



THE RADCLIFFE PITCHES

a cappella since 1975

www.pitches.org



Letter from the Presidents

It is with the utmost pleasure that we introduce you to the Radcliffe Pitches of 2022-2023. Whether you are searching for a performance at an intimate gathering or a large party with hundreds of guests, the Pitches present a polished and engaging musical experience. An exceptional group of treble-voiced musicians, the Radcliffe Pitches are dedicated to preserving and performing the jazz standards and American tunes that have impressed audiences throughout the generations.

Jazz provides singers with an incredible range and diversity of material from which to draw. Performing jazz *a cappella* vocal music allows us to try out new styles and techniques, and to dig deep into the kinds of chords that revolutionized the musical world in the early 20th century. Every time we prepare a new arrangement or perform in a new venue, we strive to present a fresh interpretation of this timeless genre, breathing life into the incredible pieces of the past. Yet we are beholden to another history, as well. The Pitches were founded at Radcliffe College when women were still barred from formal admittance to Harvard University. Talented, intelligent, and fabulously witty, our founding members sought to create an ensemble that represented the professionalism and musical ability of the female undergraduates. We are proud to continue this legacy through our performances in the Boston area and throughout the world.

Katie Burstein
Harvard College Class of 2025
Co-President

Sarah Latzke
Harvard College Class of 2025
Co-President



History

The Radcliffe Pitches, Harvard's oldest treble-voiced *a cappella* group, was founded in 1975 at the historic Hasty Pudding Club. Founders Dianne Nabatoff '78 and Kathy Manning '78 were undergraduates at Radcliffe College when they created the Pitches as a group for female voices to sing in a close harmony setting. Today, the group is composed of 14 Harvard undergraduates who perform a repertoire inspired by artists such as The Andrews Sisters, Ella Fitzgerald, and Frank Sinatra.

The Pitches perform regularly on the Harvard campus, singing two concerts each year at Sanders Theatre. The group also performs on various tours within the United States and to international destinations including Thailand, China, Japan, South Korea, England, France, Germany, and Hong Kong. Other notable performances include appearances at the 1993 inauguration celebrations for President William Clinton and the Hasty Pudding Man of the Year awards, whose past recipients include Ryan Reynolds, Ben Platt, Neil Patrick Harris, Jason Segel, Justin Timberlake, and Ben Stiller.

Musical Style

The Pitches perform a large and varied repertoire of jazz standards, swing and boogie-woogie, and contemporary pieces, drawing upon the musical stylings of inspirational figures such as Peggy Lee, Louis Armstrong, and Stevie Wonder. Our arrangements showcase close harmonies, swing rhythms, the solo jazz voice, trios and scats, as well as choreography. Our repertoire also covers a large emotional range, from heartfelt ballads to cheerful toe-tapping tunes – whatever the occasion, we've got a song or two for you!



Selected Repertoire

Mack the Knife

It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't
Got That Swing)

It's Only a Paper Moon

Yesterday

Feeling Good

Stupid Cupid

If I Had a Hammer

I Won't Say (I'm In Love)

Stormy Weather

Lover Come Back to Me

Cheek to Cheek

La Vie En Rose

My Funny Valentine

You'd Be Surprised

Let's Face the Music and Dance

Beyond the Sea

Say a Little Prayer

Mr. Sandman

What a Wonderful World

Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy

You Are the Sunshine of My Life

Blue Skies

You Don't Own Me

This Could Be the Start of
Something Big

Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart

Peel Me a Grape

Rainbow Connection

Moon River

Georgy Girl

Tuxedo Junction

Misty