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Press Contact: Libby Huebner (562) 799-6055 [nyjazz@aol.com](mailto:nyjazz@aol.com)

## **LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S CHORUS LAUNCHES SCANDINAVIAN TOUR WITH FREE COMMUNITY "SEND OFF" CONCERT**

**Thursday, June 24, 2010, 7:00 P.M., at Pasadena Presbyterian Church**

***Choir to Tour Sweden, Estonia and Finland***

Los Angeles Children's Chorus (LACC) launches a 10-day tour to Scandinavia with a free Community Connections "send off" concert on Thursday, June 24, 2010, 7:00 PM, at Pasadena Presbyterian Church. LACC's eminent 60-member touring ensemble, conducted by Artistic Director Anne Tomlinson, performs selections from its tour repertoire, a vibrant mix of classical, folk and contemporary works from around the globe. The international tour, the choir's first to Scandinavia, features performances in some of the leading concert venues in Stockholm, Sweden; Tallinn, Estonia; and Jyväskylä and Helsinki, Finland.

Repertoire highlights include American composer James Mulholland's spirited *Come Let's Be Merry* on an anonymous 17<sup>th</sup> Century text, Rachmaninoff's *The Angel*, set to a poem by Mikhail Lermontov, and John Adams' haunting lullaby from *El Niño* entitled "A Palm Tree" with choreography by Peter Sellars. Also featured will be Los Angeles-based composer Paul Gibson's *Dona Nobis Pacem/Grant Us Peace*, the Chinese folksong *Midnight Stars Make Bright the Sky*, Venezuelan composer César Alejandro Carrillo's *Ave Maria*, as well as a selection of African-American spirituals and such American classics as *Blue Skies* by Irving Berlin (arr. Roger Emerson), and *It Don't Mean a Thing* by Duke Ellington (arr. Mac Huff). In addition, the choir performs a range of Scandinavian works, among them Kevadkillud *Spring Sketches* by Veljo Tormis, the Finnish folk song *Taivas on sininen*, and *Three Fiord Sketches* by Olli Kortekangas.

The 10-day tour includes a pair of concerts on June 29 in Sweden's capital, Stockholm, at the United States Embassy, as part of an extended American Independence Day celebration, and at the city's renowned musical venue the Gusta Vasa Church. The tour continues with a performance on July 1 at St. John's in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia and the country's largest city, and concludes in Finland, where the choir will appear in the city of Jyväskylä on July 3 and at the famed Rock Church in Helsinki on July 4.

**(MORE ON REVERSE)**

LACC will also collaborate with several local choirs, including the Estonian TV Girls' Choir of Tallinn, Vox Aurea of Jyväskylä and Candomino from Espoo, located near Helsinki. Additionally, the Chorus will enjoy cultural exchanges and home-stays in Jyväskylä with the local choir.

**The concert is free and reservations are not required. Pasadena Presbyterian Church is located at 585 East Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena. For information on Los Angeles Children's Chorus, please call (626) 793-4231 or visit [www.lachildrenschorus.org](http://www.lachildrenschorus.org).**

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#### **About Los Angeles Children's Chorus**

Los Angeles Children's Chorus – described as “astonishingly polished,” “hauntingly beautiful,” “a homogenous blanket of sound that is smooth, silky” and “one heck of a talented group of kids” – is recognized throughout the country for its exceptional artistic quality and technical ability. Under Artistic Director Anne Tomlinson, LACC is recognized throughout the country for its exceptional artistic quality and technical ability. Founded in 1986, LACC performs frequently with leading music ensembles including the LA Phil, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Calder Quartet and Pasadena Symphony. LACC also assists Los Angeles Opera by training and providing children for its opera productions that require children's chorus or child soloists. The Chorus' roster includes more than 350 children aged 6-18 from 60 communities across Los Angeles in six choirs and a program of “First Experiences in Singing” classes for young singers. LACC's intensive training program includes weekly or twice weekly rehearsals, individual vocal coaching and comprehensive musicianship classes. LACC has toured Brazil, Great Britain, Italy, Australia, Germany, Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland, as well as many parts of the United States and Canada. In 2008, Concert Choir performed at the China International Arts Celebration for Young People during its tour to China prior to the Beijing summer Olympics. Among its numerous accomplishments, LACC produced a commissioned world-premiere opera, *Keepers of the Night*, by composer Peter Ash and librettist Donald Sturrock in 2007 and appears on “Amore Infinito” (“Infinite Love”), a Deutsche Grammophon CD of songs based on poems by the late Pope John Paul II and performed by Plácido Domingo, which was released worldwide in March 2009. LACC is also featured in the Academy Award-nominated documentary, “Sing!” and sequel documentary “Sing Opera!” by award-winning Santa Monica filmmakers Freida Lee Mock and Jessica Sanders. “Sing!” documents a year in the life of the choir and is shown frequently on PBS stations nationwide. “Sing China!,” a third documentary premiering in spring 2010, chronicles the choir's groundbreaking tour to China. LACC has appeared twice on NBC's “The Tonight Show,” including, in June 2009, with Grammy Award-winning pop artist John Mayer, and was featured on Public Radio International's acclaimed nationally syndicated radio show “From the Top,” hosted by acclaimed pianist Christopher O'Riley. LACC continues its long-standing commitment to the community by performing Community Connections free concerts in retirement homes, community centers and public schools, and for various civic organizations throughout the year, as well as by hosting satellite vocal classes at Heart of Los Angeles in Lafayette Park and Daniel Webster Elementary School in Pasadena.

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#### **CALENDAR LISTING**

#### **Los Angeles Children's Chorus – FREE Community Connections “Send Off” Concert Launches 10-Day Scandinavian Tour**

Anne Tomlinson, Artistic Director

#### **DATES:**

Thursday, June 24, 2010, 7:0PM

#### **PROGRAM:**

##### **Includes repertoire from:**

JAMES MULHOLLAND	Come Let's Be Merry
SERGEI RACHMANINOFF	The Angel
JOHN ADAMS	“The Palm” from El Niño
PAUL GIBSON	Dona Nobis Pacem/Grant Us Peace
Chinese folksong	Midnight Stars Make Bright the Sky
CÉSAR ALEJANDRO CARILLO	Ave Maria
IRVING BERLIN (arr. Roger Emerson)	Blue Skies by Irving Berlin
DUKE ELLINGTON (arr. Mac Huff)	It Don't Mean a Thing
VELJO TORMIS	Kevadkillud Spring Sketches

(MORE)

Finnish folk song  
OLLI KORTEKANGAS  
+ other works to be announced

Taivas on sininen  
Three Fiord Sketches

**LOCATION:**

Pasadena Presbyterian Church  
585 E. Colorado Blvd.  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**TICKET PRICES:**

FREE

**INFORMATION:**

(626) 793-4231  
[www.lachildrenschorus.org](http://www.lachildrenschorus.org)

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program and artists subject to change  
06/03/10

Experience LACC on YouTube! -- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2XGEifORnw>

Follow LACC on Twitter -- <http://twitter.com/lachildchorus>