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# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Maine Arts Academy Invited to Perform at Carnegie Hall with Eric Whitacre

New York, N.Y. – November 15, 2018

Outstanding music program receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that Shannon Thurston and the Maine Arts Academy Chamber Singers have been invited to participate in a performance of *The Holiday Music of Eric Whitacre* on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance is planned to take place on Sunday, November 24, 2019 in Isaac Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall under the baton of Composer/Conductor Eric Whitacre. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers from around the world to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Composer Eric Whitacre will lead the performance and will serve as the clinician for the residency.

Why the invitation was extended

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "The Maine Arts Academy Chamber Singers received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers as well as the quality of their audition recording.

"It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community's recognition and support."

The singers will spend 5 days and 4 nights in New York City in preparation for their concert. "The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the 5 day residency," says Griffith. "Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance is the primary purpose for their visit to the city." Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support in sending these singers to New York by contacting Shannon Thurston via email at [sthurston@maineartsacademy.org](mailto:sthurston@maineartsacademy.org).

Composer/Conductor  
Eric Whitacre

Grammy-winning composer and conductor Eric Whitacre is one of the most popular musicians of our time. His concert music has been performed throughout the world by millions of amateur and professional musicians alike, while his ground-breaking Virtual Choirs have united singers from over 110 different countries. A graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School of Music, Eric was recently appointed Artist in Residence with the Los Angeles Master Chorale having completed a five-year term as Composer in Residence at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University, UK.

As conductor of the Eric Whitacre Singers he has released several chart-topping albums including 2011's bestselling Light and Gold. A sought after guest conductor, Eric has conducted choral and instrumental concerts around the globe, including sold-out concerts with the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra. In addition to several collaborations with legendary Hollywood composer Hans Zimmer, he has worked with British pop icons Laura Mvula, Imogen Heap and Annie Lennox.

A charismatic speaker, Eric has given keynote addresses for many Fortune 500 companies and global institutions including Apple, Google, the World Economic Forum in Davos, the United Nations Speaker's Programme and two main stage TED talks.

DCINY Productions

Founded by Iris Derke and Jonathan Griffith, Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is the leading producer of dynamically charged musical excellence. With its unforgettable concert experiences in renowned venues, empowering educational programs, and its global community of artists and audiences, DCINY changes lives through the power of performance.

Tickets

For more information on tickets, group sales or other special offers, please contact us at 212-707-8566 Ext. 307, or [BoxOffice@DCINY.org](mailto:BoxOffice@DCINY.org).

Contact, Interviews, and Photos

To acquire high-resolution images of DCINY performances at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center for media use, interviews, and press requests, please contact [Press@DCINY.org](mailto:Press@DCINY.org).

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