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'Requiem' Arrival

Yankton UCC Choir To Present Palm Sunday Performance Of Hayes' 'Requiem'

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Many pieces have brought him joy, but renowned musician Mark Hayes found composing his "Requiem" had become a very personal and emotional experience. Hayes wrote the piece shortly after his parents' deaths and dedicated the work in their honor. He conducted the world premiere of his "Requiem" at Lincoln Center in New York on May 27, 2013.

In October 2014, Hayes conducted the European premiere of his "Requiem" in St. Ignatius Basilica in Rome as part of The Festival Pro Musica E arte Sacra.

The work will be performed locally at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Yankton United Church of Christ (Congregational) by the adult choir, accompanied by a chamber ensemble. The Palm Sunday concert is free and open to the public, followed by an ice cream reception at the church.

The Adult Choir consists of about 40 voices, including a very few additional singers brought from around the region to provide support in key areas. The baritone soloist is Dr. Wayne Mitchell, retired voice professor and current member of First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls.

Jennifer Powell directs the Yankton UCC choir, while she and Ted Powell serve as the church's directors of music.

Hayes recalled his parents' memory as he took the Lincoln Center stage. His parents had moved to Kansas City to spend their final months near him, allowing him to care for their needs and also spend quality time with them.

Hayes shared the experience during a phone interview with the *Press & Dakotan*.

"Before I went on (stage), I had a moment of remembering my mom and dad. There was an incredible gratitude and excitement on stage," he said. "I did a lot of grieving over a long period of time. But when I conducted 'Requiem,' it was like there wasn't any more sadness. I was blessed to have parents like them, and my moment (with 'Requiem') links them to that (experience)."

Now, Hayes' work of "Requiem" is performed worldwide, including a wide variety of community and church choirs.

Jennifer Powell recalled briefly meeting Hayes



KELLY HERTZ/P&D
Members of the Yankton United Church of Christ (Congregational) choir are shown rehearsing this week for a performance of Mark Hayes' "Requiem." The concert is set for 3 p.m. this Palm Sunday at the church, located at Fifth and Walnut. The concert is free, and there is an ice cream reception afterwards.



Hayes

for the first time in 2010 at the UCC National Musicians Network (UCC-NMN) national music, worship and arts conference.

"We've used Mark Hayes arrangements for several years, but five years ago we went to the National UCC musician's conference in Denver. He was the headline composer/arranger at the event and did a wonderful job," Powell said.

"I don't think he'd remember us, but he spoke very warmly of the UCC church so I think he'd remember the conference. He had not published the 'Requiem' at that time, but it must have been fairly soon afterwards. Ted actually ran across the piece while he was surfing the (Internet) and liked it so well, we immediately started looking at doing it."

Hayes' work fits well with the Yankton UCC choir, Jennifer Powell said.

"Mark Hayes has been a familiar name to community and church choirs. His gift is the ability to write singable music for choirs and voice," she said. "His compositions are beautiful and creative — a joy for church choirs to sing."

The Yankton UCC choir leads worship every Sunday, September through May, and at special events such as the "Requiem," Jennifer Powell said.

"The choir is a dedicated, talented group of friends committed to serving God with music and worship," she said.

Hayes is an award-winning composer, arranger, concert pianist and conductor with more than 1,000 publications in print.

His "Requiem" features mixed voices and orchestra that combines the traditional with 21st century expression. The work is organized in six movements that

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10:30 AM OUTDOOR TRACK - WILDCAT CLASSIC - WAYNE, NE
1:00/3:00 PM SOFTBALL - MIDLAND UNIVERSITY - FREMONT, NE
1:00 PM BASEBALL - DOANE COLLEGE (DH) - CRETE, NE
7:30 PM LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS - MARIAN AUDITORIUM*

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

1:00 PM CENTER FOR ACTIVE LEARNERS OPEN HOUSE - CYBER CAFÉ
1:00 PM BASEBALL - CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY (DH)
- BOB TERESHINSKI STADIUM
2:00 PM LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS - MARIAN AUDITORIUM*
3:45 PM PALM SUNDAY STUDENT MASS - PEACE CHAPEL

MONDAY, MARCH 30

10:00 AM COMMUNITY HOUR
3:00 PM SOFTBALL - DAKOTA STATE U. - RIVERSIDE SOFTBALL DIAMONDS
5:00 PM BASEBALL - BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY (DH) - BOB TERESHINSKI STADIUM - STADIUM AGREEMENT SIGNING PRIOR TO GAME

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

7:00 AM BUSINESS COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST - MAIN DINING ROOM, RONCALLI CENTER
2:00 PM BASEBALL - DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY (DH) - BOB TERESHINSKI STADIUM
4:00 PM TENNIS - NORTHWESTERN - YANKTON HIGH SCHOOL COURTS
6:00 PM YANKTON CHILDREN'S CHOIR - BISTRO
6:00 PM THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE VIEWING - MARIAN AUD. LOBBY
7:00 PM MMC THEATRE PRESENTS STATIONS OF THE CROSS - MARIAN AUDITORIUM - FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
9:30 PM ROSARY - PEACE CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

9:00 AM MMC BLOOD DRIVE - LADDIE E. CIMPL ARENA LOBBY
10:00 AM COMMUNITY HOUR AND MASS - PEACE CHAPEL
3:00 PM SOFTBALL - DORDT COLLEGE - RIVERSIDE SOFTBALL DIAMONDS

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

5:00 PM EASTER BREAK - NO CLASSES - PAGES BOOKSTORE OPEN 8AM - 5 PM
TBD BASEBALL - NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE (DH) - ORANGE CITY, IA
TBD OUTDOOR TRACK - DORDT INVITE - SIOUX CENTER, IA

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

11:30 AM EASTER BREAK/GOOD FRIDAY - CAMPUS CLOSED
BASEBALL - NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE (DH) - BOB TERESHINSKI STADIUM

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

1:00 PM BASEBALL - DORDT COLLEGE (DH) - BOB TERESHINSKI STADIUM

*RESERVE TICKETS AT WWW.MTMC.EDU/ARTS OR (605) 668-1234.

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