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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS --The Rocky Mountain College Department of Music presents Festival of Lessons and Carols. The English tradition blends music and readings to tell the Christmas story.

This musical tradition has become a mainstay of the seasonal events in the Billings community. The Service of the Festival of Lessons and Carols will be presented Dec. 6, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., at the First Presbyterian Church.

People from all areas of the college participate. Readers include RMC President Mike Mace; RMC Board Chairman Barb Skelton; Dale Elmore, Sodexo dining service manager; Dr. Jennifer Lyman, professor of Environmental Science; and Lance Hansen, music education student class of 2010. RMC Chaplain Kristi Foster will offer an invocation and prayer.

The music includes an impressive processional by the joint forces of the RMC Concert Choir, brass ensemble, organ, and percussion.

Dr. Jennifer Bratz will perform the beautiful "Bruyère," by Claude Debussy.

Music faculty members Tony Hammond and Dr. Sam Hamm will perform with senior Todd Truscott from Glasgow, Mont., and freshman Nicole Jerominsky, from Spring Hill, Florida, in a brass quartet titled "Benediction," by John Stevens.

Denise Finn, organist at First Presbyterian Church and accompanist for the Concert Choir, plays the spirited Gospel selection, "Go where I Send Thee."

Fred Binckes performs "Swiss Noel with Variations," by Louis-Claude Daquin as the organ prelude and leads the audience and performers alike in three classic Christmas carols.

Rocky Mountain College Chamber Singers present “O Magnum Mysterium” (O Wondrous Mystery), by Renaissance composer Tomas de Luis Vittoria.

The Rocky Mountain College Concert Choir, under the direction of Dr. Steven Hart, sings “Das Neugeborhne Kindelein,” by Dietrich Buxtehude; “Adoramuste Christe,” by Eric Barnum; and “Ding Dong Merrily on High,” arranged by Mack Wilberg.