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Bel Voce Jazz, Chorus Concert to Benefit Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area

(Camp Hill, Pa) -- (March 13, 2011) - Bel Voce, a 24-voice leading edge choral ensemble, will hold a concert to benefit Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area on Sunday, April 3 at 3:00 pm in the Camp Hill United Methodist Church, 21st Street, Camp Hill.

The program, commemorating Bel Voce's 35th anniversary season, will include a new work that blends a Brazilian chorus and jazz combo, as well as a lively combination of contemporary and classical arrangements.

"In celebration of our anniversary, we commissioned a new arrangement by John W. "Buzz" Jones," said Dr. Teresa Bowers, Bel Voce Artistic Director. "Buzz has chosen to compose the Brazilian tune 'Triste' for chorus and a jazz combo."

According to Bowers, the song is about sad, unrequited love. It highlights Bel Voce's mission to program music of many cultures and genres. The choral ensemble will be joined in this arrangement by Doug Cook (flute), Wayne Fox (keyboard), Buzz Jones (bass), and Tom Hamm (percussion).

In addition to "Triste," the program consists of composers and arrangers such as Gerald Finzi, Steven Samatz, Healey Willan and Langston Hughes. Musical offerings include spirituals "Deep River," "Music Down in My Soul," and the lush James Mulholland arrangement of "A Red, Red, Rose."

One of the leading composers in contemporary music, Eric Whitaker, uses the off-kilter rhyming devices of poet Ogden Nash in a collection titled "Animal Crackers." Another selection, "It was a Lover and his Lass" from John Rutter's "Birthday Madrigals" was written to celebrate the 75th birthday of the great jazz pianist George Shearing. Bel Voce's featured soloists are Mary Sanden, Julia Carvalho and Joe Stoshack.

Tickets are available at www.belvoce.org, the Garden Gallery, Carlisle, at the door or by calling 422-5112. Adults: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door, students \$5. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area.

About Bel Voce

Bel Voce, founded in 1975, is a leading edge choral ensemble comprised of experienced auditioned singers from the South Central Pennsylvania region. Dedicated to engaging singers and audiences in skilled performances of a diverse choral repertoire, **Bel Voce** provides a series of concerts each season designed to reach audiences from a wide range of ages and backgrounds through music that educates, entertains and feeds the soul.

About Teresa Bowers

Dr. Bowers, Bel Voce Artistic Director, is also an Assistant Professor of Music at Gettysburg College, conductor of the Music Gettysburg! Festival Chorus and has been the music director of the Cithara Women's Chorale, Gettysburg Chorale and the Harrisburg Choral Society. She serves on the board of directors of Gettysburg Seminary's Music Gettysburg, is a member of the flute and harp duo, DUO FRANCAIS and has served as principal flute for the Harrisburg Symphony and the Harrisburg Opera Orchestra. She holds a DMA in Choral Conducting from the University of Maryland as well as degrees from Susquehanna University and The Ohio State University.

About John W. "Buzz" Jones

Dr. Jones is Professor of Music at the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College, director of the Buzz Jones Big Band and an acclaimed composer and arranger.

About Doug Cook

Mr. Cook, a Carlisle native, graduated from Eastman School of Music and toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra. He has performed as back-up musician for celebrities including Aretha Franklin, Marie Osmond, The Temptations, Four Tops, Natalie Cole, Manhattan Transfer and others. After returning to Carlisle, Cook joined the Buzz Jones Big Band, Jazz Quartet and quintet. He served as director of Dickinson College Jazz Ensemble.