

Knoxville Non-Profit Gets Big Boost From Musical Star

Tuesday, May 10, 7:00 p.m.

In an economy that makes it difficult for non-profits to get donations and volunteers, one organization received some much-needed help. Dr. David Holsinger, a world renowned wind band composer and conductor, will be guest-conducting the Knoxville Christian Youth Bands (KCYB) for its concert on May 10.

The concert, beginning at 7 p.m. at Grace Baptist Church on Oak Ridge Highway, will feature Holsinger conducting a musical selection he composed, "On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss". Other Holsinger compositions will be performed. "On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss" is one of Holsinger's most beautiful compositions and performed by concert bands around the globe.

"Playing 'On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss', especially with Dr. Holsinger conducting, is going to be a real treat," Jonathan Creasy, a high school senior in his sixth year playing with KCYB, said.

The Knoxville Christian Youth Bands is a 15-year-old organization that specializes in musical education for homeschooled, private and public school students. The band boasts four ensembles: a beginning band, concert band, symphonic band and jazz band.

"It's a huge opportunity," Symphonic Band Director John LaMacchia said, "and the chance of a lifetime for these students of our organization to be under the baton of Dr. Holsinger."

The composer will also be teaching a complimentary educational clinic for KCYB students and others leading up to the concert. KCYB is also inviting music students and directors from around East Tennessee to observe the workshop.

"KCYB is sending personal invitations to prominent musicians and teachers in the area," Emily Wolfenbarger, who formerly directed the Concert Band and now serves as president of KCYB's board of directors, said. The group wants "to include the music education community as much as possible in this once in a tremendous event, and to support the value of music education in our community's life."

Holsinger currently conducts the Wind Ensemble at Lee University and has written more than 100 compositions throughout his career.

The May 10th, 2011 concert and clinic are free and open to the public. For more information, email info@kcyb.org, or visit the website www.kcyb.org. The church is located at 7171 Oak Ridge Highway, Knoxville, TN 37931, in the Karns community.