



Aquidneck Singers Newsletter

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Want to be featured in our Singer Spotlight? Click [here](#) to complete the Questionnaire!

Contact us at
aquidnecksingers@gmail.com

CCNC Staff Spotlight:



Where would you like to travel that you have not been? Portugal, Hawaii

Where is a place you have visited that you would love to go back to?

South Africa, Thailand, Southern France

What is an interesting thing about you that few people know? I still sleep with my stuffed animal, Lambie, that I got when I was born.

What is the last book you read? "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean (do not recommend)

What is a book on your bedside table that you've been meaning to read, but haven't yet? Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri

What has been a challenge about quarantine? What has been a joy? Not being able to plan/have something to look forward to; cooking, journaling, playing guitar more

Elizabeth Woodhouse

Favorite Aquidneck Singers song (so far)? Cuatro Baladas Amarillas

Why is it your favorite song? I love the shifts between unison and harmony and between smooth legato and rhythmically playful.

What is your favorite song that you have ever sung with a choir? Why? Brahms' *Requiem*; I had the opportunity to sing it under the baton of [Marin Alsop](#) when I was in college. It was an experience I will never forget.

What is your "go-to" music? Broadway musicals and artists like Ingrid Michaelson, Sara Bareilles, and Jonatha Brooke.

What are THREE words you would use to describe yourself? positive, energetic, reliable

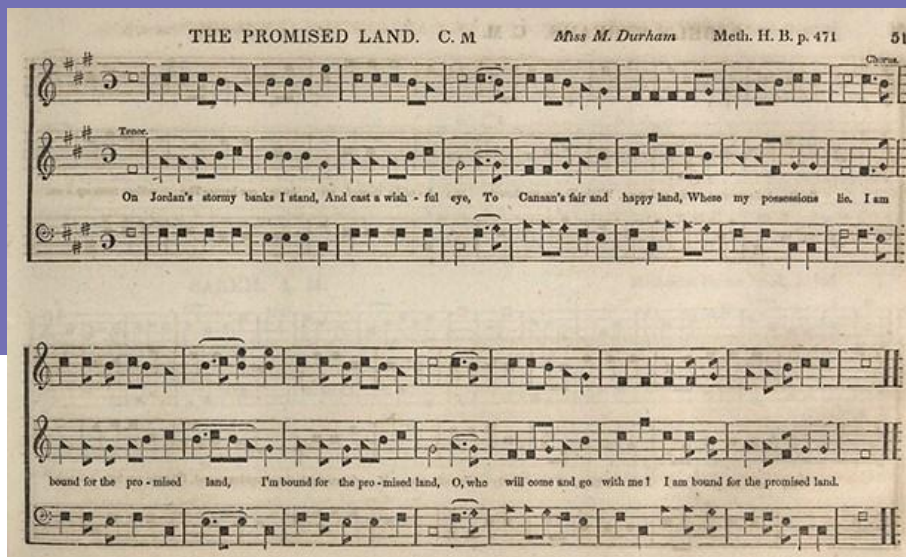
Occupation (if retired, what was your occupation?) music educator/conductor

What cities/towns have you lived in throughout your life? Peoria, IL (born), Milwaukee, WI, Boulder, CO (college), Denver, CO, Columbus, OH (grad school), New Haven, CT, Brooklyn, NY, Little Compton, RI, Newport, RI, Providence, RI

What is your "can't live without" food? almond butter, cheese, good bread, green vegetables, red wine (hard to pick just one!)

What is your idea of a perfect Saturday or "day off"? Waking up with nothing planned and then the day unfolds into a beautiful adventure that includes a walk outside, drinks on a patio, and a delicious meal.

Song Feature: “The Promised Land” by Miss M. Durham



About “The Promised Land”

One of the best known of the revival spirituals, “The Promised Land,” was first published in 1835 in the first edition of [Southern Harmony](#). The roots of Southern Harmony singing are found in the American colonial era, when singing schools convened to provide instruction in choral singing, especially for use in church services. The original tune was later recast in major (from minor) and reharmonized to accommodate the newer gospel hymn tradition. [Source](#)

About Shape Note

Shape notes are a musical notation designed to facilitate congregational and social singing. The notation, introduced in late 18th century England, became a popular teaching device in American singing schools. Shapes were added to the noteheads in written music to help singers find pitches. [Source](#)

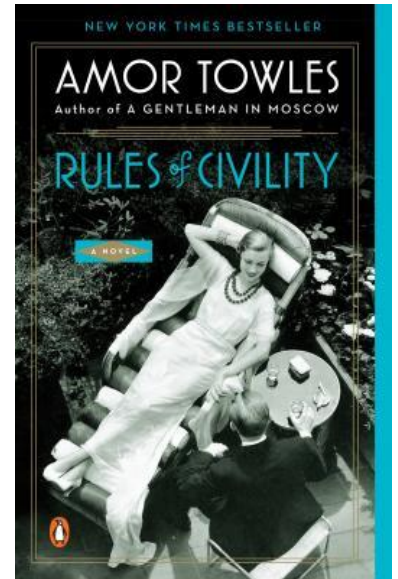
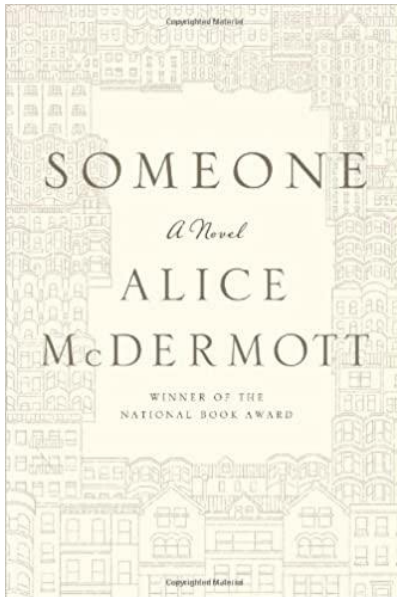


About Miss M. Durham

Matilda T. Durham, later Hoy (January 17, 1815 – July 30, 1901) was an American composer and hymn writer. A native of Spartanburg County, South Carolina, Durham worked as a singing teacher, and in addition produced Baptist articles and tracts. Besides "Promised Land", she is known for "Heavenly Treasure" and "Star of Columbia". She is often credited as "Miss M. T. Durham" or "M. Durham". "Promised Land" has, since its publication, been adapted to a major key and, with an added refrain, become popular as a congregational hymn. [Source](#)

Elizabeth recommends...

One of my favorite books of all time:
Rules of Civility by Amor Towles



The book I just finished and recommend:
Someone by Alice McDermott

Podcasts I've been listening to:

[The Confessional with Nadia Bolz-Weber](#)

[Unlocking Us with Brené Brown](#)

TV Shows I have been watching:

Little Fires Everywhere (based on the novel by Celeste Ng, available on Hulu) -- amazing performances by Reese Witherspoon and Kerry Washington

Grace and Frankie (available on Netflix) -- entertainment at its finest by the fantastic duo, Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin; lots of laughter

The Good Place (available on Netflix and Hulu) -- lighthearted and smart