



PRESS RELEASE *September 20, 2008 – For immediate publication*

Heartland Chamber Chorale and University of Saint Francis Announce Partnership

September 20, 2008 – Fort Wayne, IN. The University of Saint Francis and the Heartland Chamber Chorale have announced a partnership to benefit both organizations.

Through the terms of the agreement, the Heartland Chamber Chorale (HCC), an independent, professional vocal ensemble, will be in residence on the campus of the University of Saint Francis. HCC will conduct workshop performances with the University Singers and provide professional assistance to the university choir and resources such as the Chorale's music library. The Chorale will offer internship opportunities for USF students in arts administration. The university will provide office, rehearsal and performance spaces along with a recording studio for HCC's use.

The University's School of Creative Arts has a rapidly growing music program that includes a bachelor's degree in Music Technology, a recording studio, university choir, pep band, jazz ensemble, and drum corps. Dean of the School of Creative Arts, Rick Cartwright, stated, "It is with great excitement that the School of Creative Arts and Heartland Chorale join forces to support the continued growth and performance of music opportunities for artists and patrons in the region. This partnership will enhance both organizations and will provide our students with increased opportunities to witness the performances of professional artists. I look forward to working with the Heartland organization for many years to come."

Maestro Robert Nance, Artistic Director of the Heartland Chamber Chorale, is also enthusiastic about the new partnership. "With this agreement, the HCC has found a home at the University of Saint Francis. As stewards of one Fort Wayne's fastest growing artistic treasures, the HCC Board began searching for the right location for the Chorale over two years ago. I am happy to say that USF and the HCC found each other, both seeking programmatic growth, both with significant assets that support the goals and objectives of the other, and both sharing the understanding that the arts are an essential part of a well-rounded citizenry. We look forward to a long, productive partnership." Mr. Nance also directs the university choirs.

Entering its 12th season, Heartland Chamber Chorale is a mixed voice semi-professional choral ensemble directed by founder Robert Nance. Based in Fort Wayne and Northeast Indiana, Heartland sings a varied repertoire from classical and vocal jazz to Broadway and the spiritual.

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HEARTLAND CHAMBER CHORALE

Heartland Chamber Chorale
6631 Quail Ridge Lane • Fort Wayne • Indiana • 46804-2875
260.436.8080 • 866.745.7013 • info@heartlandchorale.org • www.heartlandchorale.org

The Heartland Chamber Chorale is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

Under Maestro Nance, the Chorale has grown tremendously and is today recognized as one of the finest choral ensembles of its kind in the region. In-school programs for elementary schools and demonstration master classes for middle and high school choruses are the hallmarks of the HCC education program. The HCC also sponsors individual coaching of singers and choruses. The Chorale makes regular appearances on Northeast Indiana Public Radio and throughout the community.

For more information, phone Maestro Robert Nance, Artistic Director of Heartland Chamber Chorale, Inc. at 260.436.8080 or Dean Rick Cartwright of the School of Creative Arts at 260.399.7700 x8015.

The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) is an accredited school by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). The University of Saint Francis, founded in 1890, is a comprehensive university in the Catholic Franciscan tradition, offering undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 2,100 students from a broad geographic region..

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The Heartland Chamber Chorale is an independent, professional vocal ensemble-in-residence on the campus of the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Now presenting outstanding vocal music performances in its 12th season, the 26-member Heartland Chamber Chorale is Northern Indiana's only professional chorus. Founded by Artistic Director Robert Nance, the Heartland Chamber Chorale performs in and around Fort Wayne throughout the year. The HCC also engages promising young vocalists through educational outreach programs like our *Side-by-Side in Song* and *Project Sing!* initiatives. The purpose of the Heartland Chamber Chorale is to perform high quality choral chamber music to enrich audiences in the Fort Wayne community, Northeast Indiana, and beyond, with a goal to serve as a professional resource to the community for matters pertaining to the art of chamber vocal music.

The Heartland Chamber Chorale is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and is funded in part through gifts from Arts United (a local agency), the Indiana Arts Commission (a state agency), and the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency). Additional funding is provided by HCC Member-Supporters, the English Bonter Mitchell Foundation, Target Foundation, the Wilson Foundation, and the Lincoln Financial Group Foundation. For additional information and a current schedule of concerts, please visit www.heartlandchorale.org or call the HCC office at 260-436-8080.



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