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## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Kimberly High School Concert Choir to Perform at Carnegie Hall on April 8

**Kimberly, Wis. – March 23, 2018** – The Kimberly High School (KHS) Concert Choir will be performing at Carnegie Hall on April 8, 2018. The 54-member Concert Choir was invited to participate in Distinguished Concerts International New York City's (DCINY) performance of *The Music of Eric Whitacre*. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for KHS Concert Choir students," said John Popke, Choir Director at KHS. "Not only will they be singing under the direction of Eric Whitacre, a Grammy-winning composer and conductor who has been called one of the most popular and influential musicians of his generation, but they will also be singing in New York City's Carnegie Hall, one of the most prestigious venues in the world for both classical and popular music."



Members of the KHS Concert Choir perform during the Kimberly Choral Festival. Pictured (left to right) are: Paul Been, Elizabeth Midtvedt, Emily Vander Pas, Devan Vera, Camille Peotter and Sean Lawrence.

This performance will take place in the Isaac Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall on Sunday, April 8, 2018.

These outstanding musicians will join with other singers from around the world to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Eric Whitacre will serve as conductor of the performance and clinician for the residency.

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Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY stated, “The Kimberly High School Concert Choir received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers as well as the exceptional quality of their audition recordings.”

“It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York,” added Griffith. “These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community’s recognition and support.”

Students will spend several days in New York City in preparation for their concert. “The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the 5-day residency,” says Griffith. “Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance is the primary purpose for their visit to the city.”



Members of the KHS Concert Choir perform during the Kimberly Choral Festival on February 8, 2018.

“The students and I feel incredibly honored to represent Kimberly High School and the Kimberly Area School District in this performance,” added Popke. “We have been preparing by working on the music since October. The students will sing 11 songs by Eric Whitacre, including one world premiere.”

Along with the residency and performance at Carnegie Hall, students have a busy itinerary in New York. They will take in Broadway shows, tour the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, visit the Statue of Liberty at Ellis Island, and see Radio City Music Hall. They will be staying in Times Square and will eat local food in some very well-known New York neighborhoods, including Chinatown and Little Italy.

## **About DCINY**

Founded by Iris Derke and Jonathan Griffith, Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is the leading producer of dynamically charged musical excellence. With its unforgettable concert experiences in renowned venues, empowering educational programs, and its global community of artists and audiences, DCINY changes lives through the power of performance.

## **About the Kimberly Area School District**

The Kimberly Area School District is a progressive public school district committed to providing the best possible education available to students. Its responsibility is to help lead the way in developing well-rounded students and future citizens. The District wants every student to be given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts and co-curricular activities. It encompasses approximately 17 square miles and serves over 5,100 students in one 4K center, four elementary schools (5K-4), two intermediate schools (5-6), one middle school (7-8) and one high school (9-12). To learn more about the Kimberly Area School District, call (920)788-7900 or visit [www.kimberly.k12.wi.us](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us).