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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Allison Savicz, Charleston Gospel Choir  
(919) 923-2791; publicrelations@charlestongospel.org; www.charlestongospel.org

## **Charleston Gospel Choir Rings in the Holiday Season**

***17<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Christmas: Saturday, December 9, Charleston Holiday Tradition***

**CHARLESTON, SC November 16, 2017**—The acclaimed Charleston Gospel Choir presents the ***17<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Christmas Saturday, December 9, 2017, 7:30pm*** at Burke High School Auditorium, 244 President Street, Charleston.

A Lowcountry household name, the **Charleston Gospel Choir** brings real meaning to Charleston's musical landscape performing down-home traditional spirituals and gospel renditions including highly arranged toe-tapping compositions including *Go Tell it on the Mountain, O Holy Night, Emmanuel, Silver & Gold* and a special ode to the late Whitney Houston and several of her chart-topping hits from the film *The Preachers Wife*.

The performance will be conducted by acclaimed conductor **Dr. Eugene Rogers**, Associate Professor and Conductor of the University of Michigan Men's Glee Club, featuring an orchestra of regional musicians for a rousing celebration of gospel favorites, moving spirituals, and festive holiday arrangements.

"I am honored to share wonderful holiday music in Charleston during my first visit to the Holy City. Music and the holidays bring the joy of giving and love into our lives and is a wonderful way for families to be together," said Dr. Rogers.

"The Charleston Gospel Choir origins are deeply rooted at historic Burke High School; the original campus was the location for the first five years of rehearsal preparation. We are excited to return to Burke this holiday season—their world-class auditorium provides the perfect setting for telling the Christmas story," said Lee Pringle, producer and President of the Charleston Gospel Choir.

### **Tickets and Information • 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Christmas**

**Featuring the Charleston Gospel Choir**

**Eugene Rogers, Guest Conductor**

Saturday, December 9, 2017, 7:30pm

Burke High School, 244 President Street, Charleston

Tickets: \$35 adults; \$30 seniors; \$15 students with ID; discounted group rates for 10 or more.

Tickets available at door, [www.charlestongospelchoir.org](http://www.charlestongospelchoir.org) or by phone (866) 811-4111.

## Featured Artists

### Dr. Eugene Rogers, Conductor

Recognized as a leading conductor, pedagogue, and lecturer, Eugene Rogers has appeared throughout the United States as well as Africa, Canada, China, Singapore, England, Portugal, Hong Kong, Luxembourg, Mexico, Spain, and Italy.



In 2014, the Naxos recording of Milhaud's monumental *L'Orestie d'Eschyle*, on which Rogers served as a chorus master, was nominated for a 2015 GRAMMY® Award (Best Opera Recording). In 2015, Mark Foster (Hal Leonard) Publishing began the *Eugene Rogers Choral Series*, a series featuring emerging composers who specialize in contemporary classical and folk music traditions. Rogers is currently an associate professor of conducting and the associate director of choirs at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) where he teaches undergraduate conducting, conducts the Men's Glee Club and the University Choir, and is the faculty director of the MPulse Vocal Arts Institute, a national high school summer program.

Rogers was recently named National Chair for the American Choral Directors Association Diversity Initiatives Standing Committee. 2016-17 appearances include guest conducting and conference presentations in South Africa, Madrid, Portugal, Mexico, Singapore, Hawaii, Virginia, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, California, Texas, British Columbia, and Michigan.

### About the Charleston Gospel Choir

Since 1999, the Charleston Gospel Choir is one of Charleston's most sought-after culturally diverse musical groups, performing gospel, spirituals and sacred music for local concert events as well as international and regional performances throughout the year

[www.charlestongospelchoir.org](http://www.charlestongospelchoir.org)

***Additional high-resolution images and complete concert program available on request***

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