
News Release

BYU SINGERS

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Brigham Young University

Artistic Director

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The spirit and power of each choral piece brought to life by the BYU Singers is attributed to the talents of both the performers and the conductor Dr. Ronald J. Staheli. Staheli founded the BYU Singers in 1984 and has since led them around the globe for international competitions and tours. This world-renowned choral group will present a special concert at (PLACE) on (DATE) at (TIME).

After graduating Magna Cum Laude from Brigham Young University's piano performance and music theory undergraduate program, Staheli continued his studies in music at the University of Southern California. While there he earned a master's and doctoral degree in choral music, and then returned to BYU to serve on the School of Music's faculty in 1982. When Staheli is not working with the BYU Singers, he oversees the choral music graduate program at BYU.

Dr. Staheli has taken the BYU Singers to more than twenty countries across the globe, including Russia, Romania, Hungary, Austria, England, Italy, Israel, Egypt, New Zealand, and South Africa. Currently he is preparing the choir for an extended tour throughout China in April and May; a place the group has never travelled to before. In a 21-day period the choir will perform in nine different cities and work with numerous university and community choirs. The most recent international tour took the choir across the ocean to Wales and England, where they sang in world-renowned locations including St. Paul's Cathedral in London. In 2009, Staheli took the University Singers to the United Kingdom and Ireland where they participated in the Cork International Choral Festival. For their touching performance, the Singers received 2nd place in the competition as well as the Audience Favorite Award sponsored by the P.E.A.C.E. organization. After the Cork Festival, the group toured and performed in other cities of Ireland and Northern Ireland, England, and Wales. Most recently the group toured the

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Pacific Northwest of the United States. The Singers visited 10 cities throughout Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Previously the Singers toured Wyoming and Colorado, where they participated in workshops and combined choral performances with high school and college choirs.

Since Staheli has conducted the choir, BYU Singers have been invited to several international events and have performed for heads of state and high schools alike. The *American Record Review* says, “Staheli’s Brigham Young University Singers is a brilliant and fresh-voiced ensemble [with] razor-sharp intonation. Also conspicuous are their satiny smoothness and warm beauty of tone. Their interpretive virtues include youthfully intense emotional depth and touching spirituality.” Peter J. Maunder of Bristol, England, had similar sentiments: “The historic church of St. Mary Redcliffe in Bristol, England, was the venue for a performance by the BYU Singers that can only be described as stunning.”

BYU Singers originates in the School of Music of the College of Fine Arts & Communications at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. BYU is one of the nation’s largest private universities with an enrollment of more than 30,000 students from throughout the United States and 120 foreign countries.

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