

RMC PRESENTS ANNUAL LESSONS & CAROLS

CONCERT WILL WARM THE 'SCROOGIEST SOUL'

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS -- For those wanting to plan special holiday events to attend, the traditional Rocky Mountain College Choir's "Lessons and Carols" concert is always one guaranteed to warm the scroogiest soul.

The concert will be held Sunday, Dec. 7, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. and again, at 7:00 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, on the corner of 13th and Poly Drive, in Billings. The concert is free and open to the public.

Nearly 60 students, from all across Montana, as well as other states and foreign countries, perform with the choir.

"Members of the entire Rocky community join together in this celebration including board members, administrators, faculty, staff, and students all of whom play a vital role," Dr. Hart noted.

The concert annually brings to the community a musical celebration of the Advent seasons with a blend of the beauty of Christmas music and Scripture.

The program is based on an old English tradition where the Christmas story is presented through choral singing, instrumental music, and the reading of Scripture.

The repertoire includes "Personent Hodie," arr. Lara Hoggard with RMC Brass Ensemble; "Hallelujah Chorus," from Handel's "Messiah;" "Hodie," by Healey Willan; "Dixit Maria," by Vittoria, sung by the RMC Chamber Singers; "Ave Maria," by Vittoria;" "Gaudete," arr. J. David Moore; "Snow Had Fallen," by Stephen Paulus; and "Ride on King Jesus," arr. Moses Hogan.

"So that everyone in attendance can make participate, we will combine the congregation, choir, and brass ensemble, and do two traditional carols, 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' and 'O Come All Ye Faithful'," said Dr. Steven Hart, RMC professor of music and choir conductor.

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11/17/08