

This year **THE HERITAGE SIGNATURE CHORALE** (HSC), celebrates its 11<sup>th</sup> season. The Chorale continues its mission of preserving the African American choral tradition, especially the Negro Spiritual. Major events in the 2010-11 season were performances of Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna* (November 2010) and Verdi's *Requiem*. The Verdi *Requiem* was performed with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and The Metropolitan Chorus at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall (March 2011), and again with the Prince George's Philharmonic (May 2011). The concert season ended with a golden performance entitled "11 Years in Retrospect...and The Voices Sing On" at the prestigious National City Christian Church in Washington, DC (June 2011).

HSC celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary last season with performances of *The Joy of Christmas* as guests of the Cathedral Choral Society; a return to the Kennedy Center for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Choral Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as guests of the Choral Arts Society of Washington; a performances of Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and the Metropolitan Chorus, and *Porgy and Bess* with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

Highlights of the 2008-09 season were Kennedy Center performances of the Verdi *Requiem*; the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Choral Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as guests of the Choral Arts Society of Washington; performances of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Requiem* with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and The Metropolitan Chorus; and a concert at the Baird Auditorium in the Museum of Natural History presented by the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

Additional notable concerts and engagements from past seasons include:

- the D.C. premiere of two masterworks by Adolphus Hailstork; *Done Made My Vow*, with the Washington Performing Arts Society at The Kennedy Center in March 2008; and *Earthrise*, with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and the Metropolitan Chorus in April 2008;
- a performance of Beethoven's *Finale* from *Symphony No. 9* as guests of the Choral Arts Society of Washington, with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Filene Center at Wolf Trap;
- a Jazz Notes concert of music by Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, and W. C. Handy at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center;
- a performance with Denyce Graves at the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Zeta Phi Beta;
- Master Performance Series Concerts, featuring Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* and Bach's *Magnificat*;
- the 2002 National Day of Prayer Commemoration in the East Wing of the White House.