



**AWARD-WINNING PENINSULA WOMEN'S CHORUS
OFFERS SNOW AND SOUL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**

**For immediate release
November 1, 2009**

In Palo Alto and Menlo Park, December 6 – 13, 2009

Program highlights include:

**Music by Edward Elgar: "The Snow," R. Murray Schafer: "Snowforms," Nicola Porpora:
"Magnificat," Frank Ferko: "O salutaris Hostia," Eric Whitacre: "Five Hebrew Love Songs,"
Franz Gruber: "Silent Night"**

Palo Alto, California - This December, the bay area's award-winning Peninsula Women's Chorus offers an exciting, unique holiday choral program which promises something for everyone. The PWC will perform in its most popular venues: St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Palo Alto on Sunday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 12, at 2:30 p.m. and at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park on Sunday, December 13, at 4:00 p.m.

The Peninsula Women's Chorus is well known for its innovative, vibrant performances. These holiday concerts, titled *Songs of Snow and Soul*, are celebrations of snowy winter landscapes, love, peace, and the endurance of the human spirit. Dedicated to the presentation of high-caliber music under the guidance of artistic director Dr. Martin Benvenuto, the PWC deftly moves through a broad range of repertoire from the historically important to the contemporary. Examples are the brilliant baroque counterpoint of Nicola Porpora's "Magnificat," accompanied by violin, cello, and harpsichord and the stunning harmonies of popular composer Eric Whitacre's "Five Hebrew Love Songs."

Rebecca Wallace of the Palo Alto Weekly has written about the PWC, "...the sounds blended so purely, with such power and control." This December, experience this must-see, must-hear group. The dynamic Peninsula Women's Chorus offers music to feed your soul, touch your heart, and usher in the season – an experience not to be missed!

Tickets are \$18/general admission; \$15/student & senior admission (advance prices); and are available online at www.pwchorus.org and through Brown Paper Tickets at 800-838-3006 (surcharge and handling fees will be applied) or at the door. For more information, call 650-327-3095.

The Peninsula Women's Chorus (PWC) is a 50-voice non-profit 501c3 choir that performs challenging contemporary and classical music locally, nationally and abroad. It is considered the premier women's vocal ensemble in the San Francisco Bay Area. Founded in 1966, the PWC has made a significant impact on the emergence of women's choral music. The PWC is a two-time winner of Chorus America's prestigious ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming and has performed three times by invitation at the national American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) convention. The PWC has also won 3rd place in the 2006 Bela Bartok Choral Competition. Dr. Martin Benvenuto has directed the PWC since the fall of 2003. The PWC is funded in part by a grant from Arts Council Silicon Valley, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara and California Arts Council."

For further information about the PWC, please visit our website at www.pwchorus.org.