

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

From a Composer's Imagination to the Audience's Ears - IT'S ALL IN THE "PRECEPTION"

Oakland, CA, March 16, 2015—The Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir continues its adventurous new music programming with the introduction of "*PRECEPTION - A Speaker Series*" to be held before its highly anticipated Contemporary Music Concert, Friday, March 27, at the First Congregational Church in Berkeley.

From 6 - 6:30 pm, audience members are invited to listen to a panel of experts who will discuss the process of bringing new music *From a Composer's Imagination to an Audience's Ears*. The panel is comprised of American composers Mark Winges, Eric Tuan, and Rachel Adams as well as members of the PEBCC Artistic Staff, Robert Geary and Clifton Massey and Suzie Rahl, founder of the Choir. Moderating the panel will be Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle award winner, Barbara Heroux. Guests may enjoy a glass of wine while listening to the discussion. The "Preception" is open to all and is included in the cost of admission to the concert.

Following the "Preception," the award-winning Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir will present a Contemporary Music Concert starting at 7:00 pm featuring the older Performing Department Choirs Ancora, Concert Choir, Ecco and Ensemble. The program includes two exciting, newly commissioned works. The first is nationally acclaimed award-winning composer Melissa Dunphy, entitled "*Shadows over a Cradle*." Dunphy, whose compositions have been performed around the country by Chanticleer, the St. Louis Chamber Chorus, and the American Opera Theater among others, was a winner of Volti's Choral Arts Laboratory award and was recognized with a Spirit of Tesla award by the Tesla Science Foundation.

"*Journey of Song*," by Eric Tuan, is the second newly commissioned work being performed at the concert and was written as the anthem for the Golden Gate International Choral Festival being held July 12-18 in Oakland. Tuan, who is just completing a year at The University of Cambridge where he is supported by a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, will take up the baton as the Conductor of Ecco in the 2015-16 season. Rounding out the program are works by Stacy Garrop, Mark Winges, Sue Bohlin and Rachel Adams. Adams, a Teaching Assistant for the Choirs and an enormously accomplished musician, will pursue her college degree in the fall in flute performance and composition.

Tickets are \$12/\$18/\$30 advance and \$15/\$20 door and may be purchased online at <http://pebcccontemporaryconcert.eventbrite.com>

Friday, March 27, 2015 • 7pm
First Congregational Church
2345 Channing Way, Berkeley

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The award-winning Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has been in the forefront of the music scene in the East Bay since 1982. The Choir regularly collaborates with major Bay Area arts organizations such as the Oakland East Bay Symphony, the Mark Morris Dance Company, Berkeley West Edge Opera, and Volti. Each year, PEBCC's comprehensive music curriculum program provides approximately 350 students, ages 4-17, from over 100 schools in three counties an exceptional education in vocal technique and music theory, while inspiring creativity and encouraging engagement with other cultures through its international touring program. A new term of Musical Beginnings—a fun, foundational class for babies/toddlers and their caregivers begins in April. The 10th Golden Gate International Choral Festival—a week of concerts and competition for dozens of choirs from around the world takes place in the Bay Area July 12-18, 2015. For more information about the Choir and its programs, call 510.547.4441, or visit its websites at piedmontchoirs.org and goldengatefestival.org.

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