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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Bonsack Baptist Church Choir Invited to Perform in New York City's Lincoln Center

Outstanding Music Program Receives Special Invitation

Distinguished Concerts International in New York City (DCINY) announced today that Mr. Barry Green and the Bonsack Baptist Church Choir have been invited to participate in a performance of Brahms' *Requiem* on Sunday, June 19, 2011, in **Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall**. Members of the choir will join with other outstanding choristers to form the **Distinguished Concerts Singers International**, a choir of distinction, accompanied by **Distinguished Concerts Orchestra International**. Dr. Milburn Price will be the guest conductor for the performance as well as serve as the clinician for the residency.

Why Invitation Was Extended

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "The Bonsack Baptist Church Choir received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers and the exceptional recommendations given by Mr. Green's choral colleagues. It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York City. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community's recognition and support."

"The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over a 4 to 5 day residency." says Griffith. "Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance in Lincoln Center is the primary purpose for their visit to the city." Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support in sending these singers to Lincoln Center by contacting Mr. Barry Green at (540) 977-5701 or via email, barry@bonsackbaptist.org.

Dr. Price's Bio

Milburn Price has served most recently as Dean of the School of Performing Arts at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama from 1993 to 2006, where he continues as Dean and Professor Emeritus, teaching one or two church music courses each semester. Prior to moving to Samford, he served as Dean of the School of Church Music at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky from 1981 to 1993.

Price has been honored with numerous awards including the Award for Exemplary Leadership in Church Music, given by Baylor University's Center for Christian Music Studies in 2006.

Dr. Price earned his bachelor's degree in music from the University of Mississippi in 1960. He continued his education at Baylor University, earning a master's degree in music in 1963. He went on to earn his doctorate in musical arts from the University of Southern California in 1967. After completing his degrees, he pursued post-doctoral studies at Princeton Theological Seminary and Candler Theological Seminary of Emory University.

Interviews and additional information may be arranged by contacting **Arupa Gopal**, at **212.707.8566, x 308**, or **Arupa@DCINY.org**.