



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October 18, 2009

Pax Christi Chorale Announces Winners of Inaugural Great Canadian Hymn Competition

Toronto – October 18, 2009 – The winners of Pax Christi Chorale’s inaugural **Great Canadian Hymn Competition** will be performed on Sunday, October 25, at the first concert of the Pax Christi season, ***Fanfare of Canadian Hymns II***.

First prize is awarded to **Henry Boon of Windsor** for his composition “I Heard that God Was Power”, the text for which was written by his wife **Susan Boon**. **Second prize** is awarded to **Judith Snowdon of Saint Joseph de Kent, NB**, for her composition “Do You Not Know, Have You Not Heard?”. **Third prize** is awarded to **Scott Bastien, also of Windsor**, for his composition “God of All Nations”. Biographical information about each of these composers follows on page 2.

Under the artistic direction of Stephanie Martin, the concert will highlight the best 18 hymns submitted from all corners of Canada. In fact, all provinces across the country were represented in the 68 total submissions except Saskatchewan! Most of the composers whose works will be performed at this concert also plan to attend, including the three winners.

The new Pax Christi Youth Choir, under the direction of renowned music educator **Lynn Janes** will join Pax Christi Chorale and our guest host, well-loved **CBC *Studio Sparks*’ Eric Friesen**, who will provide narrative about our winning composers throughout the concert.

The choir will be accompanied by **organist Bruce Kirkpatrick Hill**.

Specifics: Sunday October 25, 2009 3pm
 Grace Church on the Hill
 300 Lonsdale Road (Spadina/St. Clair area)

Pax Christi Chorale’s 2009-2010 season also includes the Bach *Christmas Oratorio*, parts IV and IV, with carols and motets on December 5 - 6, 2009, and the Mozart *Requiem* with motets by Bach and Rheinberger on April 24 - 25, 2010.

Season subscriptions may be purchased up until the first concert on October 25. Three-concert subscription package: Adult \$70, Senior \$60, Student \$50.

Single tickets – reserved seating: Regular \$20; Senior \$18; Student \$15; Children (under 12) \$5. A 10 per cent discount is available for groups of 10 or more. For tickets and more information, call 416-491-8542.



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Henry Boon, Windsor, ON – First Prize Winner

Henry Boon was born in the Netherlands and came to Canada in 1952. He studied organ with David Ouchterlony in Toronto and, after moving to Windsor, with Gordon Young in Detroit. Henry received a Bachelor of Music and Education from the University of Windsor, and taught instrumental and vocal music at Assumption College School for 25 years. Henry has a considerable portfolio of compositions, both sacred and secular, including a number of Masses, and the Lord's Prayer. He has put to music several German texts for use by choirs in the German-Canadian Choir Association. He is currently music director at Tecumseh United church, in Tecumseh, Ontario.

Judith Snowdon, Saint Joseph de Kent, NB – Second Prize Winner

Judith Snowdon divides her time by working both as a piano teacher at the Canadian Conservatory in Moncton, NB and as a Regional Representative for Mennonite Central Committee in The Maritimes, a job she shares with her husband, Tom. Judith has ARCT diplomas in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy from RCM, a BA in Music from University of Winnipeg (gold medal winner) and a Bachelor of Church Music in Composition from Canadian Mennonite University. Judith writes both piano and choral music, but her first love is church music. She lives with her husband near the ocean in Saint Joseph de Kent, New Brunswick.

Scott Bastien, Windsor, ON – Third Prize Winner

Scott Bastien is the proud father of four lovely young ladies and the devoted husband of Patricia. He is currently serving as a music teacher at École Bellewood with the Greater Essex County District School Board. It is also his delight, honour, and privilege to serve as organist of the Windsor Seventh-day Adventist Church and the Riverside Presbyterian Congregation, as well as choir director and organist of St. Paul's United Church, all in Windsor, Ontario. He is a member of the Windsor chapter of the Royal Canadian College of Organists and is a graduate of the University of Windsor, School of Music. As an interesting aside, First Prize winner Henry Boon was Scott's first piano teacher!

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