:00 pm

Bridgewater Church of the Brethren

2022-2023 Season

Celebrating our 52nd Season



FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To Our Audience

Welcome to the spring concert in our 52<sup>nd</sup> season. We are glad you could be with us today. Thank you for your continued support.

We begin this concert with *Requiem, Opus 9* by Maurice Duruflé. This setting of the Gregorian Mass for the Dead explores the use of chant for mixed voices and solos. Our presentation today is accompanied by Dr. Larry Taylor on organ. After intermission, we will share a selection of springtime melodies to welcome the changing season. Amy Robertson and Debbie McGuire will also present piano 4-hands offerings for your enjoyment.

Please follow our upcoming events on our website at [singshenandoah.org](http://singshenandoah.org). You may also friend the Choral Society on Facebook. This is another good way to follow our activities.

Masking remains optional. Please be respectful of the choices of those around you.

Now join us as we celebrate longer days, warmer weather and new life. Come, Lovely Spring...



Ron Matthews, President

## The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society Board of Directors 2022-2023

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*The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society gratefully acknowledges the wonderful, cooperative spirit of the Park View Mennonite Church for the use of its facilities for rehearsals and board meetings.*

*Program cover photography courtesy of Cara Zimmerman Walton*



**Curtis Nolley, Artistic Director** In his 22nd season as director of the Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, Curtis Nolley leads the distinguished ensemble in its 52nd season. In addition to his responsibilities with the SVCS, Curtis serves as church musician and free-lance choral conductor. For 43 years he served as music educator serving students as choral director and music

specialist at every level. For 27 years he taught at the elementary, middle and secondary levels in Augusta County and was named the division Teacher of the Year in 2000. Curtis then served a five-year tenure as choral director at Turner Ashby High School in Rockingham County, eleven years as Music Specialist in Harrisonburg City Public Schools, and a two-year assignment as Visiting Director of Choral Music at Bridgewater College. Curtis continues to serve as choir director at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. In 2012, Curtis was the recipient of the Virginia Choral Director Association's Sydney Swiggett Award for outstanding service and contribution to choral music education in the Commonwealth, and in 2014, the James Madison University Professional Service Award recognizing outstanding service to the music education profession and James Madison University. A native of the Shenandoah Valley, Curtis holds a BA in Music Education from Bridgewater College and a MM in Choral Conducting from the University of Colorado, Boulder. Curtis is active as an adjudicator and guest conductor for scholastic festival choirs across the state of Virginia. An active leader in music education, Curtis is a past president of the Virginia Elementary Music Educators Association and the Virginia Music Educators Association. He continues to serve on VMEA's executive board.



**Amy Robertson, accompanist**, has been piano accompanist for the SVCS since 1996. She is also a freelance and staff accompanist at James Madison University and teaches privately. She lives with her family in Port Republic, Virginia. Amy holds a BA in Piano Performance with an emphasis in accompanying and coaching, and a Masters in Piano Performance from James Madison University. She has been a featured soloist with the Prince William Symphony Orchestra

and a finalist in the Hilton Head Island International Competition. In 1997, Amy premiered a piece for cello and piano at the Mid-Atlantic Chapter annual meeting of the College Music Society. In 2000, she auditioned for and attended the American Institute of Music Studies program in Graz, Austria. While there, Amy focused her studies on German Lied and accompanied vocalists in local concerts.



**Debbie McGuire, accompanist**, serves as assistant accompanist and sings with her fellow altos in the SVCS. She is a professional freelance accompanist who has worked with church, school, and collegiate performance ensembles throughout Virginia. She has taught at Mary Baldwin College and served as piano instructor at Stuart Hall School in Staunton, Virginia. In addition to her service with the SVCS, she has served as guest accompanist for scholastic festival choral ensembles throughout the region. Ms. McGuire is a graduate of the University of Richmond and received her Master's Degree in Church Music from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Her private studio and residence is in Rockingham County, Virginia.

**Dr. Larry Taylor, organ**, is professor of music at Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Virginia where he teaches courses in music theory and history and gives lessons in organ and piano. Dr. Taylor holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ from the University of Cincinnati (where he won the Strader Organ Competition), Master of Music degrees from Emory University and Notre Dame, and a Bachelor of Music degree from Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. In addition to performances of classical repertoire on piano and organ, Dr. Taylor has arranged and performed organ accompaniments to more than twenty classic silent films with a focus on the comedies of Buster Keaton and Harold Lloyd.





As a composer, Dr. Taylor has collaborated frequently with poet Tom Noe to produce anthems, cantatas, the one-woman opera *Marie Curie* and the two-act opera *Eros and Psyche*. They are currently collaborating on a new opera, *The Dickinsons of Amherst*, which tells the story of a scandal in Emily Dickinson's family that had an impact on her legacy. He has also composed arrangements for symphonic band and chorus as well as solo organ works. His art songs have been featured as part of the Bridgewater International Poetry Festival. In 2015 he won the Faculty Scholarship Award at Bridgewater College.

### **Blessing Ogbor, Mezzo Soprano**

Blessing was born and raised in Lagon, Nigeria. She has always loved music and started singing in the children's choir in church and later joined a contemporary gospel band in her teens. As much as she intended studying music after high school, she did not have the opportunity and had to study computer science. After completing her undergraduate degree in computer science, she kept singing and learning music from teachers around her. The following year she won the regional All-Stars competition for her category in Lagos earning her a scholarship to study music at the Mountaintop Conservatory of Music, Lagos, Nigeria. She took courses in music and sat for the United Kingdom's Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music exams in voice earning distinctions in both practical and theory.

Blessing has performed various opera scenes from Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito* playing the role of Sesto, and Bizet's *Carmen* playing the role of Carmen. She has also been featured as narrator in the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and alto roles in Handel oratorios, *Esther*, *Messiah*, and *Judas Macca-beus*, as well as Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. She is currently studying for her master's degree in vocal performance at James Madison University.





### **Michael D. Richardson, Baritone**

A doctoral candidate at James Madison University, Michael is studying under the tutelage of Kevin McMillan, with whom he completed a Master's Degree. Michael completed his Bachelor's at Buena Vista University under Dr. Merrin Guice-Gill.

Michael was the 1st place winner in the Classical Upper Advanced Men's category at the 2019 National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Competition and also was an Encouragement Award Recipient in the Metropolitan Opera National Competition Districts 2019.

Recent operatic roles include the role of William Putnam in Jake Hagee's opera *If I Were You* at the Nightingale Opera Theater in 2022. In James Madison University opera productions, notable roles are those of Nick Shadow in Igor Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* in 2022; Leporello in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in 2021; Papageno in *Die Zauberflöte* in 2020; Mephistopheles in *Faust* in 2019; and George Benton in *Dead Man Walking* in 2018. He performed Gianni Schicchi in *Gianni Schicchi* at Buena Vista University Opera in 2017.

In the concert sphere, Michael was a soloist in 2019 in the JMU Wind Symphony's rendition of *Porgy & Bess*' 'Catfish Row' and in Haydn's *Creation*.

The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society is a member of the



# Program Notes

## Requiem

*Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)*

In 1947 the French publishing company Durand commissioned Maurice Duruflé to compose a Requiem Mass. Since he had already begun to write an organ suite based on Gregorian chant themes, Duruflé decided to use this work as a basis for the commission. The result was the composer's first choral work: a Requiem with an application of medieval melody, contemporary harmonization, and comforting treatment of the subject matter.

Duruflé wrote very few original melodies for this piece, but instead used Gregorian chant in a twentieth-century harmonic setting. The Requiem Mass has often been set to music, but Duruflé was the first to incorporate the Gregorian chants, traditionally associated with the religious ceremonies of the Mass for the Dead, into the core of the entire composition's musical framework.

Our performance uses Duruflé's 1947 organ version of the score (there are also versions for full orchestra and for organ and strings). This is not just an orchestral reduction, but a fully realized, highly virtuosic organ piece drawing on Duruflé's extensive experience as an organist. He studied in the 1920s with the organ master Louis Vierne and worked for most of his life as the organist at St. Etienne-du Mont in Paris.

Meticulously written, Duruflé's contemporary setting of the *Requiem* text fuses Gregorian chant with 20th century concepts and weaves an embracing, almost cosmic tapestry of human emotion — from peaks of ecstatic joy to more reflective moments. It's a gentle, hopeful requiem that speaks eloquently to today's universal yearnings.

# Program Notes

## Dolly, Op, 56

*Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)*

Gabriel Fauré didn't like giving his works revealing names. He once said that he'd rather name every work 'Piano Piece No. ...' than commit to a name. Commercialization in the person of his publisher defeated him and so we have works with titles that help us understand what he meant in a composition.

One work, however, that Fauré did give titles to were the six pieces that make up his *Dolly* suite. The pieces were written for the daughter of his mistress, Héléne Bardac (1892–1985), who was known to her family as Dolly.

All works, however, despite being intended for a specific recipient, were not necessarily new. The first piece, a lullaby entitled *Berceuse*, had actually been written some 30 years earlier for another daughter of another friend. The original title had been *La Chanson dans le jardin* (The song in the garden). The work was presented for Dolly's first birthday.

New Year's day 1895 was celebrated by the third work, *Le jardin de Dolly* (Dolly's Garden). This work, despite the weather of the season, takes us outdoors with its enchanting music of nature. A phrase from Fauré's first violin sonata, written some 20 years earlier, appears in the work. Although *Berceuse* might be the best-known movement of the suite, it is this garden piece that many consider the brilliant jewel at the heart of the suite.

In this program we recognize and appreciate the talent and dedication of our gifted accompanists, Amy Robertson and Debbie McGuire. They have delighted our audiences and supported the SVCS membership with their artistry and commitment. Once again, they grace us with the beauty of their piano-4-hands collaboration. Thank you!



# Program

*Requiem*

Maurice Duruflé

1902—1986

## I. Introit

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Rest eternal grant them, Lord,  
and may perpetual light shine on them.

Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,  
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.  
Exaudi orationem meam;  
ad te omnis caro veniet.

To you praise is meet, God, in Zion,  
and to you vows are made in Jerusalem.  
Listen to my prayer;  
unto you all flesh shall come.

## II. Kyrie

Kyrie eleison.  
Christe eleison.  
Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

## III. Domine Jesu Christe

Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae,  
libera animas omnium fidelium  
defunctorum de poenis inferni,  
et de profundo lacu.

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,  
Free the souls of all the faithful  
dead from punishment in the inferno,  
and from the deep lake.

Libera eas de ore leonis,  
ne absorbeat eas tartarus,  
ne cadant in obscurum.

Deliver them from the lion's mouth,  
lest the abyss swallow them up,  
lest they fall into darkness.

Sed signifer sanctus Michael  
repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam,  
quam olim Abrahae promisisti,  
et semini ejus.

But may the standard bearer St. Michael  
present them in holy light,  
as once you promised to Abraham  
and his seed.

Hostias et preces tibi,  
Domine, laudis offerimus.  
Tu suscipe pro animabus illis,  
quarum hodie memoriam facimus.

Sacrifices and prayers to you,  
Lord, we offer with praise.  
Receive them for the souls of those  
whom today we commemorate.

Fac eas, Domine,  
de morte transire ad vitam,  
quam olim Abrahae promisisti,  
et semini ejus.

Make them, Lord,  
to pass from death to life,  
as once you promised to Abraham  
and his seed.

#### **IV. Sanctus**

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra  
gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God of Sabaoth.  
Filled are heavens and earth  
with your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

#### **V. Pie Jesu**

Pie Jesu Domine,  
dona eis requiem,  
requiem sempiternam.

Merciful Lord Jesus,  
grant them rest,  
rest everlasting.

#### **VI. Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem,  
requiem sempiternam.

Lamb of God,  
who removes the sins of the world,  
grant them rest,  
rest everlasting.

#### **VII. Lux Aeterna**

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,  
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,  
quia pius es.

May eternal light shine on them, Lord,  
with thy saints everlasting,  
because you are merciful.

Requiem aeternam  
dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Rest eternal  
grant them, Lord,  
and may perpetual light shine on them.

## VIII. Libera me

Libera me, Domine,  
de morte aeterna,  
in die illa tremenda,  
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra,  
dum veneris judicare  
saeculum per ignem.

Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo,  
dum discussio venerit,  
atque venture ira.  
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra.

Dies illa, dies irae,  
calamitatis et miseriae,  
dies magna et amara valde,  
dum veneris judicare  
saeculum per ignem.

Requiem aeternam  
dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Deliver me, Lord,  
from eternal death  
on that dreadful day,  
when heavens and earth shall move,  
when you come to judge  
the world through fire.

I am made to tremble, and to fear,  
at the destruction that shall come,  
and also at your coming wrath.  
when heavens and earth shall move.

That day, day of wrath,  
calamity and misery,  
great and exceedingly bitter day,  
when you come to judge  
the world through fire.

Rest eternal  
grant them, Lord,  
and may perpetual light shine on them.

## IX. In Paradisum

In Paradisum deducant te Angeli;  
in tuo adventu  
suscipiant te martyres,  
et perducant te  
in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,  
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere  
aeternam habeas requiem.

May the Angels lead you into Paradise;  
at your coming  
may the martyrs receive you,  
and conduct you  
into the holy city, Jerusalem.

May the chorus of Angels receive you,  
and with Lazarus, once a pauper,  
eternally may you have rest.

**Larry Taylor, Organ**

**Mary Kay Adams, Cello**

**Blessing Evi Ogbor, Soprano**

**Michael Richardson, Baritone**

## INTERMISSION

**Come, Lovely Spring**

**Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)**

**From *Four Seasons***

**Text: Baron Gottfried van Swieten**

**Translation: Alice Parker**

Come, lovely spring! O bounteous Goddess, come.  
And from her wintry grave awaken slumbering earth.  
Come nearer now, O lovely Spring, that all may feel thy quickening touch,  
That everything may live again.

Be joyful, yet remember still; that deep in the mist and fog concealed,  
The winter walks the night, and touched tiny shoots with deadly frost.

Come, lovely Spring! O bounteous Goddess, come.  
Descend, revive our fields again, and bless the waiting world.

**O My Luvè's Like a Red, Red Rose**

**David Dickau**

**Text: Robert Burns**

O, my Luvè's like a red, red rose that's newly sprung in June.  
O, my Luvè's like a melodie that's sweetly played in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass, so deep in luvè am I,  
And I will luvè thee still, my dear, till all the seas gang dry.

Till all the seas gang dry, my dear, and the rocks melt with the sun,  
And I will luvè thee still, my dear, while the sands of life shall run.

And fare thee well, my only Luvè, and fare thee well awhile  
And I will come again, my Luvè, tho' it were ten thousand mile.

**I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud**

**Jasper Randall**

**Text: William Wordsworth**

I wandered lonely as a cloud that floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees, fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine and twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretched in never-ending line along the margin of a bay;  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance, tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they outdid the sparkling waves in glee;  
A poet could not but be gay, in such a jocund company;  
I gazed but little thought what wealth the show to me had brought;

For oft, when on my couch I lie in vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye, which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills, and dances with the daffodils.

**Dolly, Op. 56 (piano suite in six movements)**

**Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)**

1. Berceuse (lullaby)
3. Le jardin de Dolly (Dolly's Garden)

*Amy Robertson and Debbie McGuire, piano-4-hands*

**A Flower Remembered**

**John Rutter**

**Text: John Rutter**

*In memory of the victims of the Tohoku area earthquake and tsunami, March 2011*

A flower remembered can never wither:  
For ever blooming as bright as day,  
Its fragrance lingering like music softly playing,  
A gentle voice that's saying,  
'I'll never fade away'

I hear the echoes of many voices;  
Sometimes they're distant, sometimes so clear;  
Through all the sounds of life they seem to whisper,  
'Will you remember?'

The birds fly homeward across my valley  
Toward the mountains all white with snow;  
The birds are gone now, the mountain snows have melted,  
But still I see their beauty, the scenes of long ago.

The birds still fly in other valleys;  
The snows have turned to flowing streams;  
All things must pass, but memories are lasting:  
We will remember.

**Spring Carol**

**David Dickau**

**Text : Robert Louis Stevenson**

When loud my landside streamlets gush,  
And clear in greenwood quires the Thrush,  
With sun on the meadows  
And songs in the shadows  
Comes again to me,  
The gift of the tongues of the lea,  
The gift of the tongues of the meadows.

Straightway my olden heart returns  
And dances with the dancing burns;  
It sings with the sparrows;  
To the rain and the grimy barrows

Sings my heart aloud -  
To the silver-bellied cloud,  
to the silver rainy arrows

It bears the song of the skylark down,  
And it hears the singing of the town;  
And youth on the highways  
And lovers in byways  
Follows and sees:  
And harkens the song of the leas  
And sings the songs of the highways.

So when the earth is alive with gods,  
And the lusty ploughman breaks the sod,  
And the grass sings in the meadows,  
And the flowers smile in the shadows,  
Sits my heart at ease,  
Hearing the song of the leas,  
Singing the songs of the meadows.

**Arise, Beloved!**

**Rosephanye Powell**

**Text: Rosephanye Powell - based on Song of Solomon 2:7-13**

Arise, my love!

Arise, beloved, fair one, come away:  
For low, the winter is past.  
Beloved, come away.

Come, the rain has gone;  
the flowers appear.  
The birds are singing.

Come, your hand in mine;  
we'll taste the grapevines.  
And hear the turtle doves;  
their voices sing of joy, and love.

Hush! Do not awaken, love.  
Do not arouse till it pleases.  
As the gazelles and does of the field,  
so is my beloved.

Arise, beloved, fair one, come away.



# Shenandoah Valley Choral Society

## Soprano

Dorothy Anderson  
Alexandra Andino  
Alegria  
Deborah Bandalos  
Debra Bucklen  
Beverley Carver  
Miriam Clark  
Suzanne Cockley  
Lorraine Crawford  
Danielle Cunningham  
Joanna Hoover  
Nany Hopkins-Garriss  
Valerie Jackson  
Julia Longenecker  
Nancy Metcalfe  
Kristi Pascarella  
Barbara Reisner  
Jean Rissler  
Martha Showalter  
Jeanette Shull  
Dwynn Stovall  
Kathleen Sullivan  
Donna Tinsley  
Alexandra Vilela  
Jayne Wagner  
Janet Welty  
Ruth Williams

## Alto

Kathryn Albright  
Jean Andrews  
Lourene Bender  
Chris Carpenter  
Elizabeth Eby  
Stefanie Eye  
Jan Flora  
Becky Glick  
Susan Godshall  
Sandy Greene  
Robin Hall  
Rachel Hamburger  
Sandra Hodge  
Susan Holsinger  
Alice Lee Hopkins  
Betty Hoskins  
Carol La Spina  
Vicki Langdon  
Deidre Lenderking  
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Hannah Martin  
Debbie McGuire  
Marta McGuire  
Jeanne Neff  
Andrea Nolley  
Sue Olson  
Kelly Ostergren  
Katherine Phillips  
Deborah Proctor  
Becky Replogle  
Jan Scanlan  
Audrey Shenk  
Patrima Tice  
Alice Trupe  
Dorothy Jean Weaver  
Brenda Wilkinson

## Tenor

John Barr  
Jonathan Clark  
Marcelo Flores  
Bruce Hall  
Paul Hoover  
Robert Jochen  
Phil Markert  
Ron Matthews  
Richard Orem  
Ann Ridder  
John Sellers  
Hollis Showalter  
Welby Showalter  
Tony Stovall  
Dick Stutzman

## Bass

Duane Bontrager  
John Chilton  
David Cockley  
Thomas Delare  
Tom DeVore  
Jim Dye  
Nathanael Eby  
Stan Godshall  
David Holl  
Wendell Martin  
Gordon Meriwether  
Jim Newman  
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*Announces the establishment of our*

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In partnership with the Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, the SVCS has established the Legacy Fund to sustain the mission of the SVCS into the future.

If you would like more information on how you can help the music continue through your gift or estate planning, please call Curtis Nolley at 540-433-3031 or email [carnolley@hotmail.com](mailto:carnolley@hotmail.com) for more information.



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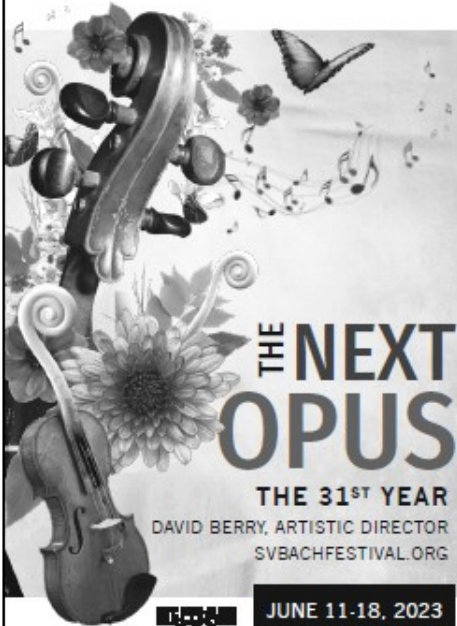
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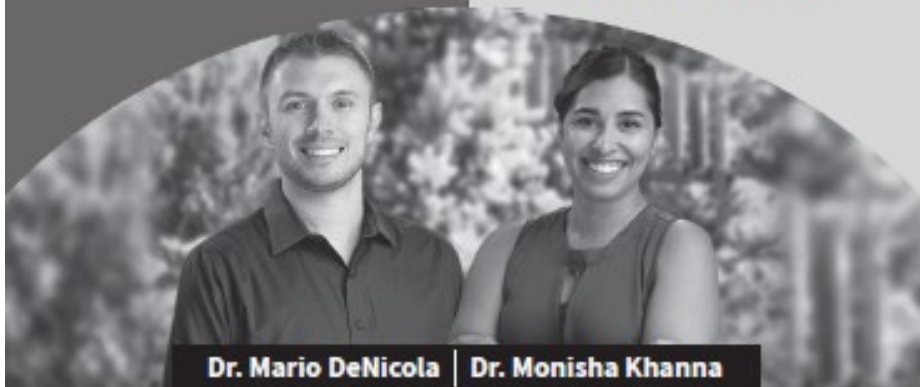


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