**NEWS**

**Contact: Katie Hammaker,**

**Director of Development and Marketing**

 **717.796.5075 or dev@susquehannachorale.org**

*Enriching lives through song*

**Susquehanna Chorale to Perform in May**

MECHANICSBURG (April 18, 2019) – The nationally-acclaimed Susquehanna Chorale will present its spring concert series, “Singing the Dance of Life,” on May 10 and 11, 2019.

Called “a treasure in central Pennsylvania” by the late choral and conducting icon Robert Page, the Chorale is a nationally recognized adult chamber ensemble of 36 auditioned singers. Since its founding in 1981 by Artistic Director and Conductor Linda L. Tedford, the group’s audience members have consistently cited the Chorale’s “ethereal blend,” “unparalleled tone,” and emotional connection to the music.

The Chorale’s 2018-19 concerts are being sponsored by Season Sponsor Clermont Wealth Strategies, and Media Sponsor PennLive.com/Patriot-News.

The spring concerts, sponsored by University Music Service in Hershey, will be performed Friday, May 10 at Derry Presbyterian Church in Hershey, and Saturday, May 11 at the High Center on the campus of Messiah College, Mechanicsburg, both at 8 p.m.

Guest artist Dr. Todd Goranson will accompany the Chorale on saxophone. In addition, Dr. Goranson will perform a pre-concert recital 15 minutes before each performance.

“This year’s theme was inspired by the text of one of the pieces in our spring concerts, and it exemplifies the joy and power of the choral art,” said Conductor Tedford. “We have reveled in that art for 38 seasons, and our passion for choral music has only increased.”

From Gregorian chant to the stately rhythms of the Renaissance and Baroque eras, from the music of today’s finest composers to classics from the American Songbook, this concert explores a variety of repertoire that celebrates the dance of life.

Bach’s motet *Lobet den Herrn* dances with joy in praise to God, contrasting with the peaceful reflections of evening in *Abendlied* by Josef Rheinberger.

Quiet moments are captured in Ola Gjeilo’s *Evening Prayer* and Howard Helvey’s arrangement of *Steal Away*, both accompanied by saxophone, as well as in Eric Whitacre’s beloved *Seal Lullaby.*

*No Mirrors in My Nana’s House* and *Let the Life I’ve Lived Speak for Me* portray cherished pictures from the past, those transcendent times in our lives that are remembered forever.

The concert concludes with popular standards from the American Songbook, including *Give My Regards to Broadway, The Way You Look Tonight,* and *It Don’t Mean a Thing (If It Ain’t Got That Swing).*

Tickets are available through the Chorale’s website, [www.susquehannachorale.org](http://www.susquehannachorale.org), or by calling the Messiah College Box Office, 717.691.6036. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door for adults, and $5 for students. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more if tickets are purchased in advance.

Audience members are invited to attend receptions immediately following both performances, with an opportunity to meet Conductor Tedford and the Chorale singers.

Ensemble-in-Residence at Messiah College, the Susquehanna Chorale is known for its commitment to artistic and expressive performance of a wide-ranging repertoire. It was awarded Chorus America’s most prestigious award, the Margaret Hillis Achievement Award for Choral Excellence. In 2011, Conductor Tedford was honored by the American Choral Directors Association of Pennsylvania with the Elaine Brown Award for lifelong commitment to excellence and leadership in the choral art. In 2013, she received Theatre Harrisburg’s Award for Distinguished Service to the Arts in the Capital Region. The Chorale is funded, in part, by the Cultural Enrichment Fund, the capital region’s united arts fund, and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

# # #

**Editor’s Note: Photo Enclosed**.