



250 West 57th Street - Suite 831 New York, NY 10107
Tel: 877.MYDCINY or 212.707.8566 Fax: 646.736.0437
E-mail: Concerts@dciny.org www.DCINY.org

News Release

www.DCINY.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2009

Contact: Jonathan Stark

212-707-8566

Concerts@DCINY.org

Ballard High School Choir Invited to Perform at Lincoln Center

Distinguished Concerts International in New York City (DCINY) announced today that Ms. Courtney Rowley and the Ballard High School Choir have been invited to participate in a performance of Randall Thompson's *Frostiana* on Monday May 31, 2010, in historic Lincoln Center. Members of the choir will join with other outstanding choruses selected from around the world to form a festival chorus, accompanied by the Distinguished Concerts Orchestra International. Dr. Giselle Wyers will be the guest conductor for the performance as well as serve as clinician for the residency.

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "The Ballard High School Choir received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers and the exceptional recommendation given by Ms. Rowley's choral colleagues. It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in Lincoln Center. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community's recognition and support."

The singers will spend five days and four nights in New York City in preparation for their concert. "The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the five day residency," says Griffith. "Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to enjoy in New York City; however, the performance in Lincoln Center is the primary purpose for their visit to the city." Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support to send these singers to Lincoln Center by contacting Ms. Courtney Rowley at (206) 252-1035 or via email, chrowley@seattleschools.org.

Dr. Giselle Wyers is a leading national figure in the application of Laban movement theory for conductors. Each summer she team-teaches choral conducting with James Jordan at Westminster Choir College, and her chapter entitled "Incorporation Laban Actions in the Rehearsal" is currently available as part of the textbook *Music for Conducting Study* through GIA Publications (2008). Her presentation entitled "The Dancing Conductor" was featured at the 2007 National College Music Society Conference in Salt Lake City.

As a composer, Wyers is currently preparing numerous choral works for premieres, including a commission by the renowned Netherlands chorus Cantabile Holland. Her *Ave Maria* (published by earthsongs) won the Cambridge Singers International Choral Composition Competition, and has been performed in the USA, Ecuador, Poland, Latvia, and Germany.

Dr. Wyers' dedication to exposing audiences to the music of contemporary American composers has led to publications in various national journals. She is especially interested in exploring how modern composers use music as a form of peace-making and social justice. "Waging Peace through Intercultural Art in Kyr's Ah Nagasaki," appears as the cover article of the May 2008 *Choral Journal*, and discusses how the act of creating and premiering a musical work can serve as a gesture of reconciliation between cultures.



*The Art of Performance -
The Power of Education*