DOUBLE GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING VOCAL ENSEMBLE, THE KING’S SINGERS, BRINGS BEAUTIFUL SIX-PART HARMONIES TO JORGENSEN
Thurs, Nov 12, 2015 at 7:30 pm

Double Grammy award-winning vocal sextet, The King’s Singers, will bring their internationally celebrated harmonies and delightful British wit to the stage at UConn's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday evening, November 12th to perform their breathtaking, six-part a cappella arrangements of some the world’s most cherished songs and musical compositions - from Bach to Billy Joel, from haunting madrigals of the Renaissance to campy cuts from The Beatle's White Album. With over 2000 songs in their repertoire and their magnificent rapport with concert audiences, the special group of six musicians is widely regarded as one of the world’s most accomplished and most beloved a cappella ensembles. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the concert begins at 7:30 pm.

Comprising countertenors David Hurley and Timothy Wayne-Wright, tenor Julian Gregory, baritones Christopher Bruerton and Christopher Gabbitas, and bass Jonathan Howard, The King’s Singers are instantly recognizable for their immaculate intonation, vocal blend, diction and incisive timing. The group tours regularly to Europe, North and South America, Asia and Australasia, playing an average of 125 concerts annually in some of the world’s most famous concert halls and venues.

The group’s repertoire has evolved to become highly diverse and compelling. The King’s Singers have commissioned over 200 works, including landmark pieces from leading contemporary composers including Luciano Berio, György Ligeti, Sir James MacMillan, Krzysztof Penderecki, Toru Takemitsu, Sir John Tavener, Gabriela Lena Frank, and Eric Whitacre. They have also commissioned arrangements of everything from jazz standards to pop chart hits, explored medieval motets and Renaissance madrigals, and encouraged young composers to write new scores.

A double Grammy award-winning ensemble, The King’s Singers were honored in 2009 for their Signum Classics release, Simple Gifts, and again in 2012 for their contribution to Eric Whitacre’s Light and Gold album on Universal/Decca. They were also recently voted into the Gramophone Hall of Fame.

“The crucial thing about this group is that it’s not formed of a soloist and an accompanying group. The voice of the group is the six-part nature of the harmony that we produce,” says Phillip Lawson, the group’s former first baritone and principal arranger.

“We still have our own identity on stage and still are very much our own persons within the group and while talking with our fans, but when you’re on stage performing as a King’s Singer, you have to rid yourself of the ‘soloist’s guise’ that you’ve tried to cultivate for so long,” says bass vocalist, Jonathan Howard. “That's one of the things that is toughest when joining a
THE KING’S SINGERS, continued

group like this; you suddenly almost have to renounce your musical individuality for the greater purpose of the group, and that’s something that is both very difficult and quite rewarding.”

“We all feel a huge determination to do the best we possibly can,” says second baritone, Chris Gabbitas. “We realize that this is a very special job and we’re incredibly lucky to be doing something that we love so much.”

For more information about the artists please visit www.kingssingers.com.

This year the University of Connecticut’s Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts proudly celebrates its 60th anniversary. Established in December of 1955, Jorgensen has grown to become the largest college-based presenting program in New England. Each season Jorgensen enriches the lives of students, faculty, staff, and area residents with 30 to 35 diverse performances from nationally and internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles ranging from classical music to world music and dance, classical ballet and contemporary dance, comedy, family programming, and contemporary entertainment. Dedicated to University of Connecticut president Albert N. Jorgensen, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts continues to follow his vision of the University as the state’s educational and cultural leader.

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is located at 2132 Hillside Road on the UConn campus in Storrs. Tickets are available now online. Prices are: Floor seats $36; Mezzanine $32.

For tickets and information, call the Box Office at 860.486.4226, Monday through Friday, 10 am - 5 pm, and 90 minutes prior to events, or order online at jorgensen.uconn.edu. Convenient $5 event parking is available in the North Garage. Free parking is available in Lots 9, F, and L. For a detailed parking map, go to park.uconn.edu.

# # #