

Medical Musical Group
Chorale and Symphony Orchestra
Dedicated to America's Veterans

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Dear Friends:

As I look back at our 20th Anniversary Year, 2010, I am reminded of the words of the great Psalmist: "My cup runneth over"! Mine "runneth over" with gratitude for a year studded with sparkling and meaningful events: A Memorial Day Broadcast on CNBC Paid Programming; a broadcast "Screening Party" at the French Embassy, hosted by the French Ambassador, for diplomats of friendly nations as well as our members and others; the 2010 Veterans Day Concert, taped live at the National Shrine in Washington on November 10; and a friendship visit to France, with a "Healing for the Nations" concert at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. That Paris performance, incidentally, led to our proposed 2011 "gig" at the UN Europe Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, this year. This was recommended by the US Ambassador to UNESCO who attended our Paris performance.



J. Stuart Harris

NATIONAL SHRINE, WASHINGTON, DC, NOV. 9, 2010



Doug Gonzales

UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS, NOV. 15, 2010

The underlying reason for my gratification and gratitude, is that our 20-year old mission is being richly and abundantly fulfilled. That mission is of performing "*Music with a Message*" – a message of healing, hope, inspiration, patriotism, peace, and brotherhood. This has become a "ministry" of sorts for me, and also to several others in the Group. I am truly happy that that message has resonated with audiences at home and abroad. Ponder these words, from a viewer in Florida who watched our CNBC broadcast last May. Wrote he "**God bless you and your organization. . . May your music continue to heal across the seas and airways!**" Now *that* is "music" to my ears – and yours.

Our most important asset for all these 20 years, however, is **you** – MMG members and supporters. You have earnestly embraced this little organization over its 20 years of life, in so many different ways. *We appreciate that very much indeed, and do not take it for granted.*

A LOOK FORWARD TO 2011. We plan a grand program for 2011. It includes 5 major events: 2 in May, and 3 in November. **These are:**

- Another Memorial Day Broadcast on CNBC Paid Programming. (Sunday, May 29)
- A Screening Party of the broadcast, at the Swiss Embassy in Washington, DC. (May 27)
- Our **2011 National Veterans Day Concert** in Washington, DC. (November 9)
- A much anticipated grand trip "*Alpine Rhapsody 2011!*". It is to **Geneva, Switzerland**, with an extension to the **French Riviera**. (Starting November 10)
- A "*Healing for the Nations*" concert at, **yes, the United Nations European Headquarters in Geneva**. (November 15, 2011)

Recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society Bob Hope Award

The Medical Musical Group is not a Government Agency

Watch a newsclip about "Healing for the Nations" on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsqMYhkVQUc>

Significantly also, our membership has expanded in 2010 – by 45 new members. Noteworthy is that, even those of you who do not participate every year, overwhelmingly keep in touch. Many rejoin after some absence, and attend our concerts and tours. Again, we all, and I personally, greatly appreciate this steadfast dedication. *I take this opportunity to urge you to participate in one or all of this year's offerings.*

2011 NATIONAL VETERANS DAY CONCERT. Again at the **National Shrine, Washington, DC, 7:30 pm on Wednesday, November 9, 2011.** Concert Theme is "*City Upon a Hill!*", a quote used by Presidents Kennedy and Reagan, which originally came from a sermon by John Winthrop in 1630 on the Puritan ship Arabella. We will explore in verse and music how America can be, once more, a city on a hill, a light to the nations. I'll be sharing the repertoire later. We anticipate several national guest performers; and our hosts will be, by popular demand, Ron Masak of "Murder She Wrote" and Lindsay Bloom of "Mike Hammer".



RON MASAK



NATIONAL SHRINE



LINDSAY BLOOM

GENEVA CONCERT. At the **Palais des Nations** of the UN Headquarters in Geneva on Tuesday, **November 15, 7:30 pm.** The US Mission to the UN will sponsor. Concert theme is "*Unus pro Omnibus, Omnes pro Uno*" (One for All, All for One), a Three Musketeers' famous

quote, used as the unofficial motto of the Swiss Federation (thanks Deb Crecraft for suggesting it!). We will serve as goodwill ambassadors for America to the great Swiss people and, this year, to the entire assembly of the world's nations at Geneva.



PALAIS DES NATIONS, UN EUROPE HEADQUARTERS, GENEVA



ASSEMBLY HALL, PALAIS DES NATIONS GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

MMG 2011 REGISTRATION. Registrations are good for one calendar year, and you must be registered in order to qualify for the concerts, hotels, trips, etc. More importantly, your membership will be a symbol of your partaking in the noble mission of this nationwide musical family. This mission of healing through music transcends many boundaries, and also – oceans! You may register online at www.medicalmusical.org, click on "**Join**", or use the enclosed form. If you can, please make a financial contribution – every little but helps in this economy. We have posted the names of 2010 contributors: see www.medicalmusical.org, click on "**Honor Roll**". *Thank you all who made contributions already!*

PHOTOS, VIDEOS. See photos from our DC concert on (www.medicalmusical.org, click on "**Photos**"). A couple of newsclips are also posted under "**Videos**", or on YouTube:

1. WJLA-7 News, 11/10/10: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrV926KfuMs> (1 minute).
2. VA News, 11/15/10: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rKQs-WKqfol> (5 minutes).
3. UNESCO News on our November 15, 2010 Healing for the Nations Concert at UNESCO Hall in Paris, France: <http://unesco.usmission.gov/mmq.html>.

4. YouTube links to the videos of our concert in Paris, France last November: Click on "Uploads" and scroll to "Vive l'Amitié" clips at <http://www.youtube.com/DoctorsTalents>.

DC HOTEL. The **Hilton Crystal City at Reagan National Airport**, Arlington, VA. Our rate is \$135/room double occupancy plus tax. The Hilton offers a complimentary shuttle from Reagan

National Airport. **Reservations are open now: Call 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667)** and identify yourself as a MMG member. Our rate applies November 3 - 11, 2011. **Reservations deadline is October 5 but the rooms fly fast – so make your reservation soon!** Once our room block is filled, the rate reverts to non-discounted. If you need a hotel roommate, please contact **Elizabeth Nunan** at vanmmg@hotmail.com. She will try to connect you with others who have requested a roommate. **Remember, you must be duly registered with MMG in order to qualify for our group rate.** See "MMG 2011 Registration" above.



HILTON CRYSTAL CITY

DC REHEARSAL SCHEDULE.

Friday, November 4 : 7:00 - 10:00 pm at the **Hilton Crystal City**, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, Tel: 703-418-6800. **OPTIONAL REHEARSAL.**

Saturday, November 5 : 9:00 am – 12:00 noon (OPTIONAL); 2:00 – 5:00; 7:00 - 10:00 pm at the **Hilton Crystal City.**

Sunday, November 6: 2:00 - 5:00 pm and 7:00 - 10:00 pm at the **Hilton Crystal City.**

Monday, November 7: Town Hall Meeting 5:30 pm. Rehearsal **7:00 - 10:00 pm** at the **Hilton.**

Tuesday, November 8: 7:00 pm. Dress Rehearsal (casual dress) at the **National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception**, 400 Michigan Ave., NE, Washington, DC, 202-526-8300. Free parking at the Basilica, or you may use our group bus transportation departing the Hilton at **5:30 pm.** The Basilica stop is **Brookland-Catholic University on the Red line on the Metro.**

Wednesday, November 9: 6:30 pm PRECONCERT, and **7:30 pm CONCERT** at the **National Shrine.** Buses depart the Hilton 5:00 pm.

This year we want to add a **Member Reception** and social hour. Also, **Rehearsal Time for the Overseas Concert.** We are looking into optimal times for these.

OVERSEAS TOUR "Alpine Rhapsody 2011!" We will be based in Geneva with excursions to other locations, e.g. Mont Blanc. Dates are November 10–17, for the **Main Trip in Geneva;**



GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

and November 17-20 for the **Optional Extension to the French Riviera.** By all accounts "*Alpine Rhapsody 2011!*" promises to be a mega hit and I am enclosing its brochure.



FRENCH RIVIERA

The tour is now open for registration. Note that the deadline for the **Early Bird discount is March 25!** It's just around the corner – so you must hurry up!!

"Alpine Rhapsody 2011!" is in 2 parts:

- BASIC TRIP (GENEVA): November 10 - 17, 2011. Includes:** 6 nights at the 4-star **Warwick Hotel**, hot buffet breakfast daily, 3 dinners including a banquet, ground transportation by deluxe coach, half-day guided tour of Geneva, a bus/tram pass in Geneva, all service charges and taxes, gratuities to guides and drivers except on optional tours. There are multiple optional excursions – to Lausanne; the Geneva Countryside; Gruyeres and Broc, the Nestle chocolate factory; Chillon Castle; Montreux; Chamonix and Mont Blanc.



WARWICK HOTEL, GENEVA



LE PALAIS DE MÉDITERRANÉE

2. OPTIONAL EXTENSION (FRENCH RIVIERA): November 17 - 20, 2011. Includes: 3 nights at the centrally located 5-star **Le Palais de Méditerranée**, hot buffet breakfast daily, *flight from Geneva to Nice, France*, guided tour of Nice, and one dinner. There are also optional excursions to Monte Carlo; Eze; Cannes; and Provence Countryside.

In addition to the great itinerary, all your reservations and arrangements are made in advance. You will have the peace of mind, comfort and security of being a part of a large tourgroup. What is priceless, however, is the wonderful spirit of camaraderie, friendship, fellowship, unforgettable fond memories and Kodak moments that our Group trips famously provide.

TOUR COST. Despite the fact that Switzerland is rather expensive, and that our amenities are quite superior, our team attained an outstanding value package. The cost of the Basic Trip, with all the outstanding components described above, including roundtrip airfare DC/Geneva/DC on **Air France**, is only **\$2,815**, and the French Riviera Extension is **\$825**. See enclosed brochure for detailed info; check the significant Early Bird discounts below.

TOUR REGISTRATION. Use the attached trip registration form. You may register online at our secure website www.medicalmusical.org, click on "Alpine Rhapsody 2011!". The website accepts up to \$750 with a 3% service charge (\$23). The remainder may be paid by check to MMG and mailed to **MMG, Attn: Robert Wisleder, 45 Kimball Beach Road, Hingham, MA 02043-1145.** We have opted *against* paying the full registration via the Web. The reason is this 3% surcharge by the credit card companies. This would cost over \$80 – much more than US Mail or FedEx! Therefore, please use US mail or similar couriers.

EARLY BIRD TRIP REGISTRATION. *Save \$170 per traveler on the Basic Trip plus \$50 on the French Riviera Extension, if you send your \$750 deposit postmarked by March 25 AND final payment postmarked by May 15.* Send it to the Hingham, MA, address above.

REWARD FOR RECRUITING NEW TRAVELERS. If you register a **new traveler** who has never traveled with us previously, you earn a free optional excursion (*except Chamonix/Mont Blanc*) per new traveler, as long as space is available. This, as well as the regular reservations for Optional Excursions, is on a first come, first served basis. Also, requests for roommates on the trip in general are on a first come, first served basis. Late registration may result in no availability of a roommate and the need to pay a single supplement fee. ***I hope that you will travel with us this year on the "Alpine Rhapsody 2011!"***

Wishing you all a happy first year of our third decade together! Amidst the amazing changes that are taking place in the world today – let us, confidently and joyfully, walk hand in hand into the new decade. Let us once more, together, extend the power of healing, hope, inspiration, patriotism, peace, and brotherhood, through our music and spoken word. And yes, do that across human silos, barriers and boundaries – and even: oceans!

Warm regards to all,

Victor S. Wahby, MD
Founder and Director

Enclosures: 2011 MMG Registration Form, "Alpine Rhapsody 2011!" Brochure, and Registration Form