

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir Welcomes New Conductor

Oakland, CA., February 18, 2015—The award winning Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir (PEBCC) has announced that American composer and Gates Scholar, Eric Tuan has been hired as the new Conductor of its popular choir, Ecco. Tuan, a composer and emerging choral conductor star, will lead the select high school ensemble beginning in the 2015-16 season. Tuan holds degrees in music and linguistics from Stanford University.

Tuan, himself an alumnus of PEBCC, graduated from the Choir after 10 years. During this time, he composed several pieces for the Choir and served as an accompanist on international tours. Following graduation, he founded Convivium, a Peninsula-based chamber choir. Tuan has served as director of music at Christ Episcopal Church in Los Alto, has sung professionally with many leading Bay Area choral ensembles including Volti, Capella SF, and the Philharmonia Baroque Chorale, and is a published composer with the E.C. Schirmer Music Company. Of his many commissions for PEBCC, the most recent—*Journey of Song*—will be given its premiere at the Contemporary Music Concert on March 27 at the First Congregational Church in Berkeley.

Currently, Tuan is completing his Master's degree in choral conducting at The University of Cambridge in England, where he is supported by a Gates Cambridge Scholarship. Tuan will bring his growing expertise and many talents to Ecco, inspiring new generations of PEBCC graduates to greater musical excellence and interpretation of song.

Ecco is PEBCC's high school aged choir which performs engaging repertoire from medieval to contemporary to jazz. Using the combined talents of mature PEBCC students, Ecco prepares singers for the transition to college repertoire through professional level performance of a variety of a cappella musical styles. Ecco consists of approximately 40 mixed voices: young men with changed voices, plus young women in tenth grade or above. Most of the singers have progressed through the PEBCC program and are dedicated choral artists who have been members of the prize-winning Ensemble in choral competitions. Newcomers who wish to participate in a high-caliber choral experience are welcome to audition. Interested singers can learn more at piedmontchoirs.org/ecco or call 510.547.4441 for more information.

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The acclaimed Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir (PEBCC) has been offering children an outstanding program of choral training and performance 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. The Choir's comprehensive music curriculum provides approximately 350 students, ages 0-17, 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. PEBCC will also host its 10th Golden Gate International Choral Festival July 12-18, 2015—an acclaimed destination for top international youth choirs to compete and perform in a spectacular week of cultural exchange and musical excellence. For more information about the Choir and its programs, call 510-547-4441 or visit piedmontchoirs.org and goldengatefestival.org.

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