

## Nairobi Chamber Chorus Southeastern U.S. tour

Presented by the University of Florida and The Festival Singers of Florida

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, USA, September 15, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The world-renowned Nairobi Chamber Chorus will perform in concert with the University of Florida's African Choir Pazeni Sauti on Friday, October 16, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church located at 100 NE First Street, Gainesville, Florida 32601. The concert features music from a variety of African traditions and music by American composers such as Eric Whitacre and Z. Randall Stroope. Concert admission is free; donations are tax exempt and gladly accepted.

Founded in October 2005, the Nairobi Chamber Chorus' mission is to enable young Kenyans to participate in a high quality musical forum from which to build careers and expand knowledge of the arts. Ken Wakia, founding director of the chorus, said, "I can't think of a better way to build bridges between peoples than through music. This endeavor is going to profoundly touch lives and fill hearts."

Since its inception, more than 70 young people have sung with the chorus and many are now leading musicians in Kenya and beyond. Members are drawn from universities and institutions in Nairobi and donate their time and resources to meet and make music. The choir has performed for President Uhuru





Director, Nairobi Chamber Chorus

Kenyatta of Kenya, Her Majesty the Queen of England, and in July of this year for President Barack Obama during his State visit to Kenya.

The Festival Singers of Florida, overall sponsors for the tour, is a select, annually-auditioned group of singers from throughout Florida and the Southeast. The group consists primarily of music educators and is well known for performance excellence. Additional sponsors include The American Choral

Directors Association - Southern Division, Florida State University, the University of Florida, the University of Mississippi, Troy University, several churches and private individuals.

Dr. Kevin Fenton, the Festival Singers artistic director said, "Africa will steal your heart. Those are true words; it certainly stole the hearts of the Festival Singers of Florida who went to Kenya one year ago and performed with the Nairobi Chamber Chorus. Their energy and inner joy absolutely filled our hearts and they will fill yours too!" Fenton is professor of choral conducting and ensembles at Florida State University where he has served since 2000.

For more information about the Nairobi Chamber Chorus or The Festival Singers of Florida please visit our website at <a href="https://www.fsof.org/ncctour">www.fsof.org/ncctour</a>



The Festival Singers of Florida is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization.



To have the Nairobi Chamber Chorus sing with our own African choir "Pazeni Sauti" is beyond amazing! What a wonderful concert this is going to be and one that shouldn't be missed. Russ Robinson, UF professor of music education

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