

A Christmas Gloria

Celebrate the beauty of the season with the Quincy Symphony Chorus, directed by Dr. Phyllis Robertson, on Saturday, December 12 at 7:30pm. The *Christmas Gloria* Choral Concert will be sure to put your family in the holiday spirit. Selections will be accompanied by a variety of instruments including hand bells, flute, brass, and harp.

The well-known *Gloria* by Sir John Rutter will be a high-light of the concert. Members of the chorus traveled to New York City this summer and performed in Carnegie Hall with Rutter conducting. The concert will also feature three Christmas Americana spirituals with soloists. The Christmas Carol Fantasia, *Gloria, Gloria* will be accompanied by the church's new Schantz pipe organ.

Favorite choruses by Antonio Vivaldi and George F. Handel are ingeniously weaved together in *Angels Sing Glory*, arranged by Larry Shakley. Opening with the joyful proclamation of Vivaldi's *Gloria*, the musical pattern flows in and out of the traditional German carol, "How Great Our Joy," heralding the rejoicing shepherds. Imagine an angel choir descending from the heavens singing, "And Suddenly There was with the Angel," and "Glory to God," from Handel's *Messiah*. Crowning the medley is the close of Handel's *Hallelujah* chorus.

Throughout the evening, the chorus will perform traditional Christmas carol refrains that will have you leaving the concert immersed in your favorites of the season. The concert will take place at the Salem Evangelical United Church of Christ on the corner of 9th & State St. in Quincy. The beauty of the setting and the inspirational holiday music will be a great beginning to the joyous holiday season.

Single tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, and free for children 18 and under. Purchase tickets in advance at Wild Birds Unlimited, 3502 Broadway in Quincy. Season tickets are still available at a discount over single-admission prices. The performance is sponsored in part by Blessing Hospital, STARadio, and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. New Encounters Season Sponsors are the Knapheide Manufacturing Company and Dene Lambkin Honda, Hyundai, and Hertz. Call 217-222-2856 or visit www.qsoa.org for more information.