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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wesley United Church Choirs Invited to Perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City with Composer Mark Hayes

New York, N.Y. – October 8, 2018

Outstanding music program receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that Lee Stubbe and the Wesley United Church Choirs have been invited to participate in a performance of *The Holiday Music of Mark Hayes* on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance at Carnegie Hall is planned to take place on Monday, December 2, 2019. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Conductor and Composer Mark Hayes will lead the performance and will serve as the clinician for the residency.

Why the invitation was extended

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: “The Wesley United Church Choirs received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers as well as the exceptional quality of their audition recording.”

“It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community’s recognition and support.”

The singers will spend 5 days and 4 nights in New York City in preparation for their concert. “The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the 5 day residency,” says Griffith. “Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance is the primary purpose for their visit to the city.” Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support in sending these singers to New York by contacting Lee Stubbe at lee@leestubbe.com.

Composer/Conductor

Mark Hayes is an award-winning concert pianist, composer, arranger, and conductor. His personal catalog, totaling over

Mark Hayes

1,000 published works, includes work for solo voice, solo piano, multiple pianos, orchestra, jazz combo, small instrumental ensembles, and choruses of all kinds. Mark received a Bachelor of Music degree summa cum laude in Piano Performance from Baylor University in 1975. He has conducted the SWACDA and MCDA Community and Church Honor Choir, and served as guest conductor at Carnegie Hall, featuring his *Te Deum*, *Requiem* and *Magnificat*. In 2010, Baylor University Center for Christian Music Studies awarded Mark the Award for Exemplary Leadership in Christian Music. Mark arranged and orchestrated the music for *Civil War Voices*, which won six awards including "Best Musical" in the 2010 Midtown International Theatre Festival in New York. He conducted the world premiere of his work for chorus, orchestra and narrator, *The American Spirit*, at Lincoln Center in May 2011 and the world premiere of his *Requiem* at Lincoln Center in May 2013.

In addition to his involvement in the sacred and secular choral music fields, Hayes is an accomplished orchestrator and record producer. The album, *I've Just Seen Jesus*, which Mark arranged, orchestrated and co-produced, received the Dove Award for Praise and Worship Album of the Year in 1986. In June 2010 Mark released his first CD of original songs titled *All Is Well*, featuring Kansas City jazz artist, Monique Danielle. Whether concertizing on the other side of the globe or composing at his home in Kansas City, Missouri, Mark is blessed to live out his mission "to create beautiful music for the world."

DCINY Productions

Founded by Iris Derke and Jonathan Griffith, Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is the leading producer of dynamically charged musical excellence. With its unforgettable concert experiences in renowned venues, empowering educational programs, and its global community of artists and audiences, DCINY changes lives through the power of performance.

Tickets

For more information on tickets, group sales or other special offers, please contact us at 212-707-8566 Ext. 307, or BoxOffice@DCINY.org.

Contact, Interviews, and Photos

To acquire high-resolution images of DCINY performances at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center for media use, interviews, and press requests, please contact Press@DCINY.org.

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