

## For Immediate Release

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### HMC Welcomes Maye in March

Kansas City, MO—Heartland Men's Chorus, Kansas City's gay men's chorus, presents the second concert in its 25th Anniversary Season, *Misbehavin'*, March 26 and 27, 2011, at the Folly Theater. For this program of jazz, blues and American standards, the Chorus will team with living legend and Kansas City favorite, Marilyn Maye.

"We belong to a mutual admiration society," artistic director Joe Nadeau says. "Marilyn is often in the audience for our concerts and events, and I've been a huge fan of hers for years. I've been waiting for the perfect opportunity to have her perform with us, and our 25th anniversary proved to be it!" The Chorus and Maye will perform selections made popular by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Glenn Miller, among others.

The repertoire will showcase close harmonies and swinging jazz rhythms, with choral arrangements of "Blues in the Night," "Ain't Misbehavin'," "Java Jive," "Jeepers Creepers," "Take the A Train" and other hits from the American song book. Maye will perform selections with the Chorus, as well as solo sets highlighting composer Johnny Mercer and singer Ray Charles.

In Nov. 2010, Marilyn Maye appeared at New York's Carnegie Hall with the New York Pops for the Stephen Sondheim's birthday celebration. She was billed as Special Guest Star and had the audience on it's feet when she brought the house down and was called back for a second bow at the famed venue. In October 2010, *The Wall Street Journal* wrote "Maye has the rhythm and musicianship of a great jazz singer, and the projection and personality of a Broadway diva, who creates an immediate bond with her audiences".

The late Johnny Carson called her "Super Singer." Ella Fitzgerald dubbed her "the greatest white female singer in the world." *The Houston Chronicle* termed her "a national treasure." And the prestigious Smithsonian Institution chose her recording of "Too Late Now" (from her RCA album, "The Lamp Is Low") for inclusion in its *Best Performers of the Best Compositions of the 20th Century* permanent collection, along with such other singing greats as Billie Holiday, Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland.

Heartland Men's Chorus presents *Misbehavin'* at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, March 26 and at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, March 27 at the Folly Theater, 300 West 12th Street. Tickets from \$15 to \$30 are available online at [www.hmckc.org](http://www.hmckc.org) or by calling (816) 931-3338.

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*Our Voices Enlighten, Inspire, Heal and Empower*



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