



Music for All Announces 2018 National Choir Festival *Part of the Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Music for All will add programs for choir in 2018 with the premiere of the Music for All National Choir Festival, at the 2018 Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha, in Indianapolis. The Music for All National Choir Festival will be an integral part of Music for All’s ongoing mission to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. Henry Leck, Founder and Artistic Director of the famed Indianapolis Children’s Choir, has joined as Artistic Director of the Music for All National Choir Festival. Lori Lobsiger and Kim Mann, leaders in choral event programming and past producers of the World Choir Games, have joined Music for All as program consultants for the new MFA National Choir Festival.

“It’s extremely exhilarating to be involved in this new choral initiative and with an organization of such high caliber,” said Henry Leck, Artistic Director. “I look forward to bringing many talented choirs from all over the nation to the festival to further music education and help students experience the magic that Music for All offers with all of its programs.”

The new National Choir Festival is a non-competitive experience for outstanding high school and youth choirs, of both treble and mixed voices, to celebrate musical excellence and provide opportunities for growth and learning. The Festival offers an opportunity for each ensemble to receive recorded and written evaluation of its performance from a knowledgeable audience of music educators and fellow choir members. The festival also incorporates master classes led by world-renowned musicians and top applied faculty, as well as social events that give students the

chance to network with colleagues, guest artists and icons of music education. At the end of the festival, students, directors, parents, staff and evaluators will attend a Gala Awards Banquet where all ensembles are recognized for their participation.

“Music for All is excited to take this next logical step in support of and advocacy for scholastic music education,” said Eric L. Martin, President and CEO of Music for All. “For 40 years we have created and provided programs supporting, elevating and advocating for the availability and excellence of instrumental music instruction in our schools and nation. Expanding our commitment to choral music fulfills requests of MFA alumni and music educators from across the nation, as well as Music for All’s vision to ensure that every child across America has access to the benefits of quality scholastic music education offerings.”

The 2018 MFA National Choir Festival will be held March 15-17. This year, 2016, marks the 25th anniversary of the Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha, which currently includes concert bands, orchestras, percussion ensembles, chamber ensembles, and three national honor ensembles – the Honor Band of America, Honor Orchestra of America, and Jazz Band of America. A full schedule of Festival ensemble concerts, times, and locations for the upcoming 2016 Festival to be held in Indianapolis, March 10-12, will be available at www.musicforall.org/festival.

About Music for All

Music for All (MFA) is one of the nation’s largest and most influential organizations in support of active music making. Since 1975, MFA has been a destination and set the standard for scholastic music ensemble performance and music education advocacy. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization, MFA’s mission is to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. MFA’s vision is to be a catalyst to ensure that every child in America has access and opportunity for active music-making in their scholastic environment. MFA’s programs include 20+ annual events, including the Bands of America Grand National Championships and Regional Championships for marching bands, the Music for All Summer Symposium camp for

students and teachers, the Music for All National Festival, and Affiliate Regional Concert Band Festivals.

Music for All Sponsors

Music for All efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsor Yamaha Corporation of America; Official Uniform Sponsor Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Performance Equipment Sponsor Wenger Corporation; Official Student Travel Partner Music Travel Consultants; Title Sponsor of Texas Championships, Texas Dairy Queen®; Corporate Sponsors Visit Indy and the City of Indianapolis, Vic Firth Company, Zildjian and United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corp, Strategic Advocacy Partner, NAMM; Associate Sponsors DANSR, Remo, Inc., Tresona Multimedia, Director's Showcase International, Delivra and Woodwind & Brasswind. Music for All is also supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, Arts Council of Indianapolis, the Ball Brothers Foundation, George and Frances Ball Foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc.

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