



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 16, 2009
Oklahoma City, OK ACDA

American Choral Directors Hold a Peace Event at the OKC National Memorial

On Friday, March 6, 2009, at 9:02 a.m., the moment of the explosion that took place on April 19, 1995 that forever changed Oklahoma City, the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) will gather at the site of the National Memorial and Museum for a Peace Event led by choruses gathered from their membership. The public is invited to join conference attendees for this Peace Event which is free to all.

Just as the memorial is dedicated "to educating visitors about the impact of violence and inspiring hope and healing through lessons learned by those affected," the ACDA Peace Event is intended as a great coming together of the diverse membership of ACDA and of guests from around the region. Commenting on the Peace Event, ACDA Executive Director Tim Sharp stated, "It is hoped that the musical ceremony can create a space both for remembering and for deep and meaningful reflection on hope and healing within our human community."

In addition to brief choral presentations by the featured musicians and ensembles, the expected 3000-plus attendees will participate in an extraordinarily special collage of community singing, spoken word and shared silence. The words of American and Native American poets Mary Oliver, Wendell Berry and Joy Harjo will be read. Music from Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem* will be featured as well as the moving song *Requiem* dedicated to victims of disaster by singer-songwriter Eliza Gilkyson. The experience of gathering together through music in remembrance and hope at the extraordinarily moving Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum site promises to be an event of deep significance and meaning.

For more information about the March 4-7 American Choral Directors Association National Conference, the Peace Event, or for event information, call (405) 232 8161.