



Nebraska Choral Arts Society

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PRESS RELEASE

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26th annual Festival of Christmas Brass and Choral Music

For Immediate Release

December 2, 2007

**WHAT: Nebraska Choral Arts Society 26th annual
Festival of Christmas Brass and Choral Music**

WHEN: Friday, December 12 – 7:30 p.m.
Featuring: Masterworks, Bel Canto, Camerata, Jubilate
Saturday, December 13 – 3:00 p.m.
Featuring: Masterworks, Cantori, Ragazzi Children, Ragazzi Youth
Saturday, December 13 – 7:30 p.m.
Featuring: Masterworks, Bel Canto and CAST

WHERE: First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

TICKETS: \$15.00 General admission tickets can be purchased in advance at www.choirmusic.org, by calling (402) 342-6753 and will also be available at the door. Price increases \$2 day of show. Children under six are admitted free. Contact the NCAS offices for group pricing and additional information.

Omaha, Neb. - The Nebraska Choral Arts Society will present the annual Festival of Christmas Brass and Choral Music at First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass Street, on Friday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00. Children under six will be admitted for free. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling (402) 342-6753, visiting www.choirmusic.org and will also be available at the door. Price increases \$2 day of show.

Artistic Director Nancy Engdahl Robson comments, "The Festival definitely helps many families ring in the holidays. We maintain a tradition each year but always provide a fresh and invigorating sound celebrating the season."

The concerts will feature familiar carols of the season as well as challenging and innovative holiday repertoire from classical to ethnic selections. As part of the event's tradition, attendees have the opportunity to lend their voices to audience inclusive sing-a-longs.

The festival features the Omaha Brass Ensemble and a mixture of the eight NCAS choirs on each concert. All three performances include the NCAS adult choir, Masterworks, led by Tim Marsden. Each of the three concerts present a different selection of the NCAS youth and children's choirs. Friday evening's performance will include the Camerata and Jubilate choirs led by Robson and the Bel Canto choir led by Sean Burton. Saturday's 3:00 concert will feature the Cantori choir led by Zach Vreeman and the Ragazzi Youth and Ragazzi Children choirs led by Cody

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Talarico. Saturday's 7:30 p.m. performance will again highlight Bel Canto along with CAST (Choral Arts Society Teens) led by Kathleen Doebel.

Additionally, each concert will feature an original carol composed by an Omaha area student. Now in its seventh year, the NCAS Carol Composition Contest was open to students in second through 12th grades throughout Nebraska and Iowa. Youth in three categories, second through fourth grades, fifth through seventh grades and eighth through 12th grades, competed for the honor of having their carols arranged by NCAS artistic staff and performed during the Festival and a \$250 cash award. The contest is sponsored by the Nebraska Choral Arts Society Guild.

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