

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

First Presbyterian Church of Duncanville Chancel Choir Invited to Perform Handel's *Messiah* at Carnegie Hall in New York City

New York, N.Y. – January 10, 2018

Outstanding music program receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that director Nyadia Thorpe and the First Presbyterian Church of Duncanville Chancel Choir have been invited to participate in a performance of Handel's *Messiah* on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance in Isaac Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall on Sunday, November 25, 2018 is of the Thomas Beecham/Eugene Goossens' 1959 Re-Orchestration for Full Symphony Orchestra. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Conductor Dr. Jonathan Griffith 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 First Presbyterian Church of Duncanville Chancel Choir received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers. 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 Nyadia Thorpe via email at nyadia.thorpe@gmail.com.

Conductor Jonathan Griffith

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, conductor, co-founder, and artistic director of Distinguished Concerts International New York, is an active conductor, educator, lecturer, and consultant. His conducting credits include the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Salt Lake City; Manhattan Philharmonic and New England Symphonic Ensemble, both in performances at Carnegie Hall; Nova Amadeus Orchestra, Italy; the European Symphony

Orchestra, Spain; Bohuslava Martinu Philharmonia and Philharmonia Chorus; Virtuosi Pregensis Chamber Orchestra, Karlovy Vary Symphony Orchestra, and Dvorák Chamber Orchestra, Czech Republic; Bialystok State Philharmonic, Poland; and several regional orchestras and choruses in the U.S. As the conductor of the world premiere of Earnestine Rodgers Robinson's *The Nativity* in Carnegie Hall, he was featured in an interview which aired on National Public Radio's *Morning Edition*, and also appeared in two recent documentaries about Ms. Robinson and her music—"Hidden Treasure" and "Sounds of a Miracle."

During the summer of 2007 he conducted his ensemble, the Jonathan Griffith Singers, in performances of Verdi's *Requiem* at two historic venues in Italy—the Church of Santa Marie Sopra Minerva in Rome and the Cathedral Duomo in Pisa. He made his Carnegie Hall conducting debut in 1989. His 45+plus Carnegie Hall appearances include the U.S. premieres of BBC's Planet Earth documentaries, and the Master Musicians of Joujouka and most recently was heard on television in *The Last Enemy* (Magnus Fiennes), *The Passion* (Debbie Wiseman), and *Planet Earth* (George Fenton).

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 Andrew Ousley at Unison Media at 212-707-8566 Ext. 316, or Press@DCINY.org.

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