



Nebraska Choral Arts Society

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PRESS RELEASE

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Illusions: paint pictures in your mind with music

For Immediate Release
March 10, 2009

WHAT: Nebraska Choral Arts Society, Nebraska Children's Chorus: "Illusions" concert

WHEN: Saturday, March 14, 2009
2 p.m. – choirs: Cantori, Ragazzi Youth & Ragazzi Children
4:30 p.m. – choirs: Bel Canto, Camerata & Jubilate

WHERE: UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center – 63rd & Dodge Streets

COST: Advance Tickets - \$10 Adults, \$8 students/seniors
Day of Concert - \$12 Adults, \$10 students/seniors

For more information: www.choirmusic.org **Tickets: 402.342.6753 x2**

Omaha, Neb. – Nebraska Children's Chorus, of Nebraska Choral Arts Society, will present concerts of evocative music painting pictures in your mind, with the pure sound only children's voices can provide.

The two "Illusions" concerts, on NCAS's 2008-2009 "Kaleidoscope" season, are on Saturday, March 14 at 2 and 4:30 p.m. at the UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center on 63rd and Dodge Streets. The 2 p.m. performance features the Cantori, Ragazzi Children and Ragazzi Youth choirs. The 4:30 p.m. performance features the Bel Canto, Camerata and Jubilate choirs.

"These concerts offer a real potpourri of music," said NCAS Artistic Director Nancy Robson. "When using the term 'illusions,' you think of being mentally transported to different places in your mind. These performances will evoke many locations and moods for the audience's minds."

Repertoire is diverse in content and mood. Concertgoers will hear music suggestive of the time of year, with winter and snow. Also, there are songs from many different cultures—such as Native American, Japanese and French—presenting vistas, rhythms and languages of foreign lands.

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Ragazzi Children and Ragazzi Youth Conductor Cody Talarico explains, "In the songs I chose for my choirs, the students can relate to a diverse cast of characters, from a moving depiction of a Holocaust survivor to sailors in a playful sea chantey."

Of additional interest, if not a sentimental note, Ragazzi Youth will sing a piece composed by former NCAS Artistic Director Z. Randall Stroope. Also, all the Nebraska Children's Chorus choirs are in preparation for their touring season of April, May and June. Most will venture regionally, but travel internationally is a yearly goal. Many of the pieces the audiences enjoy at the "Illusions" concerts will be performed for their touring audiences.

Leading the concerts are Zach Vreeman for Cantori, Talarico for the Ragazzi choirs, Sean Burton for Bel Canto and Robson for Camerata and Jubilate.

For more information regarding "Illusions" in the "Kaleidoscope" series, visit www.choirmusic.org. Advance tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Tickets cost \$2 more on the performance date. Tickets can be purchased direct from the NCAS offices at (402) 342-6743 extension 2.

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The Nebraska Choral Arts Society, a non-profit organization founded in 1978, is the umbrella of the Masterworks Chorus, CAST (Choral Arts Society Teens) and the Nebraska Children's Chorus. Its mission is to share the gift of great choral music, to inspire new generations with the love of singing and broaden its reach to all ages and cultures. Eight choirs make up the Nebraska Choral Arts Society, performing throughout the year in various venues in Omaha and across the country. The most advanced choirs of NCAS have performed internationally in choral music festivals and concerts in Central America, Europe, Asia and Africa. For more information, visit www.choirmusic.org.