

THE JOYFUL NOISE

KINDRED SPIRIT'S NEWSLETTER

"MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD" - PSALM 98:4



Dear Kindred Spirit Family,

By the immeasurable grace of God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, it is with great joy that I write to you about how God has blessed Kindred Spirit this past year! After spending over a year apart due to the pandemic, we were thrilled to greet one another face-to-face as we gathered in Woolworth 101 in late August to prepare for our Tiger's Roar performance.

We did not know what the first few weeks – much less the year ahead – would look like, but God provided all that we needed. After waking Katie and Tim up in the too-early hours of the morning to welcome them into KS this fall, we ventured together through Terhune Orchards and hosted a Christmas arch that shared the good news of Christ's birth through song and scripture.

The spring semester helped us reach more of the community around us. With eager hearts and newbies Calvin, Nobline, Peter, and Timmy, we sang in Six14's spring show and connected with other Christian a cappella groups at Break It Down Boston. Perhaps the greatest blessing was the number of visitors on campus who stopped to hear us sing praises to the Lord as we rehearsed under Blair Arch in the afternoons before our arch sings. Amidst the busyness and pressures the world offered us, God offered us peace and reminded us that He will provide as we seek Him with open hearts. He was our strength in all things – praise be to God!

We will dearly miss the wisdom and presence of our seniors Kaylan and Tim – although we gladly hold on to Oleg for two more years as he pursues his master's degree. With new faces and memories, we eagerly await the coming year. We are excited to visit **Green Bay, Wisconsin** for tour this coming fall, and we ask that you would keep us in your prayers as we seek God's guidance, support, and wisdom in planning for this event.

Finally, we would love to invite you to join us on **Saturday, May 21st** for our Reunions events! We will host an open-rehearsal starting at **9:30 am in Woolworth 102** and an arch sing under **1879 Arch at 10:30 am**, followed by a reception in **Campus Club Den at 11:00 am**. We look forward to seeing you and pray for God's blessing upon you!

In Christ,

Andra Constantin '23
2022 KS President
andrac@princeton.edu

WHO WE ARE

We are Kindred Spirit, Princeton's one and only Christian a cappella group.

WHAT WE DO

Kindred Spirit offers outreach to the Princeton community and to our audiences everywhere through fellowship, arch sings, community service, and shared testimonies.

WHY WE DO IT

Although we are all sinful people (Romans 3:23), the Lord Jesus Christ, through his mercy, has redeemed us all.

Consequently, we are devoted to spreading the gospel through song, to encouraging one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, and to glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ.

CONTACT US

Email:
kspirit@princeton.edu

Website:
princetonkindredspirit.com

Facebook:
[princetonkindredspirit](https://www.facebook.com/princetonkindredspirit)

Instagram:
[pukindredspirit](https://www.instagram.com/pukindredspirit)

Youtube:
[pukindredspirit](https://www.youtube.com/pukindredspirit)

Special Thanks To:

The 2021 KS Officers:

Kaylan Fomby '22
President

Paul Kim '23
Music Director

Moreen Rezkalla '23
Fellowship Chair

Andra Constantin '23
Business Manager

Oleg Golev '22
Publicity Chair

Current Officers:

Andra Constantin '23
President

Paul Kim '23
Music Director

Moreen Rezkalla '23
Fellowship Chair

Tiffany Deane '24
*Business Manager &
Publicity Chair*

(Re)Framing Fellowship

The fellowship and spiritual connectedness of Kindred Spirit has long been a defining factor of the group that sets us apart from other a cappella groups on Princeton's campus. In the last 2 years, as our ability to sing together disappeared, KS was really able to stay rooted in our community and grow in such tumultuous times through the fellowship and spiritual connection that we share. God really blessed our time in difficult circumstances through our interactions, whether a game night, a jam session, or a time of meditation and centering our hearts back to the Lord.

Coming back to campus at the beginning of this year, it was time to readjust. With an in-person semester, it was time for us to regroup and frame what fellowship and rehearsal times would look like. Very few members have experienced the dynamics of our group in person, and after nearly 1.5 years away, I was in awe to see how each and every member poured so much encouragement and love into each interaction we had.

Some forms of fellowship came easily from pre-pandemic days, with KS meals, and finals/midterms study rooms making a strong comeback. It was also a lot of fun to get creative, and to branch out into the greater Princeton community. In the fall semester, we were able to take a trip to Terhune Orchards. It was a day of fun and fellowship and it was amazing to see every member of KS, new and old, getting to know one another and beginning to be vulnerable around one another.

I was especially touched this semester by a fellowship tradition that we weren't able to do virtually, but made sure to incorporate into our time before each arch. This was the custom of going through the lyrics of the songs we would be performing and the power that lies within them. Kindred Spirit longs to bring the joy of the Lord to everyone in Princeton's campus through the songs that we sing, but it is especially important to take time to reflect on how the words that we sing affect our own walks with Christ. I was touched in every time that we had, and seeing God work in unifying a group of people that don't have much in common but God and singing. The joy that has come out of each song that we reflect upon has been extremely encouraging to myself and others, and has made our arches so rich and full of genuine worship.

Overall, returning to fellowship and interaction within KS after the pandemic did pose a few challenges. However, even through the fear that KS wouldn't return to be the group I had expected it to be, God's provision and plan for what KS would become surpassed any expectation that I may have had. The (re)framing of fellowship throughout this year really allowed us as a group to learn to rely on each other, and to ultimately seek the Lord in every step that KS may take, whether small or large. I am incredibly thankful for the strong spiritual leaders that preceded us, who were able to set such a strong foundation for KS in the Lord, that we were able to stand strong and unified in our faith and grow it throughout the year in brand new ways. As we continue to plan for the year ahead, for tour and other exciting opportunities, I pray and look forward to seeing our vulnerability and comfort with one another grow and flourish in the fellowship we have with each other.

Moreen Rezkalla '23
2022 Fellowship Chair

KS in Boston: BiDB 2022



After a 2-year hiatus, we were blessed with the opportunity of attending Break it Down Boston in person this semester, and what an amazing weekend of worship, bonding, and fellowship it was!

On April 1st, we piled into 2 cars, and after a six-hour ride—and a few exciting bathroom-break adventures—we arrived in Boston. Because of COVID-19 university protocols, we had to find our own living accommodations, but by the grace of God, we were able to snag a great hotel not too far from the venue that was much nicer than any of our dorm rooms!

On Saturday, we had a packed day of fellowship, meeting other students, and singing! We arrived at Boston University and prayed, warmed up, and rehearsed a group song "I Just Called to Say I Love You" together with 12 other Christian a cappella groups. We then took to the Boston Commons to sing with Yale's Living Water, who we connected with almost immediately! We pulled from a lot of KS classics, including "Lord Reign in Me" and "If I Stand," and sang some new ones, like "Open the Eyes of My Heart" and "Soon." It was a blessing to share the love of God with those passing by, and to appreciate the beautiful music that Living Water shared.

The concert began later that evening, and we had an amazing time listening to the beautiful, powerful pieces that each group performed. Kindred Spirit sang a KS classic, "Be Thou My Vision," and "Breathe," a reminder to us college students that when the going gets tough, all we really need is to "just breathe" and cast our cares on the Lord, because true rest is found only in Him.

On the journey home, we decided our time with Living Water had been much too short, and made a spontaneous stop at Yale to meet up with a few of their members and sing for their campus!

Most of us had never been to BiDB before, and while we'd expected that the weekend would be full of music, we hadn't expected the outpouring of love we were shown from our brothers and sisters during our time there. It was truly overwhelming to meet and befriend so many like-minded students who love the Lord and music, and to see the way God is working in other campuses! BiDB served as a much-needed opportunity for KS to bond in fellowship and worship, and to expand our view of the Lord's kingdom beyond Princeton!

Tiffany Deane '24

2022 Business Manager & Publicity Chair

Looking Ahead to Fall 2022

This fall, KS will be heading to **GREEN BAY, WI** for our Fall tour! If you live in the area and/or have a connection to a

- Ministry
- Service Organization
- School
- Etc.

we could sing for or serve, contact the current KS President, Andra Constantin: andrac@princeton.edu

MD's Corner: KS' 2022 Repertoire

Greetings, KS alumni! My name is Yejoong (Paul) Kim, and I am Kindred Spirit's current music director.

Since I last wrote to you all in the 2021 Newsletter, much has changed in both Princeton University's campus and Kindred Spirit. On the heels of new announcements that loosened some of the COVID-19 restrictions, Kindred Spirit began meeting in person once again for rehearsals. As I stepped back into Woolworth for KS rehearsals, many old memories came back to me: beatboxing with my fellow classmates, playing worship music during fellowship, and drilling through musically challenging pieces again and again.

This year has been very eventful for Kindred Spirit. Six newbies were brought into the group, slowly bringing us to twelve members by the end of the year. Throughout the year, we've also had the chance to engage in many new kinds of performances in addition to our arches, from performing in fellowship groups to collaborating with Six-14. In addition, we have had the opportunity to sing in Tiger's Roar this year, performing Majesty Mashup as arranged by former KS Musical Director Samantha Einspahr. These familiar Kindred Spirit events and happenings were certainly welcome among all of us.

However, we have also had room to experiment with our arch format. Checking Kindred Spirit's YouTube channel, readers may notice that the Christmas and Easter arches are structured significantly differently than from previous years' holiday arches. Having performed and/or planned special holiday music services in various groups such as my old church's orchestra and Chapel Choir, I wished to proclaim stronger, Christian messages in these holiday arches while at the same time incorporating Kindred Spirit's a cappella repertoire. The results were concert-style performances that mixed thematic Biblical readings and musical accompaniment with the KS repertoire. For the Christmas arch, I wanted to express the joy surrounding Jesus' birth while illuminating the intimate emotions felt by the normal people, such as those of Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. For the Easter arch, I wanted to express the magnitude of Jesus' suffering before His crucifixion and the confidence gained from knowing Jesus had risen and conquered death.

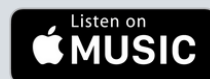
Although the spring semester and upcoming deadlines (i.e. senior thesis, junior independent work, etc) posed some problems, we have had amazing opportunities to perform throughout the year. I am deeply moved by each rehearsal and each arch, and I am very happy to have worked with so many amazing people. I am very excited to see what is in store for Kindred Spirit this upcoming year, and I pray that through it all we may continue to engage in our mission of glorifying God through song.

Sincerely,
Yejoong (Paul) Kim '23
2022 Music Director



Our latest album, *Home Awaits*, which we released in the fall of 2016, is available on CD and several streaming platforms: Apple Music, Amazon Music, Spotify, Pandora, among others. Search "Home Awaits" and download or listen to KS arrangements of "If I Stand," "Brother," "Clear the Stage," and more!

If you wish to purchase the CD, reach out to our current Business Manager Tiffany Deane: tdeane@princeton.edu



Meet The Newbies!



Katie Shirk

Hailing from Goshen, Indiana, Katie is a junior in the CEE department. After starting off her Princeton career as a member of Six14, she found her way to KS this year, joining as a soprano. She is also involved with the Alpha Omega Campus Ministry and is a Whitman RCA. Katie is also getting married this summer, and we are so excited for her!

Tim Jia

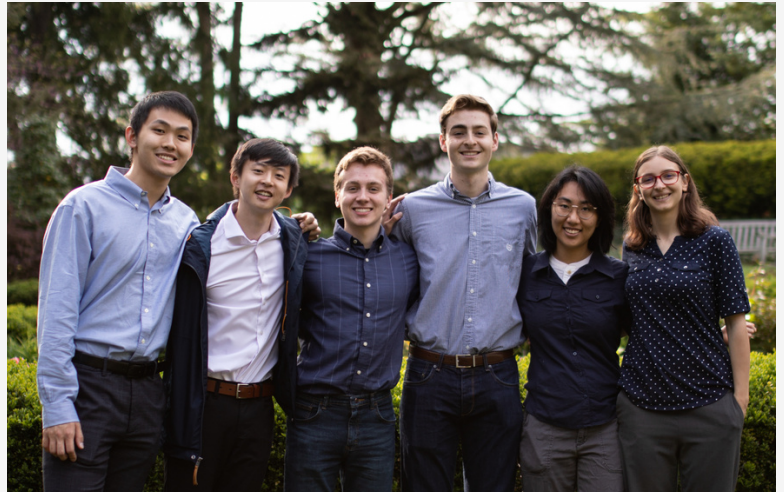
Tim the tenor is a senior studying neuroscience from the great state of Vermont. He brings bright energy and enthusiasm to every rehearsal. Outside of KS, he is a part of VTone, PCF, and Manna. Fun fact: Tim was already wide awake when we snuck in his room for pick-ups!



Calvin Hunt

A KS legacy, Calvin is a sophomore majoring in the School of Public and International Affairs, from Green Bay, Wisconsin. He is primarily a bass, but has an impressive tenor range, and is also a part of PCF and Club Tennis. You can find him walking around campus wearing shorts, no matter the weather!

Meet The Newbies!



Timmy Seiferth

One of two Tim's who are tenors and studying neuroscience, Timmy is a freshman from Pennsylvania who hopes to become a pastor and/or missionary. He is a part of Christian Union's NOVA and PCF. At home, you can find him hanging out with his 25 chickens!

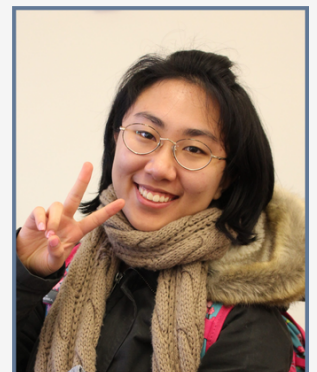


Peter Ng

Another proud Pennsylvanian, Peter is a sophomore ORFE major who joined KS as a bass. He is also a member of VTone, Princeton Chinese Students Association, and Princeton Scholars of Finance. He loves to play basketball and lift in his free time!

Nobline Yoo

A junior hailing from the great state of Maryland, Nobline is an alto and joins 4 other members of KS in studying Computer Science! In her spare time, she enjoys solving logic puzzles and debugging code. Outside of KS, she is involved in PCF and Princeton Women in Computer Science.





Senior Spotlights



Kaylan Fomby

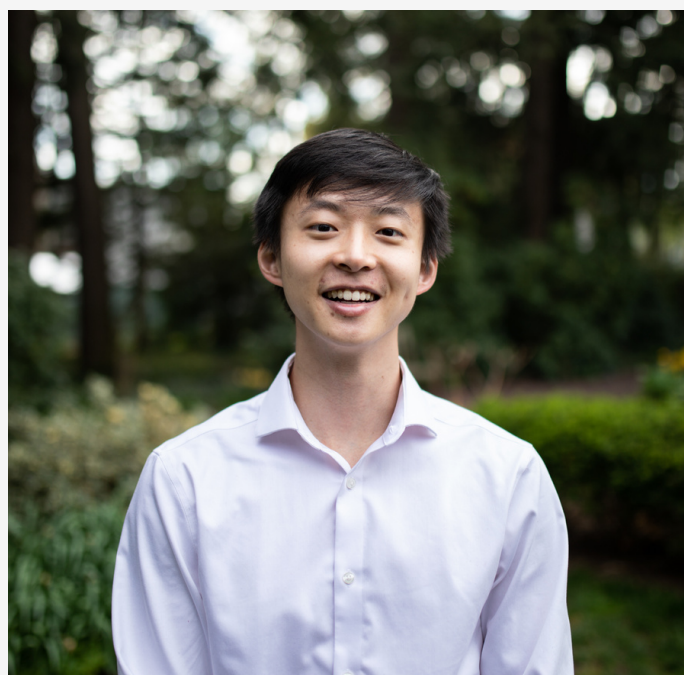
Joining Kindred Spirit has been one of the best decisions I could've made at Princeton. I joined for the singing but gained such a beautiful community of believers that really encouraged me and brought so much joy to my life during my time at Princeton. I couldn't imagine life without my KS family, and I'm so grateful to God for leading me to audition my freshman year. KS truly has my heart and I will miss everyone so much!

This summer I will be traveling to Mexico for missions, then returning home for a year before heading off to grad school to study biomedical research!

Tim Jia

It has been my privilege and joy to sing and praise God with my brothers and sisters in Christ. Singing was something I always wanted to do but I had difficulty with at first. I tried out multiple times for various groups. But more important than being able to sing, I was blessed to find a family that loves and cherishes God together.

Next year, I will be working with medically complex foster and adoption children as a Case Associate with New Alternatives for Children in New York City.





Senior Spotlights

Oleg Golev

Kindred Spirit was the first group on campus that accepted me as a member. I stayed because the people in this group truly grew to be my brothers and sisters in Christ. I have never met such a supportive, encouraging, and loving group, and the past four years here, whether singing, in fellowship, on tour, or at BIDD, will be my warmest memories from my undergraduate experience. Being in this group made me better recognize the grace and love of God, and I am forever thankful to have had the opportunity to praise Him and grow so much with Him through Kindred Spirit.



In fact, I love Kindred Spirit so much that I will be staying! Next year, I will continue onto a 2-year Computer Science Master's Degree here at Princeton University, so I am thankful to have many more love and God-filled experiences here with the Kindred Spirit family and share that love for Him through song and prayer.

Joyful Noise is an annual publication for alumni, family, and friends of Princeton Kindred Spirit.

Thank you for your support!

For any business or media enquiries, please reach out to Tiffany Deane,
tdeane@princeton.edu

