VOLUME 11 ISSUE 2

**JUNE 2025** 

## THE JOYFUL NOISE

#### KINDRED SPIRIT'S NEWSLETTER

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



#### Dear Kindred Spirit Family,

I think if there is any way to describe the semester, it would be "by the grace of God". Time and time again the Lord showed us his faithfulness. I saw that reflected in the faithfulness of our executive team members, who humbly, and often thanklessly, served even amidst the looming demands of Princeton. I saw that in our KS family, who still stumbled into practice despite all-nighters and demanding thesis deadlines.

Preparing for BidB was a constant test of our faith, we had a pretty minimal budget to work with and I still remember me, Brian, Drew, and Roger sitting in the practice room after rehearsal desperately praying that the Lord would provide. It seemed impossible that we would make it to Boston without each member paying out a significant chunk of change. That's why when Roger announced to us just a couple meetings afterwards, that his wonderful brother, Phil, and sister in law, Paula (KS Alums! We love you Phil and Paula!) offered us a place to stay at their church - I was on the verge of tears. The Lord had met and exceeded our wildest expectations! Not only would we have a roof over our heads, cots to sleep on, but also a kitchen and enough bathrooms for us all! He is a GOOD Father and He remembers His children.

At BidB, we really wanted to prioritize coming back to the heart of worship, and yet again, the Lord met us there in Boston. We had a blast busking with For Christ's Sake from Berkeley and then finished the night with our performance of "Via Dolorosa" and "Deep River". A sister from Living Water (Yale) wanted me to tell KS that "the Holy Spirit was evident in every word that you all sang". PRAISE GOD! He answered our prayers yet again! It is our prayer that in the upcoming semester that only continues to be the case. Would you join us in that prayer? That the Lord would be greatly glorified by our meager gifts? That people would encounter Him in every word we sing?

We are so grateful for all of you whose prayers carried us through the semester. Our KS family is such a tangible picture of the strength in the Body of Christ. Seeing the Baldwins in Princeton and then their lovely daughter Katie in Boston and seeing all of our alum who come back from their jobs in the city to join us in closing our arches out with The Benediction reminds me of this.

Until our next update- would the Lord bless and keep you, make his fave shine upon you, and give you peace!

With love, Chloe Chan

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD" - Psalm 98:4

#### WHO WE ARE

We are Kindred Spirit, Princeton's only Christian acapella 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: <u>kspirit@princeton.edu</u>

Website: princetonkindredspirit.com

Facebook: princetonkindredspirit

lnstagram: <u>pukindredspirit</u>

Youtube: <u>pukindredspirit</u>

## Looking Back: Break it Down Boston '25



Hello Kindred Spirit Alumni,

This April, KS was blessed to travel to Boston to take part in "Break it Down," where this year MIT hosted more than a dozen Christian Acapella groups from across the country, all coming together to sing praise to the Lord! As Business Manager for this year, I can admit that organizing this trip was at times stressful, but I want to emphasize that at every point, God provided, and that Break it Down provided a wonderful chance for us to grow with our fellow believers. Praise God.

On Friday, April 4th, we met at Wawa in the afternoon and departed for Boston. When we got there, alumni Phil and Paula Brooks '18 and '15 hosted us for a wonderful dinner that they had prepared alongside Katie Baldwin '24. It was delicious, and we are so grateful that the Brooks invited us into their home. The eleven current members on the trip learned about some of the history of Kindred Spirit, and we shared how the Lord is currently providing for the group.

That evening, we drove to Beacon Community Church, in the Boston Area, and they were kind enough to provide us with sleeping arrangements for the weekend. Without their help, this trip would have been more hectic and far more costly. Saturday morning, we drove to MIT's campus and met the rest of the groups, including our busking partner for the day, UC Berkeley's For Christ's Sake! With them, we went to the Boston Public Library and sang in the area to many passersby. It was encouraging to hear UC Berkeley's group and to see so many stop to hear our worship.

That evening, we performed in MIT's Kresge Auditorium as part of the larger Break it Down Boston concert, not only singing two songs as Kindred Spirit, but another two with all the Acapella groups combined. Singing the benediction with so many believers was uplifting. After the concert was all over, we spent more time with UC Berkeley's group at a local pizza shop, and, exhausted, drove back to our sleeping quarters.

The next morning, we went to Beacon Community Church's Sunday morning worship service, and afterward we even had the opportunity to perform for the congregation. It was a blessing to perform in so many contexts over the weekend. Once we had said our goodbyes to our hosts, we began the journey back for Princeton, and had returned to campus by the evening. It was a full, inspiring weekend of worship.

Drew Comstock '26 2025 Business Manager

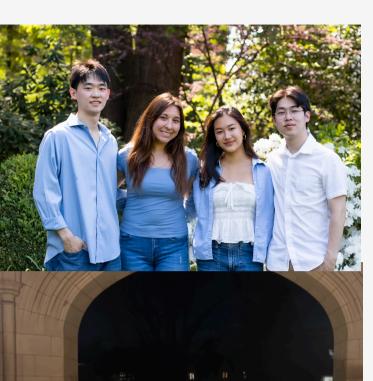


Our latest album, Home Awaits, which we released in the fall of 2016, is available on CD and several streaming platforms: Apple Music, Amazon Music, Spotify, Pandora, among others. Search "Home Awaits" and download or listen to KS arrangements of "If I Stand," "Brother," "Clear the Stage," and more!

If you wish to purchase the CD, reach out to our current Business Manager Drew Comstock: dc7045@princeton.edu

## Meet the Newbies! (Spring '25)









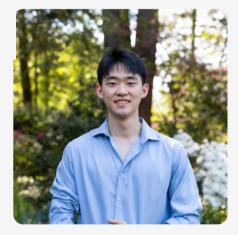
## Alena Zhang

Alena is an Economics major minoring in Entrepreneurship from Cherry Hill, NJ. On campus, she is involved with Manna Christian Fellowship and Princeton University Orchestra. In her free moments, she loves reading, exploring new cafés, and going on spontaneous late-night walks with friends.

### Matthew Oh

Matthew is a senior from Greensboro, NC who has made it to his fourth year as a CBE major by the grace of God. Outside of KS, he enjoys singing with his friends in VTone and pretending to be a COS student. He eventually plans to teach high school English, though it is unclear how long it will be until then.





## Joseph Hwang

Hello! My name is Joseph Hwang and I am a senior in Econ! I love listening to Italian music but love more the chance to sing gospels and praise with my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ!!

### Gabriella Myslo

Ella is an ECE major from Chicagoland, Illinois. She is also part of the robotics club and running club. In her free time, she enjoys baking, playing mahjong, and spending time in the warm weather.



#### LOOKING AHEAD!

What is Kindred Spirit looking forward to for Fall '25?

#### **NEWBIE ARCH**

We will be welcome a new group of Newbies to Kindred Spirit (and possibly returning members)! Exciting!!

#### FALL ARCH

We will sing to the Lord about the good and perfect gifts we are "gratefall" for!

#### CHRISTMAS JAM

Kindred Spirit traditionally comes together in Murray Dodge to sing and celebrate the birth of Christ, occasionally inviting the crowd to sing with us!

#### HOLIDAY JAM

Annually, Palmer Square invites all Princeton Acappella groups to sing in light of Holiday Season! Kindred Spirit publicly sings and celebrates the birth of Christ!

#### STAY UPDATED

Email: <u>kspirit@princeton.edu</u>

Website: princetonkindredspirit.com

Facebook: princetonkindredspiri

Instagram: <u>pukindredspiri</u>

Youtube: pukindredspir

## **Publicity in Remembrance**

Dear Kindred Spirit Alumni,

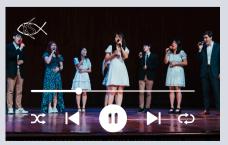
It's truly been an honor and privilege to serve as the publicity chair the past semester, capturing all the big and small ways God has been faithful to KS the past semester. Beginning of this year, God planted in me a conviction to take more pictures that I would live in remembrance of His unending grace and mercy, and I am grateful that God allowed a big part of such conviction to be fulfilled through Kindred Spirit. This was possible because being a publicity chair meant that I would be logging and looking back at both the struggles and joys throughout the semester.

From taking post-rehearsal pictures and videos for Break it down Boston to creating social media posts, I was blessed with the opportunity to see God's faithful hand over us. I am so grateful to have the privilege of looking back and say that God has been so good to us.

After our Newbie arch last semester, someone came up to us asking deeper about who Christ really was, and this itself is enough reason for us to remember and sing. We're excited to share all the ways God will be using us next semester throughout our Newbie Arch, Fall Arch, Christmas Jam, and Holiday Jam (and hopefully preparing for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary album, Lord willing)!

Through these pictures in the next couple pages of this newsletter, I pray and hope that God would remind you of His unending love for us in KS that includes both your time at Kindred Spirit and us today. Truly, God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. We thank you for supporting KS after years and ask that you would continue to pray that we would not lose our heart of worship!

In Christ, Brian Seo '27 Kindred Spirit Publicity Chair 2025



Curious about how "Break it Down Boston" went for Kindred Spirit in 2025? Interested in seeing the KS dynamic today? **The Vlog of BIDB 2025 is now on YouTube! Go check it out right now!** 

If you have any questions regarding publicity or media, please reach out to Brian Seo '27 at bs1207@princeton.edu

#### JUNE 2025

## **Photo Dump!**



PreArch Newbie



Seniors :D

Easter Arch



Seniors :D



**Senior Arch** 



Ladies



# ARCHES



### Easter Arch



Newbie Arch Funny Picture



Senior Arch



**JUNE 2025** 







# BREAK IT DOWN BOSTON



Check out the Break it Down Boston Vlog today on <u>Youtube</u>!



With Berkeley's For Christ's Sake









JUNE 2025

## REHEARSAL MOMENTS





Newbie Pickup



Ice Cream!



Newbie Halo Pub

# FELLOWSHIP



Six14 Christian Dance Company Filler



Snow!





Lyric Analysis



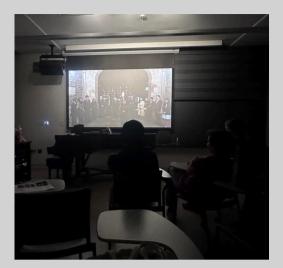
Music Director Roger Brooks



Post-Arch Bent Spoon



## END OF THE YEAR PARTY & SUPERLATIVES!



















## Senior Spotlights!





## Clara Conatser

KS has been such a fun and encouraging experience for me! I joined KS in my senior fall, inspired by my dear friends and KS alums Katie Baldwin and Andra Constantin. Throughout my time in KS, I have been richly blessed by many joyful times of fellowship and prayer. I have gained so many wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ, and I will never forget the memories we made at Break it Down Boston this April. I am so, so grateful to God for blessing me with this community.

In the fall, I will begin my masters degree in civil and environmental engineering (with a specialization in atmosphere and energy) at Stanford University.

## Matthew Oh

Being able to spend my last semester singing with Kindred Spirit has truly been a blessing. It has been so encouraging to praise God alongside my brothers and sisters in Christ, and the culture of the group has constantly empowered me to direct my enjoyment of song towards the glorification of God and His Kingdom. I will deeply miss the wonderful mix of personalities and beautiful souls that I was blessed to meet throughout my time in KS, and I will cherish these memories as I explore the next chapter of life.

Next year, I will be working close by as a software engineer in Bloomberg's Princeton office, before (potentially) entering a deferred PhD program for Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at UPenn!



## Senior Spotlights!



## **Tiffany Deane**

I joined KS my freshman spring, and 4 years later, I can say that it has been one of the best decisions I've made at Princeton. Being part of KS has taught me so much musically, but more than that, it has helped me grow in my walk with the Lord so much more than I ever anticipated. I am so grateful for this group, and to have had the opportunity to see God move in and through it over the years. I have met some of my closest friends and made some of my fondest memories as part of KS. God has been so faithful to us, and I pray that the group continues to grow



and bless others as it has me. What a joy and privilege it has been to praise the Lord with this beautiful family.

Next year, I will working as a software engineer in New York City!

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

Thank you for your support!

For any business enquiries, please reach out to Drew Comstock, <u>dc7045@princeton.edu</u>

