

## **RACKHAM SYMPHONY CHOIR DOUBLES HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL INTERNSHIP**

DETROIT, Michigan, July 15, 2010...In an era where cuts to music instruction in schools is epidemic, it is heartening news that Rackham Symphony Choir has doubled the size of their High School Vocal Internship Program. Four high school students will participate in the innovative program for the 2010-2011 season.

Returning to the program this season is Joseph Leppeck of Novi. Joining him are Erik Hernandez, Royal Oak; Morgan Lorkowski, Grosse Pointe; and Brandon Spencer, Detroit.

The interns train with the choir under Maestra Suzanne Mallare Acton, RSC's Artistic and Music Director performing large scale choral works with the choir, accompanied by professional orchestras. They are mentored by members of the Rackham Symphony Choir and receive private professional vocal instruction.

Rackham Symphony Choir, noted for their multi media and multi cultural works, launched the High School Internship Program in the fall of 2007 as an initiative of the newly established Suzanne Mallare Acton Artistic Fund.

The High School Interns are featured in a special concert on May 6, 2011. The concert showcases the interns and underscores the growth they have experienced during the season. It is a fundraising event for the High School Vocal Internship Program

RSC presentations for the 2010-2011 season include September 19, "With A Song in My Heart: From Opera, to Broadway, From Spirituals to Jazz" the Tuba Bach Festival in Big Rapids; December 4, 2010 *Too Hot To Handel* sponsored by Mack Avenue Records at the Detroit Opera House; January 15, 16, 2011 *Too Hot To Handel* in Chicago; and on March, 13, 2011 at the Detroit Opera House, a presentation celebrating the music of George Gershwin. Details to follow.

Rackham Symphony Choir's mission is to bring to the community the power and energy of exciting orchestra-accompanied choral works through quality concert performance. We strive to show artistic leadership by presenting innovative music of diverse cultures, styles and periods, from the great classical compositions to unique and rarely performed works. Musical talent and contribution to the community is promoted through our music presentations, educational outreach programs, and community benefit concerts.

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