

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EVENT: Florida State University Singers Tour Concert
DATE AND TIME: Sunday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Wattenbarger Auditorium, Bryan Fine Arts Building
Tennessee Tech
FOR INFORMATION: 850-644-5084

The Florida State University Singers will be performing in at Wattenbarger Auditorium, Tennessee Tech during their 2009 Spring Tour ***Now Let Us Sing!***

The concert will divided into three sections opening with *Now Let Us Sing Our Prayers* featuring the music of Tomás Luis de Victoria, Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, and Arvo Pärt, followed by *Now Let Us Sing Our Reflections*, where the choir will perform settings of the poetry of Gwendolyn Bennett and Charles Cyprus Thomas in William Bolcom's *The Mask*, and this section will end with a moving composition that was written as the composer's mother went through treatment for breast cancer—Sydney Guillaume's *Por Toi, Mère, "For You, Mother"* is an emotional setting that has stirred the imaginations of the singers. The final section *Now Let Us Sing and Play* features delightful folksong arrangements from around the world.

University Singers Description

The University Singers, founded in 1948 by Dr. Wiley Housewright, is the premier undergraduate auditioned choir at Florida State University. The choir is composed of undergraduate students including those majoring in music and the other degree programs offered by the many academic units making up The Florida State University. During its rich history, University Singers has performed with such remarkable musicians as Kristof Penderecki (2004), Bobby McFerrin (2004), Sir David Willcocks (2002), Aaron Copland, Norman Dello Joio, Billy Taylor, and the esteemed Atlanta Symphony Conductor Robert Shaw, who continued to conduct concerts with the University Singers into his eighties. Additionally, University Singers has frequently performed at national and regional conventions of the Music Educators National Conference and the American Choral Directors Association, including their 2007 performance at the national convention of ACDA in Miami. During the summer of 2007, members of University Singers performed for the National Association of Choral Directors of China in Beijing. Throughout the over sixty-one year history, several distinguished conductors have led the University Singers, including Walter James, Joseph Flummerfelt, Clayton Krehbiel and André Thomas. Today, the traditions established by these outstanding conductors have been passed to the current conductor, Kevin Fenton.

Kevin Fenton is professor of choral conducting and ensembles at Florida State University. He holds the Ph.D. from Florida State University, the M.M. from the Conservatory of Music at the University of Missouri in Kansas City and the B.M.E. from Friends University in Wichita, Kansas. On nine occasions, he has conducted ensembles in performances for regional and national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association and the Music Educator's National Conference. Dr. Fenton has served as a clinician for workshops, honor choirs and clinics in twenty-seven states throughout the country, including guest conducting the ACDA Southern Division Honor Choir in 2008. In 2009, Dr. Fenton will conduct all-state honor choirs in Alabama, Missouri, and New York. He is the author of the undergraduate textbook **Foundations of Choral Conducting**, which has been adopted by more than fifty colleges and universities, and is the President Elect of the Florida Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.