



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
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**SUU's DEPT. OF MUSIC OFFERS
AN EARLY HOLIDAY CHORAL PERFORMANCE
SONGS OF THE SEASON: A CEREMONY OF CAROLS
Thursday, November 19, 2015**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Christmas carols always brighten people's spirits upon hearing them. Filled with tradition, these songs celebrate the festive holiday season. This year **SUU's Department of Music** kicks off the holidays a bit early when it presents ***Songs of the Season: A Ceremony of Carols*** on **Thursday, November 19**. This performance will take place in **SUU's Sharwan Smith Center Rotunda at 7:30pm. The concert is free and open to the public.**

This special performance, created by **Dr. Steve Meredith**, features SUU's **Women's and Opus Choirs** with student dancers from the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance and Tracey Bradshaw on keyboard. ***Songs of the Season*** showcases Holiday music from all over the world, as well as some of your best-loved favorites from right here at home will be performed by the combined choirs. A featured work is *A Ceremony of Carols*, a beautiful work for harp, choir and soloists by English composer Benjamin Britten. This is a great way to jump-start your holiday season.

Dr. Steven Meredith is the Director of Choral Activities and Music Technology Southern Utah University. He received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Choral Music Education from the University of Utah, and his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting from Arizona State University. He is a certified instructor with the Technology Institute for Music Educators (TI:ME) and is an Apple Certified Pro. Dr. Meredith was originally appointed to develop the (pending) Master of Music degree in Music Technology at SUU, and was additionally appointed to the choral position in the fall of 2015.

As a conductor, Dr. Meredith's choirs have been in great demand for their flexibility of tone and ability to perform a wide variety of literature. Recent performances include Josh Groban's *In the Round Tour* in

Salt Lake City and Las Vegas, *Star Wars Live* (International Tour) touring performances of *Video Games Live* with the Utah, Las Vegas and Golden West Symphony Orchestras and the Glenn Miller Orchestra. He is also the conductor for the Synagogue for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles, California.

Dr. Meredith is also one of the most sought-after concert vocal performers in the United States. As a bass-baritone vocal soloist, he has been described as a performer of "uncommon intelligence and musicality" (*San Antonio Express-News*) with a tone described as "seamless and superb" (*Arizona Republic*). A favorite of conductor Robert Shaw, Dr. Meredith sang Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* and *9th Symphony* under his direction with orchestras throughout the United States. Dr. Meredith has also appeared with other notable conductors, including Margaret Hillis, Hermann Michael, Stewart Robertson, and Robert Page. In Utah, he has performed numerous times with the Utah Symphony and Opera, as well as being a featured vocal soloist and guest conductor with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Dr. Meredith has also had a significant career as a studio voice artist and producer and has appeared in films, film trailers and on many national and local commercial recordings. He has been heard nationally and internationally in work for IMAX films, ABC Sports, *Xena: Warrior Princess* and the LDS Church. He was featured as a soloist in the BYU-TV miniseries, *Fires of Faith*. As a studio producer, Dr. Meredith has specialized in integrated media (graphics, video, music) for both recorded and live applications. For commercial clients, he has created radio and television commercials, audio books, presentational materials, and original background and foreground music as well as producing a large number of live events integrating sound and visual images. For educational clients, he has produced several large-scale artistic works integrating live music, video and dance.

Beginning in 2010, Dr. Meredith released his first commercially available CD: *Christmas Cometh Caroling: The Complete Alfred Burt Carols*, and has followed that up with additional releases, including *Christmas Tapestry* (featuring Blend5) in 2011, and *Songs of the World* in 2012. He is currently working with the EMH Classical Music label to produce Christmas works for the Warner/Chappell music library. All of his CDs are available from a variety of online sources and local retailers.

Celebrate the holidays a little early this year by attending this concert. For more information on SUU's College of Performing and Visual Arts' events, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/arts.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as the new Center for Shakespeare Studies and a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. The Center for Shakespeare Studies offers a minor in Shakespeare Studies. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the

College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva/arts.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: *Songs of the Season: A Ceremony of Carols.*

- WHAT:** Christmas carols always brighten people's spirits upon hearing them. This year SUU's Department of Music kicks off the holidays a bit early when it presents *Songs of the Season: A Ceremony of Carols*.
- WHO:** Southern Utah University, College of Performing and Visual Arts, Department of Music
- WHEN:** Thursday, November, 19, 2015
- TIME:** 7:30pm
- WHERE:** Sharwan Smith Center Rotunda
- TICKETS:** Free and Open to the public.
- INFO:** www.suu.edu/pva/arts