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Sounds Good Choir Appoints Artistic Director for Sounds Good Choral Program: Christopher Cherry Selected After National Search

(Chicago, IL) — Following a comprehensive national search, Sounds Good Choir today announced the appointment of Christopher Cherry as the first artistic director of its Sounds Good choral program for adults age 55+. Starting July 1, Mr. Cherry will oversee eight Sounds Good choirs, which collectively serve more than 600 singers annually. Sounds Good Choir is the nation's second largest no-audition choral organization for older adults, serving cognitively healthy adults through its Sounds Good choirs and adults with early-stage memory loss and their care partners through its Good Memories choirs. Mr. Cherry joins the musical leadership team alongside founding Artistic Director Jonathan Miller, who will transition into the newly created role of Good Memories Artistic Director. This expansion allows the organization to provide dedicated artistic leadership for each of its core programs.



"This is an important organizational milestone we have been building toward," said Executive Director Anne Schankin. "Chris Cherry's appointment gives each of our organization's two programs its own dedicated artistic leader."

An Accomplished Career in Choral Leadership Mr. Cherry brings a wealth of music education and conducting experience to Sounds Good Choir. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Millikin University and a Master of Music Education degree from VanderCook College of Music.

For more than twenty years, Mr. Cherry served as a choral director in Illinois public schools, building thriving programs that earned consistent recognition for artistic achievement. His students regularly participated in regional and state honor choirs, performing both across the United States and internationally. "The sense of belonging that defines Sounds Good Choir is truly special," said Christopher Cherry. "I'm excited to become part of that community, to support the outstanding conductors and singers across the organization, and to help shape the next chapter of Sounds Good's musical journey together."

In addition to his career in public education, Mr. Cherry served as an adjunct professor at Elgin Community College, where he conducted the concert choir and music-directed select musical theatre productions. He also serves as the Director of Worship and Music at Journey of Hope United Methodist Church, leading adult choirs and designing meaningful, music-driven worship experiences. An active member of the American Choral Directors Association and the Illinois Music Education Association, Mr. Cherry was previously recognized as a GRAMMY Music Educator Award quarterfinalist. He lives in Hampshire, Illinois, with his wife, Karen, and their two children.

(more)

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About Sounds Good Choir Sounds Good Choir is the nation's second largest, no-audition choral organization for older adults. The organization offers two distinct choral programs: **Sounds Good,** designed for older adults "55 and better," and **Good Memories,** tailored for individuals living with memory loss and their care partners. Together, this warm, welcoming community of passionate singers rehearses and presents free public concerts throughout the year.

The singers participating in this year's summer session will host performances on July 23, 26, 28, and 29 in Chicago, Hinsdale, Oak Park/River Forest and Northbrook, respectively. Details about their upcoming choral concerts—Summer Rocks '26: The Beatles!—can be found on their website's concert page.

For more information about Sounds Good Choir and its upcoming programs, please visit SoundsGoodChoir.org. Contact staff by phone or email: 630.395.9542 and info@SoundsGoodChoir.org.

Below: The voices of singers from the Sounds Good and Good Memories choirs lifted together in song during their Summer Rocks 2010 Gold Coast concert at the Fourth Presbyterian Church in downtown Chicago. *(Photo courtesy Sounds Good Choir)*



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