

For Immediate Release

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## **The Twin Cities Jewish Chorale Celebrates Hanukah**

**Minneapolis/St. Paul, November 12, 2010**—December is nearing and music is in the air – Hanukah music. On Sunday afternoon, December 12, 2010, the Twin Cities Jewish Chorale will present “Hanukah: a Musical Celebration!” The concert is a feast of Jewish music celebrating the Festival of Lights, from 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century works by Marcello and Lewandowski to new arrangements of traditional tunes to Tom Lehrer’s playful “Hanukah in Santa Monica.” Asked about the concert’s innovative program, Artistic Director Sara Cowan winked and noted that the concert will not include the familiar “I Have a Little Dreidl.”

Children will brighten the stage, though. The Chorale welcomes Minneapolis’s Shir Tikva Children’s Choir as its special guest. The Chorale strives for multigenerational participation, and, with the children’s choir, singers will range from 10 to 85, with every generation in between. The concert promises to be a treat for adults and children alike.

Hanukah begins at sunset December 1, 2010 and lasts eight days, until December 9. The holiday marks the Maccabees’ victory in a war for religious freedom and the miracle that followed when a single days’ worth of consecrated oil burned for eight days. Jews eat latkes – potato pancakes fried in oil – to commemorate the holiday, children spin the four-sided dreidl inscribed with letters that form an acronym for “a great miracle happened there,” and all enjoy chocolate gelt (foil-wrapped coins). In the holiday spirit, Hanukah treats for kids of all ages will be served following the Chorale’s concert.

The 30-plus member Twin Cities Jewish Chorale was founded in the fall of 2009. It is a community-wide concert choir devoted to performance of the full range of Jewish music. Several area cantors, synagogue music directors, and Minnesota Chorale Director Kathy Romey serve on its Advisory Board. Membership in the Chorale is open to anyone who wants to sing Jewish music and local Jewish composers are invited to submit their work for performance. Well-known local pianist Lynette Eastwold accompanies the chorale. For more information about the Chorale, visit [twincitiesjewishchorale.org](http://twincitiesjewishchorale.org).

“Hanukah: a Musical Celebration!” will be performed at 3pm on December 12, 2010, in the 299-seat auditorium of the Sabes Jewish Community Center, located at 4330 Cedar Lake Road South in St. Louis Park. Tickets cost \$12 regular admission, \$10 for JCC members, and \$6 for seniors and students; they can be purchased at [twincitiesjewishchorale.org](http://twincitiesjewishchorale.org) or at the door.

The Twin Cities Jewish Chorale is supported in part by grants from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council and Howard B. and Ruth F. Brin Jewish Arts Endowment.