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Boise School District  
Dan Hollar  
October 5, 2009

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## **BSD HIGH SCHOOLS ANNOUNCE 2009 “ULTIMATE CHORAL EXPERIENCE” CONCERT**

Boise, ID – 10/5/09 – Four Boise School District high schools announced today the creation of the “Ultimate Choral Experience”: an entire evening of enlightening choral performances on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 by Borah, Boise, Timberline and Capital high school choirs and choir directors. The performances will begin at 7:30 pm at the Morrison Center for the Performing Arts on the Boise State University campus. The event will also feature members of the Boise High School Orchestra alongside select community and BSU instrumentalists.

Evening performances will be under the direction of acclaimed guest conductor, **Dr. Steven Zopfi**, Director of Choral Activities, University of Puget Sound and Artistic Director/Conductor of the Portland Symphonic Choir, the official chorus of the Oregon Symphony Orchestra. National critics have hailed Dr. Zopfi’s work as “magical” and “superb.” “I am thrilled to be spending time with some of Idaho’s talented high school choral performers in a venue that truly complements their tremendous vocal range and abilities,” said Dr. Zopfi. “For the students, it is a lifetime experience to be able to perform at the Morrison Center for the Performing Arts, a venue many view as the Carnegie Hall of the Pacific Northwest.”

The Ultimate Choral Experience event is sponsored by Tomlinson & Associates, Dunkley Music and Propel Communications of Boise. Proceeds from the event go to support the participating high school choir programs. Tickets for the event are priced at \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors. For children ages 5 and under, admission is free of charge. Tickets to the event are available through the participating high school business offices, choir directors and choir students as well as at the door the night of the event with doors opening at 6:30 pm. The performances begin at 7:30 pm. More information can be found online at [www.UltimateChoirs.com](http://www.UltimateChoirs.com).

**Participating High School Contacts:** Heather Prinzing, Borah HS Choir 854-4477; Rich Lapp, Timberline HS Choir 854-6281; Matt Swenson, Boise HS Choir 854-4353; Benjamin Simmonds, Capital HS Choir 854-4575.

**About Dr. Steven Zopfi, Assistant Professor, director of choral activities**

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Steven Zopfi, one of the leading young conductors in the Pacific Northwest, joined the University of Puget Sound faculty in Fall 2008 as Director of Choral Activities and the conductor of the Adelpian Concert Choir. A native of New Jersey, Dr. Zopfi has a Bachelor degree in music education from the Hartt School of Music, a Master of Music degree in conducting from the University of California at Irvine, and Doctor of Musical Arts in choral conducting from the University of Colorado. He taught in the public schools in Vermont and New York, where he also served as Vermont State President of the American Choral Directors Association and an executive board member of the Vermont Music Educators Association. Since coming to the Pacific Northwest in 2001 he has continued to remain active in professional organizations, currently serving as Chair of Collegiate Activities for the Northwest Chapter of the American Choral Director's Association. He is in constant demand as a conductor, adjudicator, and clinician. Dr. Zopfi has prepared choruses for Carlos Kalmar, Bernard Labadie, Alastair Willis, Murray Sidlin, and Peter Schickele. As a singer, he has sung for many leading conductors including Robert Shaw and Sir David Wilcocks. He has performed with the Prague Philharmonic, the Colorado Symphony, and the New Jersey Symphony and is the founder and past Artistic Director of the Foundling Hospital Singers, the Boulder Schola Cantorum, the Grace Chamber Orchestra, and The Portland Sinfonietta. He also currently serves as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Portland Symphonic Choir, the official chorus of the Oregon Symphony Orchestra. Critics have hailed his work as "magical" and "superb" and choirs under his direction have been invited to sing at the local and regional conventions of the American Choral Director's Association, the Music Educator's National Conference, and other professional organizations. Dr. Zopfi's scholarly interests include late twentieth-century American motet composition and the instrumentation of the basso continuo of early seventeenth-century vocal music. Active as an editor of early music, Dr. Zopfi is also a passionate advocate for new music, and he has commissioned and conducted the world premieres of music by Edwin Lawrence, Timothy Melbinger, Bryan Johanson, and Judith Zaimont. His music reviews and articles have been published in *The Choral Journal* and his arrangements and editions are published by Colla Voce publishing.