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April 1995 Press Releases
Monthly Report

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 5, 1995

Bill Billings

Director of Public Relations

METHODIST COLLEGE CHORUS TO GIVE CONCERT

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Methodist College Chorus, under the direction of Alan Porter, will present its spring concert Tuesday, April 11 at 8 p.m. at Reeves Auditorium. Admission is free.

The 30-member chorus will perform a varied program, which includes classical, gospel, and popular selections. One of the most interesting works is an *a capella* setting "Magnificat" by Arvo Pärt, a contemporary Estonian composer.

The smaller ensembles—Rainbow's End and The Monarch Quartet—will perform separately. The chorus will be accompanied by Marie Lakin, a junior piano performance major.



METHODIST COLLEGE 5400 Ramsey St. • Fayetteville, N.C. 28311-1420

PRESS RELEASE

The Chorus of Methodist College, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, will present ^{its annual Spring} a concert at Reeves Auditorium on April 11, 1995 at 8:00 ~~PM~~ /P.M.

The current repertoire of this talented group of students is quite varied including such diverse works as "Cantate" by Noel Goemanne, the spiritual "Lord, I Don't Feel Noways Tired" and "O Bone Jesu" by the early 16th century Flemish composer Loyset Compere.

The program also includes, among other titles, ^{the Oscar winning "Can You Feel the Love Tonight"} ~~the Bach choral fugue "All Breathing Life, Sing and Praise~~ ^{Gershwin's "I'll Build} ~~ye the Lord"~~ ^{Paradise"}

and a powerful Gospel song entitled "He Has the Power". One of the most interesting works on the program is the a cappella setting of "Magnificat" by Arvo Pärt, a contemporary Estonian composer.

The Methodist College Chorus is a select group of thirty individuals chosen by audition for their personality, moral character, and leadership qualities, as well as for their exceptional talent in music. It is well known for its spirited rendition of many types of music. Past programs have included a country music medley with contemporary and popular selections, as well as standard classical repertoire. Major works performed by the Chorus in recent years include Stravinsky's Symphony of Psalms, the music for a play about outdoor dramatist Paul Green entitled Listen To My Song, Cecil Effinger's The Invisible Fire, and Mozart's Solemn Vespers.

Alan Porter, the Chair of the Music Department and Director of the Fine Arts Division at Methodist College, is in his thirty-first year as conductor of the Chorus. A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Porter received a Bachelor of Music degree (cum laude) from Mount



Union College and a Master of Music degree with performance honors from the University of Illinois. In addition to being an active recitalist and a clinician, he is in demand as conductor and music director at local theaters and schools. Most recently, he prepared a community choir for the famous arranger-conductor Jester Hairston. Mr. Porter is the conductor and Music director of the Cumberland Oratorio Singers, which has recently performed the Haydn Creation, the Brahms German Requiem and King David by Arthur Honegger.

The Chorus is accompanied by Marie Lakin, a Methodist College junior Piano Performance Major. Marie is also the pianist and director of The Monarch Quartet, one of two smaller ensembles which perform frequently with the chorus. The other is Rainbow's End, a mixed group of six singers and a pianist. These groups are extremely busy, performing frequently at churches, schools and service clubs throughout eastern North Carolina.

Chorus officers for the 1994-95 academic year are as follows: President, Dwayne Walter, a junior Music Education Major; Vice-President, Marie Lakin, a junior Piano Performance Major; Secretary, Bethany Surridge, a senior Music Education major, Treasurer, Dena Briggs, a senior Music Education major, Wardrobe Officer, Candice Patrick, a senior Vocal Performance major and Historian, Jodi Owen, a sophomore Communications major. Some of the responsibilities of the officers include representing the Chorus on and off campus, organizing fund-raising activities, and helping plan the spring tour and other activities.



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Methodist College is a four-year liberal arts, co-educational college in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Opening its doors for the first time in 1960, it has an enrollment of about fifteen hundred students. It offers over forty-three majors. Approximately two thirds of the choristers are music majors.

NOTE TO THOSE USING THIS PRESS RELEASE

This information is presented for your use. Feel free to edit it as you see fit. The Methodist College Chorus especially asks that you write a final paragraph pertinent to your individual situation. This might include the location of the performance, some connection the chorus has with the local community, or any fact that might increase local interest.

Thank you!