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For Immediate Release

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El Camino College to Present Annual “Messiah Sing-Along”

Raise your voice and join the chorus for this year’s “Messiah Sing-Along” at El Camino College, set for 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9 in the Campus Theatre.

The **free** performance of George Frideric Handel’s most-beloved oratorio is an El Camino College tradition for more than 50 years. A full orchestra comprised of professional musicians, ECC and high school students, and community instrumentalists is ready to accompany four professional soloists and the chorus, which is the audience!

Conducted by Joanna Medawar Nacheff, ECC’s interim dean of fine arts, the “Messiah Sing-Along” packs the house every year. Everyone is invited to sing with the orchestra, organ, and professional soloists, or sit back and enjoy the concert. Participants can bring their own score or pick one up at the door.

Soloists include two El Camino College voice faculty members and two guest artists:

Kevin Blickfeldt, bass, in an ECC music instructor who is also an accomplished performer and vocal instructor. This fall, Blickfeldt portrayed Fiorello in Pacific Opera Project’s “Il Barbiere di Siviglia.” In December, he and the group VOX will headline the Dream Orchestra’s Christmas concert at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center.

Robert MacNeil, tenor, has been praised by the Los Angeles Times for possessing a voice that is “clarion” and “clear.” MacNeil most recently performed with LA Opera in “Lohengrin,” after previous appearances including “The Stigmatized,” Fidelio, “Il Trovatore,” “Tannhäuser,” “La Bohème” and “Il Tabarro.”

Darryl Taylor, countertenor, is pursuing an international career with a repertoire that extends from Bach to Britten - and beyond. Recent performances include singing the title role in Phillip Glass’ “Akhnaten” for Long Beach Opera, and appearances at New York’s Carnegie Hall; Havana, Cuba; and Shanghai, China.

Erin Wood, soprano, is an ECC faculty member who has been praised for her portrayals of Verdi and Wagner heroines featuring her “soaring soprano,” “immense voice full of grit at the bottom and transcendent radiance at the top,” and “volcanic outpouring of sound that was thrilling to behold.”

The “Messiah Sing-Along” at El Camino College is free and open to the public. For more information about El Camino College Center for the Arts events, go to centerforthearts.org or call 800-832-ARTS. The El Camino College Campus Theatre is located at 16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance. Campus parking is \$3.

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