

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **VCS MEDIA CONTACT:**

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## VALLEJO CHORAL SOCIETY set to present IN AETERNUM season finale concerts

Conducted by JULIA MORRIS, with ORCHESTRA and renowned GUEST SOLOISTS

- Saturday, May 18, 7 PM, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Benicia
- Sunday, May 19, 3 PM, Springbrook Masonic Temple, Vallejo

Vallejo Choral Society, at 50-singers strong, is in final rehearsals in preparation to present an extraordinary choral program under the artistic leadership of Julia Morris.

The focal point of the concert is **Michael Haydn's rarely performed Requiem in C minor**, a piece known to have had a profound influence on Mozart's Requiem.

Guest soloists include Ellen Leslie, soprano; Melissa Dufort, mezzo soprano; Sidney Ragland, tenor; and Adam Cole, baritone.

The VCS Symphonic and Chamber Choirs will also perform "Beloved," by Andrea Daly, and "Suite Remembrance," by Melissa Dunphy.

Following the concerts, guests are invited to enjoy wine and refreshments.

Tickets: \$35 in advance, \$45 at door; Students are free

www.vallejochoral.org

**About VCS:** In its 106<sup>th</sup> season, Vallejo Choral Society keeps its extended choral community united, inspired, singing, and learning through innovative programming.

During the height of the COVID Pandemic, the community chorus launched unique virtual programs that culminated in livestreamed concerts of Bach and Handel masterworks. In December 2021, the Choral Society made a triumphant return to live performances with concerts featuring Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*, followed by a rousing season finale featuring Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, set poetically among rows of whisky barrels at a Mare Island distillery.

In 2022, VCS presented December concerts featuring Eleanor Daley's *Requiem*, a Spring Gala set of Central and South American choral works, and in April 2023 two brilliant performances of J.S. Bach's monumental *St. Matthew Passion* with Baroque orchestra.

In December 2023, VCS presented concerts of Margaret Bonds' Christmas cantata *The Ballad of the Brown King*, and Randall Thompson's suite of choral art songs, "Frostiana." In March 2024, the Choral Society hosted a full house at its annual gala, themed *Shakespeare In Song*, with a delightful concert featuring "Three Shakespeare Songs" by Roger Quilter, and George Shearing's "Songs and Sonnets."

Vallejo Choral Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit performing arts organization whose mission is to foster a vibrant, diverse, and interactive choral community, educate its singers and audiences, and extend its reach to youth. VCS sponsors the Campanelli Youth Chorus after-school class for students throughout Solano County. VCS offers scholarships to high school and college students and offers free concert tickets for children and students.