

FROM: Jessi Kirchner and Paul Shelor, QAYC

“Youth Chorus to Perform Annual Spring Concert”

The Quincy Area Youth Chorus will perform their Annual Spring Concert Sunday, April 3 at 3:00pm at Trinity United Church of Christ, 2020 South 24th Street. The younger Kinderchor, which includes singers in grades three through six, is conducted by Jessi Kirchner and accompanied by Laura Kammerer. The older Concert Choir, which involves singers in grades seven through twelve, is conducted by Paul Shelor and accompanied by Mary Shelor.

The Kinderchor will begin their half of the concert with a welcoming Jerry Estes piece entitled “Come, Sing a Song!”, followed by “Musica Dei” by Greg Gilpin. This Latin title when translated means “Music of God.” The Kinderchor will then sing “If I Could Catch a Rainbow,” by Brad Printz, a lyrical piece accompanied by cellist Sarah Polett, a member of the Concert Choir. Next on the program is “Rhythm of the Rain” by Jerry Estes. This piece is in three part harmony and members of Kinderchor imitate what the rain sounds like with their voices. Various percussion instruments will accompany the song. After they imitate the rain, they will sing “German Lullaby (Gute Nacht)” arranged by Dave and Jean Perry. Knowing the strength of German culture in Quincy, it is truly an honor to sing such a beautiful piece that brings some of that culture into the group. The Kinderchor will end their half of the concert with a spiritual “There’s Room for Many-A More” by Greg Gilpin.

The Concert Choir will perform the hauntingly beautiful "The Swallow" using aleatoric motifs, as well as the Zambian folk song arrangement "Bonse Aba" using African drum patterns. Also included in the program will be "La Nuit" featured in the movie "Les Choristes", the infectiously rhythmic "Yo le canto todo el Dia", an English folk song "The Stuttering Lovers" and other titles. The select Chamber Choir will be featured at this concert performing Thomas Morley's "Sing we and chant it" and the favorite "Homeward Bound." The choir will be accompanied by guest instrumentalists on clarinet and cello.

Free-will donations will be collected at the door. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Children ages 18 and under and Quincy Symphony season ticket holders will be admitted free of charge. There will be a reception following the performance in the fellowship hall.

Founded in 1995, the QAYC offers quality vocal training and heightened appreciation of choral music to children in 3rd through 12th grades. An educational outreach of the Quincy Symphony Orchestra Association, QAYC seeks to supplement school and church choral training with focused preparation and performance of excellent treble chorus literature, including both secular and sacred music, appropriate for both girls and boys with unchanged voices. Exceptional musicians from many communities participate. The chorus performs Fall and Spring concerts, and is often asked to perform at community events or with the Quincy Symphony Orchestra. Rehearsals are held on Saturday mornings or Sunday afternoons in the Spring and Fall. Auditions for both choirs are held three times a year. The next audition will be held on May 7. Tuition is free for students with financial need, thanks in part to the Tracy Family Foundation and the Samantha Otte Youth Opportunity Fund of the Community Foundation of the Quincy Area. Additional financial support is provided by Encore Symphony Volunteer Council, Symphony of Trees, and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. More information is available at www.qsoa.org or by calling 222-2856.