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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Marion Civic Chorale Invited to Perform in New York City

New York, N.Y. – February 17, 2012

Outstanding music program
receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that Director Matthew Bumbach and the Marion Civic Chorale have been invited to participate in a performance of Carol Barnett's *The World Beloved, A Bluegrass Mass* as part of the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance at New York City's Carnegie Hall is on Monday February 18th, 2013. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction.

Why the invitation was extended

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "The Marion Civic Chorale received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers as well as the exceptional quality of their audition recording.

It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community's recognition and support."

The singers will spend 5 days and 4 nights in New York City in preparation for their concert. "The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the 5 day residency," says Griffith. "Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance is the primary purpose for their visit to the city." Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support in sending these singers to New York by contacting The Marion Civic Chorale at (352) 342-1796 or via email at marionchorale@gmail.com.

Guest Conductor Nancy Menk

Nancy Menk holds the Mary Lou and Judd Leighton Chair in Music at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, where she is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities. She also teaches graduate conducting at the University of Notre Dame. At Saint Mary's College, Dr. Menk conducts the Women's Choir and the Collegiate Choir, teaches conducting, and prepares the Madrigal Singers for the annual Christmas Madrigal Dinners. Under her direction, the Women's Choir has performed on tour throughout the United States and it regularly commissions, performs, and records new works for women's voices for their series on the ProOrgano label. In February 2005 they performed for the ACDA National Convention in Los Angeles, CA. They recently made their first international tour visiting China in March 2011.

She is founder and conductor of the South Bend Chamber Singers, an ensemble of 30 select singers from the Michiana area. Winners of the 2004 ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming, the Singers were also finalists for the prestigious Margaret Hillis Award, given annually by Chorus America, in 2000. Dr. Menk also serves as conductor of the 120-voice Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus.

Dr. Menk has been a conducting participant in the National Conductor's Symposium with the Vancouver Chamber Choir and the Oregon Bach Festival. She is Editor of the Saint Mary's College Choral Series, a distinctive series of select music for women's voices published by earthsongs of Corvallis, Oregon. Along with Dr. James Laster of Shenandoah Conservatory, she has prepared an annotated bibliography of women's choir resources, which has been published by the American Choral Foundation. She contributed a chapter for the forthcoming book, "Working with Women's Choirs: Strategies for Success," published by GIA. Dr. Menk serves regularly as a guest conductor and choral adjudicator throughout the United States. She has conducted All-State Choirs in Colorado, Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania. In February 2010 she made her fifth appearance at Carnegie Hall, conducting Morten Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna*, and in August 2011, she served as guest conductor for the Hong Kong Youth Music Camp Chorus.

She holds the B.S. and the M.A. degrees in Music Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and the M.M. and the D.M.A. degrees in Choral Conducting from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

DCINY Productions

Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is a production company based in New York City. Our concert series includes choral and instrumental concerts in world-class venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall and Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Founded by Iris Derke (General Director) and Jonathan Griffith (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor) DCINY is driven by passion, innovative vision, a total belief in its artists, and unwavering commitment to bringing forth unforgettable audience experiences. Following our motto "The Art of Performance – The Power of Education", we focus on the educational process while upholding a high performance standard and provide ensembles and conductors of distinction educational and performance opportunities including select solo performances, rehearsal audit, conductor mentoring and debut performances.

Tickets

For more information on tickets, group sales or other special offers, please contact us at 212-707-8566, Ext. 307 or BoxOffice@DCINY.org.

Contact & Interviews

Interviews and additional information may be arranged by contacting Lynn Tsai, at 212.707.8566, x 306, or Lynn@DCINY.org.

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