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Indianapolis Children's Choir Presents Concert with Over 400 Singers to Honor Late Philanthropist

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - - Singers from across central Indiana will come together to perform at the *Christel DeHaan In Harmony: Rhythm of the Lands* concert on Saturday, April 27 at 7:00 pm at the STAR Bank Performing Arts Center in Zionsville. This culminating concert for the children's choir division of the Indianapolis Children's Choir's (ICC) 2023-2024 season. Over 400 young singers will transport the audience to the faraway lands of Africa and the Middle East.

Singers as young as kindergarten age through early high school will be singing in this particular performance, where songs like "Sih'r Khalaq" will explore Arabic rhythms and "Bantama Kra Kro" will share traditional folk sounds from Ghana.

This is one of the final stops on the ICC's *A World Showcase* concert season. So far singers presented concerts that celebrate sounds from regions like Europe, America, and Asia, and this concert explores rhythms and traditions from yet another area of the world.

"This has been a fantastic season for our singers to explore cultures from around the world and what each of them have contributed to songs we know and love today," explains Joshua Pedde, Artistic Director of the ICC. "What's even better is that all of this really brings home the idea that music is a universal language that connects us all. It's such an appropriate theme for this concert in particular that's named in honor of Christel DeHaan."

Last fall the ICC was named a recipient of a Legacy Grant awarded by the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation, a foundation founded by late businesswoman, community leader, and philanthropist Christel DeHaan. The grant helps to fund the ICC's scholarship program and the choir's operational costs. To acknowledge these gifts in addition to naming the scholarship fund and the endowment fund, the ICC is recognizing the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation by permanently naming the annual In Harmony concert in her honor. The ICC will also prominently mention DeHaan in concert programs so that audience members will learn about her lasting impact for ICC singers and the community.

"Her legacy in the Indianapolis community, and especially within the arts community, will live on through her grant given to the ICC," shares Pedde. "We will also honor her with a video presentation prior to this concert that's been named for her."

Tickets are \$14 each and can be purchased online in advance at <u>icchoir.org/tickets</u>. Ages 5 and under can attend for free but require a ticket. If the concerts do not sell out in advance, additional tickets will be available for purchase at the door prior to the performance.

About the Indianapolis Children's Choir

Currently in its 38th season, the Indianapolis Children's Choir has grown to become one of the largest professional children's choirs in the world. Led by Artistic Director Joshua Pedde, the ICC serves more than 2,500 central Indiana children from ages 18 months through 18 years. The Indianapolis Children's Choir nurtures and inspires student achievement through quality music education and the pursuit of artistic excellence in choral music performance. To enroll a child, attend a concert, or make a charitable gift, visit icchoir.org or call 317.940.9640.