



THE MAGPIE CONSORT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE MAGPIE CONSORT ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF JON PETERSON, DMA, AS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR FOR THE 2011-2012 CONCERT SEASON

(Columbus, OH; August 5, 2011): Today Edward Crockett, President of The Magpie Consort, announced the selection and appointment of Jon Peterson, DMA, to the position of Artistic Director of the Magpie Consort, a Columbus-based vocal ensemble. The Magpies, as they are commonly known, have been searching for a replacement of long-time artistic director Sheena Phillips who vacated the post she has held for the past twelve years at the end of this past season. Ms. Phillips is leaving Columbus for New Jersey and has reluctantly relinquished her role with the Magpies.

Dr. Peterson is new to Ohio and to Columbus. He is Assistant Professor of Music teaching in areas of choral music, musicology, music ministry and courses in the liberal arts at Bluffton University in Bluffton, Ohio commencing fall 2011. He, his wife Karen, and their one-year-old son are looking forward to establishing roots in Ohio and contributing to the central Ohio arts scene, and joining the Magpie family.

Dr. Peterson comes to the Magpies from Little Rock, Arkansas where he was Director of Music and Fine Arts at the First United Methodist Church of Little Rock. He holds a B.A. with honors in music from Austin College, a M.M. in Choral Conducting from Southern Methodist University, and a D.M.A. in Choral Conducting with a minor in Historical Musicology from the University of Arizona. Dr. Peterson also holds many awards and honors from his academic years and has served as a choral clinician, adjudicator, and visiting conductor/artist on many occasions.

“The Magpie Consort was very pleased with the response to our vacancy postings and the interview and audition process was most challenging given the high quality of the applicants. We are very pleased that Dr. Peterson has accepted our offer to lead the Magpies into the future and we anticipate great things from the group and from Jon’s musical leadership.” said Ed Crockett, president of the Magpie Consort.

About the Magpie Consort:

Founded in 1998, the Magpie Consort, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, is a rather eclectic 20-voice a cappella vocal group based in Columbus, Ohio, featuring a wide variety of musical styles and varied repertoire ranging from Celtic to Japanese, from classical to contemporary, and most everything in between. The Magpies perform at several different venues throughout central Ohio during the year. For more information go online to www.magpieconsort.org.

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