

Press Release

For immediate release

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SALINA SYMPHONY TO PRESENT CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL CONCERT DEC. 17 & 18

Nov. 29, 2011, SALINA, KAN.— Nothing says “Christmas” like the Salina Symphony Christmas Festival Concert, filled with beloved carols sure to warm your heart. Usher in the holidays with the 200+ members of the Symphony, Salina Chorale, Kansas Wesleyan University Chorale, Children’s Holiday Choir and Peggy Simms’ Center for Theatre Arts Dancers at the Stiefel Theatre on Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 18 at 4 p.m.

The family-friendly concert will feature a wide array of Christmas favorites. Highlights include “Christmas at the Movies” with music from “Miracle on 34th Street,” “Polar Express,” and “Somewhere in My Memory,” among others. “Bugler’s Holiday” is back this year and will feature Dan Diederich along with his sons, Drew and Aaron.

The Center for Theatre Arts Dancers, under the direction of choreographer/instructor Peggy Simms, will premiere several new dances, including a lyrical dance to “Ave Maria” and a traditional kick line to “Walking in a Winter Wonderland.”

To top off the excitement, the cast from the Salina Community Theatre’s “White Christmas” will perform “Happy Holidays / Let Yourself Go,” a high energy tap song and dance number.

The concert will also feature the premiere of an original composition by Ann Zimmerman titled “Winter Solstice: Hymn for Dark Times.” The piece was commissioned to celebrate the Salina Area United Way’s 75th anniversary.

“Considering the season, I decided to write a winter solstice song to explore the worldwide shared experience of shrinking daylight leading to the longest night, and the hope of sunlight and brighter days returning,” Zimmerman said.

The concert will close with “Christmas Day” by Michael W. Smith, which will feature guest vocalists Paul Austin and Jennifer Chlumsky.

“The piece is very sentimental and the performance will be powerful because it will include the soloists and more than 100 vocalists as well as the dancers,” said Maestro Ken Hakoda.

Tickets may be purchased at the Stiefel Theatre Box Office, by calling 785-827-1998 or online at www.ticketmaster.com. Single admission is \$22 for adults and \$12 for students.

The Salina Symphony is a regional orchestra dedicated to enriching lives through artistic music performance and education. For more information, contact Adrienne Allen at (785) 823-8309 or visit www.salinasymphony.org.

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