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Renaissance City Choirs Offer Student Tickets For December 11 Performance at \$7.00

(Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) The Renaissance City Choirs, Pittsburgh's only choirs comprised of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered and supportive individuals, has announced that student tickets for their holiday concert, *Holidays Bright And Gay*, will be priced \$7.00. The student rate was set to encourage young people to attend Renaissance City Choirs concerts and experience choral music at it's best. The concert will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2004, at 8:00 P.M. in the East Liberty Presbyterian Church.

A highlight of the Pittsburgh holiday season and a major event for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities, the concert attracts an annual audience of more than 700 people. The choirs will be performing individually and jointly in the main sanctuary of the landmark church, and the concert will be broadcast live, as it has been for the past three years, on WQED.FM. A highlight of the evening will be an appearance by nationally recognized jazz artist Etta Cox. Ms. Cox will perform with the group, as well as in solo selections.

The Renaissance City Choirs' holiday concert will feature a wide selection of traditional holiday favorites, and will showcase a number of performers from both groups. The second half of the performance will be comprised of *Mementos of Millay*, a composition for men's and women's voices by the renowned choral composer, James Mulholland. Commissioned by the choirs in 2004, the piece is based on the poetry of Edna St. Vincent Millay. It had its world premiere on July 24, 2004 in Montreal, Canada, to an audience of over 2,800 gathered for the GALA International Choral Festival. Financial underwriting for the commission work was received from the Pittsburgh Foundation and the Small Arts Initiative of the Heinz Endowments.

The entire audience is invited to join the performers after the concert for Renaissance City Choirs' traditional cookie and punch reception in the East Liberty Presbyterian Church social hall.

Tickets for *Holidays Bright and Gay* are available by calling ProArts at 412-394-3353. Tickets may also be obtained through the ProArts website by logging on to www.proartstickets.org, or may be purchased at A Pleasant Present on Murray Avenue in Squirrel Hill. When purchasing tickets, students should request the student rate of \$7.00.

Comprised of approximately 70 individuals from the Pittsburgh metropolitan area, the Renaissance City Choirs perform at numerous venues throughout the year, including the annual Pride Week festivities. Committed to creating change through the power of music, the group is a member of GALA and Chorus America, two of the nation's leading choral music advocacy organizations. For more information about the Renaissance City Choirs, please visit our website at www.rccpittsburgh.org.