

## Chamber Singers take their voices to Italy

6/10/13



The Alfred University (AU) Chamber Singers, along with added voices, are taking their music on tour in Italy, June 13-22, where a highlight will be singing the Mozart “Coronation Mass” at St. Peter’s Basilica, the Vatican, and at the Santa Sopra Maria Minerva Basilica, Rome.

The Singers, under the direction of Dr. Luanne Crosby, professor of voice and chorus, have toured internationally in the past, performing in Scandinavia, Peru, Greece, and Bulgaria, but this is the first time the singing group includes 17 students, eight alumni, and 14 faculty and community members.

The tour came about when the Chamber Singers were invited to join conductor Dr. Larry Wyatt to sing in Rome. Wyatt, professor of conducting at the University of South Carolina, knew Crosby from her experience singing in Varna, Bulgaria; he was one of the teaching faculty for the Varna Conductor’s Workshop. When he next asked if she could bring along some choral singers, she of course replied “Yes!”

The group leaves the United States June 13 and will perform the “Mass” not only in the Vatican and Rome, but also three other concerts in Rome, Florence, and Venice. The Rome performance schedule includes:

Saturday, June 15 - noon “Mass” at St. Peter’s Basilica, the Vatican

Saturday, June 15 - evening exchange concert with Coro Iride, Fabrizio Barchi, director

Monday, June 17 - Gala concert featuring the Mozart “Coronation Mass” with Wyatt as conductor and Crosby as soprano soloist, accompanied by an Italian Chamber Orchestra

Wednesday, June 19 - concert at Chiesa di Santa Maria dei Ricci, Florence

Saturday, June 21 - Concert at Chiesa di San Moise, Venice

When they are not singing, the Alfred entourage will tour ancient Rome the Coliseum and Roman Forum as well as Rome’s historical center with stops at the Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, Piazza Navona, and at the Vatican, the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel.

The group will also tour Assisi, Florence, Pisa, and Venice, where they will see St. Mark’s Basilica, Doges Palace, and the Bridge of Sighs.