## Arts & Faith St. Louis Presents Third Annual September 11<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Commemoration in Music: An Appreciation of Religious Diversity

Sunday, September 8, 2013 5:30-6:30p.m.
The Sheldon Concert Hall 3648 Washington Blvd. St. Louis, 63108

## CONTACT

Janet Ryan
janet@visintineandryan.com
314/ 822-8860
Priscilla Visintine
Priscilla@visintineandryan.com
314/ 821-8232

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – ST. LOUIS, MO – August 6, 2013 – Arts & Faith St. Louis, a collaboration of St. Louis arts and faith leaders has announced the third annual Interfaith Commemoration in Music: An Appreciation of Religious Diversity. The event is free and open to the public and has drawn standing room only crowds every year.

Arts & Faith St. Louis aims to promote a more harmonious St. Louis by establishing an ongoing relationship between the arts and faith communities. The concert takes place at 5:30 pm, Sunday, September 8, 2013 in the historic Sheldon Concert Hall at 3648 Washington Blvd.

"Through the common language of music, this event brings together the Arts and Faith Communities of St. Louis in their shared search for peace, understanding and respect in order to build a more harmonious St. Louis," says Carolyn Losos, Chair, Arts & Faith. Senator John Danforth explained the concept behind the event in his opening remarks at the inaugural concert in 2011. "From our earliest days, the great challenge of America has been to create a common bond, and hold together a diverse people. We are many, but we are one."

The impressive musical line-up features renowned Grammy-winning soprano Christine Brewer, Grammy-winning jazz pianist Peter Martin, St. Louis Symphony Concertmaster David Halen, and the St. Louis Children's Choirs. In addition, musical representatives from Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Mormon, and Muslim faith groups will participate, including: AME Church Missouri Conference Choir, Cantor Seth Warner, Islamic Foundation of Greater St. Louis, Hindu Temple of St. Louis, Rising Youth Generation Chorus of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, St. Cecilia Parish Church Combined Spanish Choirs.

**Sister Mary Jean Ryan**, founder of SSM Health Care, will provide opening reflections.

The Pipe and Drums Corps and an honor guard from the St. Louis County Police Department will present the colors and Charles Glenn will sing the National Anthem.

Primary sponsoring partners for the Interfaith Memorial in Music include Interfaith Partnership, the Michael and Barbara Newmark Institute for Human Relations at the Jewish Community Relations Council, Opera Theatre Saint Louis, and the Sheldon Arts Foundation.

Following the show, audience members will have the opportunity to affix ribbons with messages of understanding, respect and working for peace while recognizing and appreciating our religious diversity. For more information, please visit www.artsfaithstl.org, or the Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/artsfaithstl">www.facebook.com/artsfaithstl</a>.

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