

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PIEDMONT EAST BAY CHILDREN'S CHOIR PERFORMS BENJAMIN BRITTEN
Two All-Britten Concerts and Choir soloists featured in Cal Performances Britten Opera

Piedmont, CA, 3/8/11 — The Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir (PEBCC) is a fan of the music of Benjamin Britten, so much so that they are presenting a concert set of solely Britten works. The top groups of the East Bay's leading children's choir will perform in Oakland on Friday, March 25, 2011 at 8pm and in Lafayette on Saturday March 26 at 8pm. The same weekend, Choir-prepared soloists will join Castleton Festival Opera in the Cal Performances production of Benjamin Britten's *Albert Herring*. Those performances will take place in Zellerbach Hall on Saturday, March 26, 2011 at 8pm and Sunday, March 27, 2011 at 3pm.

PEBCC is proud to present a rare delight: an all-Britten concert. This composer wrote prolifically for adults and children alike and is favored by musicians and audiences for his unique clarity and lyricism. PEBCC's concerts will present the dizzying rapture of *Rejoice in the Lamb*, and the gravitas of the *Missa Brevis*. Rarely performed with harp and tenor, the *Choral Dances from Gloriana* will feature soloist David Kurtenbach. Also sung will be the lyrical *Hymn to St. Cecilia*, selections from *Ceremony of Carols*, and more.

Gloriana: A Celebration of Benjamin Britten
Friday, March 25, 2011 at 8pm
First Presbyterian Church of Oakland
2619 Broadway at 27th St, Oakland

Saturday, March 26, 2011 at 8pm
Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church
49 Knox Dr, Lafayette

Tickets: \$12 Students/\$18 Adults/\$25 Premium Reserved
(premium tickets only available in advance)
Tickets available at 510-547-4441, or www.piedmontchoirs.org/box-office.lasso

PEBCC continues its collegial relationship with Cal Performances with three singers on the Zellerbach stage. Castleton Festival Opera, led by Lorin Maazel, is presenting The Britten Project, the performance of two rarely-performed but wonderful Britten operas: *The Rape of Lucretia* & *Albert Herring*. PEBCC was asked to select and prepare three children's solo roles for *Albert Herring*. Choir members Andres Beck-Ruiz (9), Emma Thvedt (12), and Daphne Williams (15) will be playing Harry, Cis and Emmie. Ensemble's Assistant Conductor Sue Bohlin has been coaching and training the three children in their parts.

Castleton Festival Opera's *Albert Herring*
Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley
Saturday, March 26, 2011 at 8pm
Sunday, March 27, 2011 at 3pm

Tickets available at <http://calperformances.org/>

The internationally-acclaimed Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir has been offering children from throughout San Francisco's East Bay an outstanding program of choral training and performance. Founded in 1982 by Suzie Rahl, the Choir has established itself as a leading force in international choral activities and new music under the dynamic leadership of Artistic Director Robert Geary. International tours every summer and a keen desire to meet, collaborate, and compete with choruses and singers of other cultures have led to high marks at prestigious festivals across the world, and to the sponsorship of the Golden Gate International Choral Festival. 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. In June 2011 they will be a featured performer in the prestigious Chorus America Conference.

For additional information, Contact:

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