

# NYC MASTER CHORALE

Thea Kano, Artistic Director

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NEW YORK CITY MASTER CHORALE TO RECEIVE PROCLAMATION FROM  
NEW YORK CITY'S MAYOR'S OFFICE**

***Prestigious Honor Recognizes Chorale's Fifth Anniversary, Contributions to the Community***

NEW YORK, April 11, 2011 – The New York City Master Chorale, under the direction of Artistic Director Dr. Thea Kano, announced today that the Chorale is receiving a proclamation from the office of New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. The proclamation congratulates the Chorale on its fifth anniversary of bringing classical music excellence to New York City and recognizes the Chorale's important contributions to the city through its community outreach programs.

"We are proud and delighted to receive this prestigious recognition from the Mayor's Office," says Dr. Kano. "This adds immeasurably to our anniversary celebration of five years of bringing the beauty of music directly to our New York City neighborhoods and citizens. We're especially gratified to receive the Mayor's notice of our mission."

Since it's founding in 2005 by Dr. Kano, the New York City Master Chorale has maintained an active Community Arts Access Program to broaden public interest in and access to fine choral music. The Chorale's outreach includes music performances in local churches and community centers, bringing live classical music at no cost to those who might not otherwise be able to attend concerts. Dr. Kano and the Chorale also regularly visit local public schools to provide much-needed music education workshops.

The proclamation from the Mayor's Office is being issued in conjunction with the Chorale's fifth anniversary performance on Friday, May 20th at 8:00 p.m. at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall at 1941 Broadway at 65th Street. The Chorale will be joined by approximately 60 singers from Washington, DC, including singers from the Lutheran Church of the Reformation and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, to perform the New York City debut of contemporary composer Paul Leavitt's *Requiem*.

The performance will also include an *a capella* piece, *Ubi Caritas*, by Maurice Duruflé, as well as the composer's *Messe cum Jubilo*. Following the concert, Dr. Kano and Leavitt will take the stage to hold a "talk back" session, answering questions from the audience.

Tickets are priced at \$20 for students/seniors, \$30 for balcony/rear orchestra, \$45 for orchestra and \$60 for premium seating and are available through the Chorale's website ([www.nycmasterchorale.org](http://www.nycmasterchorale.org)) or by calling the organization's box office at 917.326.1422. Tickets are also available at the door prior to the concert, as space permits. Public transportation to Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall is readily accessible via the 1 train to 66th Street/Lincoln Center, or the A, B, C, D to 59th Street/Columbus Circle.

As part of its mission to share music with people of all income levels, the Chorale will donate tickets to its fifth anniversary concert to students from low-income schools that the Chorale has visited this season, as well as additional tickets to Fedcap Rehabilitative Services' community choir, an organization that assists individuals with disabilities and barriers to employment join the workforce.

#### ***About Conductor Thea Kano***

Thea Kano is the founding artistic director and conductor of the New York City Master Chorale. She has prepared choruses for Zubin Mehta and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and has prepared the Chorale for performances with the Astoria Symphony and the Park Avenue Chamber Symphony. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting from the University of California, Los Angeles, where she studied with Donald Neuen and Paul Salamunovich.

#### ***About New York City Master Chorale***

Founded in 2005, the New York City Master Chorale presents an annual concert series, performing at the Church of Saint Paul the Apostle, The Riverside Church and Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center. In addition, the Chorale has been invited to sing in many of New York City's most prestigious venues, including Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Avery Fisher Hall and Carnegie Hall. The Chorale is noted for its excellent performances of the entire range of the choral repertoire. The Chorale also provides education and outreach initiatives to New York City schools and community programs as an integral component of its mission.

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