

PRESS RELEASE

Thursday 1st November 2007

A “Song of Hope” on World Aids Day – A change to the benefiting charities

The internationally acclaimed London Oratory School Schola and star soloists Rosa Manion, Fiona Murphy, Julian Gavin and Jeffrey Black are to perform two compelling settings of the Requiem plus the world premier of a specially commissioned piece, in a unique concert to mark World AIDS Day on Saturday 1 December. The concert will be one of the highlights of World AIDS Day.

There has been a change to the benefiting charities, with all of the proceeds now going to SURF - The Survivors Fund and SOS - Children’s Villages.

SURF - The Survivors Fund is a charity dedicated to assisting the survivors of the Rwandan genocide. We have decided that it would be more appropriate for us to stage our World Aids Day concert in support of their work in caring for women and young girls who were deliberately infected with HIV during the genocide. SURF campaigns for access to free antiretroviral treatment for survivors, and provides medical support to reduce the effect of opportunistic infections. The London Oratory School has a long standing and close association with SURF, with many of its pupils working for the charity as part of their weekly community service commitments.

SOS Children’s Villages will fund a family strengthening programme in Mbabane, Swaziland, which has the highest rate of HIV/AIDS in the world. The money will be used to provide food parcels, school fees, literacy classes, medical care and income generation projects which will directly help families and so reduce the risk of child abandonment.

Lee Ward, the Director of Music said “I am pleased that The Schola is able to support these important charities in their great work. The Choristers felt an immediate empathy with the plight of children orphaned by this disease, and many of the professional players and singers have been touched by the way HIV/AIDS has affected people they know.”

The Schola Concert for World AIDS Day will take place at 7.30 pm on Saturday 1 December 2007 at Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, London SW1X 9DQ.

Tickets costing £29, £26, £21 and £15 are available from the box office: tel. no.: 020 7730 4500 and online at www.cadoganhall.com

For further information about any aspect of this press release, please call the Headmaster, Mr David McFadden in the first instance: tel. no.: 020 7381 7629.