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It's Broadway Holiday for HMC

Kansas City, MO—Will another “Nutcracker” drive you nuts? Does Tiny Tim bore the Dickens out of you? If you prefer your holiday served up with a little “razzle dazzle,” HMC has the ticket! *Everything's Coming Up Christmas* (December 1-3, 2006) rings in the holiday season Broadway-style. “Show tunes have crept into our holiday repertoire over the past several years,” notes Joe Nadeau, artistic director. “Audience response to these numbers has always been phenomenal, so we’re doing an entire holiday concert with a Broadway theme. I was amazed at how much wonderful holiday music has come from the stage.”

“This concert has such a wide variety of styles,” says Nadeau. “We’ll be doing songs that will be unfamiliar to our audience and re-imagining traditional favorites.” Even that old chestnut “The Christmas Song” will be reinvented with close jazz harmonies reminiscent of The Manhattan Transfer. Other holiday songs will get the Broadway razzle-dazzle treatment in big, brassy arrangements. “It’s one production number after another,” says Nadeau. “We’ve got Broadway elves, dancing pansies...even our own

(more)

version of the 'Rockettes' will make an appearance."

For *Everything's Coming Up Christmas* the Chorus will be joined by local favorite Nancy Nail. Best known for her work at Quality Hill Playhouse, Nail appeared as a special guest of the Chorus in *Jerry's Boys*, a tribute to Broadway composer Jerry Herman. In this latest collaboration, Nail will get the chance to revisit the Jerry Herman songbook with "We Need a Little Christmas" and will show off her comic chops in a somewhat risqué version of "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus."

Heartland Men's Chorus has become known for its increasingly theatrical concerts, miles away from the typical stand-and-sing protocol of other choral groups. "Our singers responded so well to the production elements of this concert," says Nadeau. More than 50 of the chorus's 140 singers auditioned for dancing or specialty roles. Their talents will be on display in such numbers as "Favorite Son" from the Tony Award®-winning hit, *The Will Rogers Follies* and "I Want to Be a Rockette" from *Kicks: The Showgirl Musical*.

Heartland Men's Chorus performs *Everything's Coming Up Christmas* at the Folly Theater, 300 W. 12th Street. Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8:00 pm and Sunday performances begin at 4:00 pm. Season and single tickets are available online at www.hmckc.org or by calling 816-931-3338.

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