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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Dominion Chorale to Present “Opera and Operetta Favorites”

New Dominion Chorale will conclude its 26th season with a program of Opera and Operetta Favorites on Sunday, April 23, at 4 p.m. The concert will take place at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center on the Alexandria campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

The concert, conducted by Artistic Director Thomas Beveridge, will feature finalists and semifinalists of the 2016 Washington International Competition for Voice, and the renowned pianist Thomas Pandolfi providing the accompaniment to the 175-voice ensemble. The soloists are Maggie Finnegan (first place winner), Mathilda Edge (third place winner), both sopranos; mezzo-soprano Madelyn Wanner, tenor Patrick Cook, and baritone Efraín Solís. The program will be narrated by Leslie Luxemburg, director of the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation, which sponsors the Washington International Competition.

The program will feature selections from Act II of Johann Strauss’ “Die Fledermaus.” Other works include the Polovtsian Dances from Borodin’s “Prince Igor,” the Chorus of Hebrew Slaves (“Va, Pensiero”) from Verdi’s “Nabucco,” the Easter Hymn (“Regina Coeli”) from Mascagni’s “Cavalleria Rusticana,” as well as selections from Bizet’s “Carmen” and “The Pirates of Penzance” by Gilbert and Sullivan.

It is traditional in performances of “Die Fledermaus” to interrupt the “party scene” in Act II with performances of solos and ensembles from other works. At that time Mr. Pandolfi will present Franz Liszt’s virtuoso Hungarian Rhapsody No. 12, and the chorus will perform selections from Brahms’ Gypsy songs and a chorus from Gilbert and Sullivan’s “The Gondoliers.”

Mr. Beveridge is one of the Washington area’s most versatile musicians. He has had a distinguished career as a concert singer; has served on the faculty of several schools, including George Mason University, where he was director of choral activities. He was named the “Dean of Washington Composers” by *Washingtonian* magazine and is the composer of 700 original compositions and arrangements. As a conductor he has been chorus master of the Washington

National Opera at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and currently is artistic director of National Men's Chorus and music director at Western Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Pandolfi performs not only frequently throughout the Washington, D.C., area both in collaboration with New Dominion Chorale and National Men's Chorus, but also as a soloist across the nation. His international concerts have taken him to China, Europe and Canada. His orchestral appearances often feature the beloved masterpiece concerti by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov and Liszt. In the "pops" genre, his critically acclaimed performances of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," Addinsell's Warsaw Concerto and Proctor's James Bond Concerto are immensely popular. As each season passes, his critically acclaimed performances have become increasingly in demand with concert series and symphony orchestras.

New Dominion Chorale, now in its 26th season, is one of the Washington area's largest choruses. The Chorale has performed most of the standard repertoire of works for large chorus and orchestra and has been praised in *The Washington Post* for performances that are "opulent, precise and powerful." The Chorale performs regularly at the Schlesinger Concert Hall and has also appeared at Washington National Cathedral, George Mason Center University for the Arts, and the Concert Hall of the Kennedy Center.

Tickets are available at the door of the Schlesinger Center, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria, VA 22311, and online at www.newdominion.org. Ticket prices are \$30 (general admission), \$25 (seniors, 62 or over), and \$15 (youth ages 5–25). Group tickets are available for groups of 10 or more at \$20 per ticket. For more information: www.newdominion.org. Parking is free.

New Dominion Chorale is a 501(c)(3) organization supported in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, and the Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts.