



## **Music for All presents the National Choir Festival at Hilbert Circle Theatre**

INDIANAPOLIS – The National Festival Choir will perform in concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 17 at Hilbert Circle Theatre, featuring 400 students from across the United States, as part of the premiere Music for All National Choir Festival. Student choral ensembles from across the country will join voices in Indianapolis for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha.

Music for All celebrates the Premiere National Choir Festival with this special honors concert. Five hundred voices will join together from eleven high schools from New York, Maryland, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Colorado, one Jr. High School Choir from Texas, and two youth choirs from Indianapolis Children’s Choir *Bel Canto* and *Bella Voce*.

The National Choir Festival concert will be book-ended by our Treble and Mixed Mass Choirs under the direction of Music for All Choral Artistic Director, Henry Leck, founder and conductor laureate of the Indianapolis Children’s Choir; and Guest Conductor, Dr. Rollo Dilworth, Professor of Choral Music Education at Temple University. New choral works have been written for the Premiere National Choir Festival; Richard Saucedo’s arrangement of the *Star Spangled Banner* will kick-off the concert, and Artistic Director, Henry Leck’s *We Believe in Music* will bring the concert to a rousing close. Additional repertoire will include three Dilworth compositions: *Freedom’s Plow*, *Great Camp Meeting*, and *I Sing Because I’m Happy*, two original compositions by Jim Papoulis, and Movements 6 & 7 of Dan Forrest’s *Jubilate Deo*.

The mass choir will be accompanied by the Ball State University orchestra, directed by Doug Droste. NOTUS, from I.U. under the direction of Dominic DiOrio, and Ethos, an a cappella choir from Wright State University, directed by Brody McDonald will also be featured.

This year marks the premiere of the National Choir Festival as part of the Music for All National Festival. With this addition, Music for All now encompasses all the major pillars of a traditional school music program. Twelve choirs from across the nation invited by blind audition will debut choral performance.

“I am so excited to inspire and create beautiful music and life-changing moments with talented young musicians and their directors,” says Henry Leck, Artistic Director of the Music for All National Choir Festival.

Admission is free, general admission seating. A full schedule of Festival ensemble concerts, times and locations is available at [www.musicforall.org/festival](http://www.musicforall.org/festival), or for more information call 800-848-BAND (2263).

### **About Music for All**

Since 1975, Music for All, through its Music for All, Bands of America, Orchestra America, and choir programs, 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, Music for All's mission is to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. Music for All's vision is to be a catalyst to ensure that every child in America has access and opportunity for active music making in his or her scholastic environment. Music for All serves more than 500,000 participants annually with programs that include 30+ 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 Music Festivals for concert bands, orchestras, choirs, chamber ensembles, percussion ensembles, and the national honor concert band, jazz band, orchestra, and the Bands of America Honor Band that will march for the fifth time in the Rose Parade® in 2021.

### **Sponsor Information**

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 Student Travel Partner: Music Travel Consultants; Official Performance Equipment Sponsor: Wenger Corporation; Corporate Sponsors: Ball State University, United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps, Zildjian and Vic Firth Company, Visit Indy and the City of Indianapolis, and Strategic Advocacy Partner: NAMM; Associate Sponsors: Delivra, Vandoren, Director's Showcase International, REMO, Tresona Multimedia, and Woodwind & Brasswind. Music for All is also supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, Arts Council of Indianapolis, the Ball Brothers Foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc, George and Frances Ball Foundation, Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, Nicholas H. Noyes, Jr. Memorial Foundation, Inc., and Arthur Jordan Foundation.

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**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

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