

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Lyric Consort will offer Free Concert**

#### ***Music “To Be Sung on the Water” will open new season***

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**WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON, PA** – The Lyric Consort, northeast Pennsylvania’s critically acclaimed professional vocal ensemble, will present a program of music “To Be Sung on the Water” on **Sunday, August 29 at 3:00 p.m.** in Craftsman Hall on the third floor of the Scranton Cultural Center. Presented in the ensemble’s trademark eight-voice acappella style, admission for the program is free for all.

According to the ensemble’s Artistic Director, Alan Baker, the program has been prepared at the invitation of the Sembrich Museum at Lake George, New York, where the ensemble will perform on the upcoming Labor Day weekend, and thus includes a variety of music suitable for “a beautiful and quiet lakeside setting at the close of summer.” Repertoire selections include Elliot Levine’s setting of the E. E. Cummings poem, “I Thank You God for this Amazing Day,” Samuel Barber’s “To Be Sung on the Water,” Charles Villiers Stanford’s “The Blue Bird,” Richard Wargo’s “Fair Daffodils,” and Jackson Hill’s “Voices of Autumn,” as well as American folk songs, English madrigals, and jazz classics. The Barber and Wargo selections are particularly appropriate, notes Baker, because the Sembrich Museum’s entire 2010 concert series has been focused on “a summer of Barber” to celebrate the centennial of the composer’s birth; and the Scranton native Wargo is the Museum’s artistic director.

The program launches the Consort’s new concert season, which will also include A LYRIC CONSORT CHRISTMAS on December 18th, a Lenten-themed program entitled LOST

on March 5th, and a concert of SACRED VOICES on May 21st. All of these remaining programs will be offered at St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Scranton, with general admission tickets priced at \$10.00 for adults and students admitted free of charge with their presentation of a current school ID. The ensemble will also perform by invitation in April for the Pennsylvania Consort Series in Bedford, PA and in June for the American Guild of Organists Region III Conference in Harrisburg.

Formed in 1993, to explore the myriad riches of the world's acappella traditions, The Lyric Consort maintains annual concert series in Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, and has performed throughout the northeast United States, including recent appearances with the NEPA Philharmonic and the Four Nations Ensemble at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. The ensemble's early success with Medieval and Renaissance repertoires has been increasingly balanced by similar success with contemporary vocal works, and the ensemble now regularly premieres new works from the region's finest composers and arrangers, and has produced four compact disc recordings and a celebrated concert video recording for WVIA public television.

Members of The Lyric Consort include; Dr. Alan Baker, artistic director/tenor; Susan Kelly, soprano; Lisa Cardoni, alto; Francis McMullen, bass; Christopher Gallo, bass; Carol McMullen, alto; Dr. Steven Thomas, tenor; and Leslie Mason Moran, soprano.

This program is generously supported by The Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts, a joint effort of the PA Council on the Arts and the Scranton Area Foundation; and by a Lackawanna County Arts and Cultural Grant, a program of the Lackawanna County Commissioners and the Lackawanna County Council on Art, Culture and Education.

For more information on The Lyric Consort, please visit their website at [www.lyricconsort.com](http://www.lyricconsort.com) or call at (570) 343-6707.

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*Note: High resolution photos of The Lyric Consort can be downloaded from the  
“Pressroom” page at [www.lyricconsort.com](http://www.lyricconsort.com)*