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PRESS RELEASE

US Presidential Inauguration Jan. 20 to Feature Two Grammy-Winning San Francisco Choruses

SF BOYS CHORUS & SF GIRLS CHORUS Ian Robertson, Artistic Director & Susan McMane, Artistic Director Two Exemplary Music Organizations Chosen by Joint Congressional Committee to Represent US Arts and Youth at the Inauguration of President Barack Obama in Washington DC

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SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 14, 2009 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- The stage of President-Elect Barack Obama's inauguration will glitter with some of the world's top performers on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, and two of the nation's top choral music groups will share the limelight with Aretha Franklin, Yo-Yo Ma and Itzhak Perlman: the San Francisco Boys Chorus, Ian Robertson, Artistic Director; and the San Francisco Girls Chorus, Susan McMane, Artistic Director. The Choruses were invited to join forces for the inauguration by Senator Dianne Feinstein and the joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies to be part of the swearing in ceremonies in Washington, DC.



The two choruses were selected for their high level of artistic excellence, embodiment of the American spirit and promise for the future, according to Sen. Feinstein. A combined chorus of 86 (43 members of the San Francisco Boys Chorus, ages 8 to 12 and 43 of the San Francisco Girls Chorus, ages 15-18) will travel to Washington to perform.

Ian Robertson, Artistic Director of the San Francisco Boys Chorus, and Susan McMane, Artistic Director of the San Francisco Girls Chorus, said: "This is the highest honor we could imagine. The impacts of our two organizations travel far beyond the concert stage -- we are active agents for positive community change, youth empowerment and education. Performing for President Obama's inauguration focuses a major spotlight on the power of music and the arts to affect positive change in our country and the world, and puts the arts at their rightful place at the epicenter of American civic and cultural life."

Inauguration Chorus Program Features Patriotic Fare and World Premiere to Words of Barack Obama

The combined San Francisco Boys Chorus and the San Francisco Girls Chorus will perform a program of patriotic music in keeping with the theme of President-Elect Obama's inauguration: "A New Birth of Freedom". A highlight will be a song sung by thousands of choirs across the world, "Give Us Hope", which exemplifies what President -Elect Barack Obama stands for and believes in. The complete Choral program for the inauguration is as follows, with the combined Choruses scheduled to perform from 9:50 to 10:10 a.m. EST:

Inauguration Program

San Francisco Boys Chorus, Ian Robertson, Artistic Director

San Francisco Girls Chorus, Susan McMane, Artistic Director

America the Beautiful by Samuel Ward, arranged by Nancy Grundahl

An American Hymn by Holdridge, arranged by Ian Robertson

Conducted by Ian Robertson

Hymn to Freedom by Oscar Peterson

Conducted by Susan McMane

An Exhortation by San Francisco Composer David Conte

written for the combined San Francisco Boys Chorus

and San Francisco Girls Chorus

Conducted by Ian Robertson

Give us Hope by Jim Papoulis

Conducted by Susan McMane