

Celebrate Chicago's Newest Holiday Tradition!

CAROLING AT CLOUD GATE

Featuring Performances by Choral Groups plus a Holiday Sing-Along:

Friday Evenings from November 24 through December 22

On Friday nights throughout the holiday season, Millennium Park will be home to the city's newest holiday tradition – **Caroling at Cloud Gate**. Chicagoans and visitors alike are invited to Cloud Gate, the city's newest icon, to hear the beautiful voices of a variety of choral groups, followed by a holiday sing-along.

Caroling at Cloud Gate runs Fridays from November 24 through December 22. The choral performances begin at 6pm; the sing-along begins at 6:30pm.

Each evening, both the choristers and those singing along will be invited to hold holiday candles. The reflection of the candles will twinkle in the stainless steel of Cloud Gate, creating a magical holiday scene in the center of the city.

Complimentary coffee and hot apple cider, provided by Caribou Coffee, will be available each evening.

After Caroling, guests are encouraged to skate at Millennium Park's McCormick Tribune Ice Rink, one of the most popular winter destinations in the city.

For more information on Millennium Park or on **Caroling at Cloud Gate** visit www.millenniumpark.org or call 312-742-1168:

The Complete **Caroling at Cloud Gate** schedule is:

Friday, November 24

Apollo Chorus

When the Apollo Chorus of Chicago sings, great choral works come alive! Founded in 1872 after the Great Chicago Fire, this powerful 150-voice chorus is one of the city's most exciting and talked-about musical organizations. Each season Apollo thrills audiences with beautiful music old and new, winning praise for its performances – especially for Handel's *Messiah*. In November, Apollo released its first-ever *Messiah* CD. Beyond *Messiah*, the Apollo Chorus performs a wide range of masterworks for chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Stephen Alltop

Friday, December 1

Chicago Gay Men's Chorus

The Chicago Gay Men's Chorus has been an integral part of Chicago's cultural and gay communities since 1983. For the last two decades, CGMC has entertained audiences around the country with innovative musical programming,

political commentary and tongue-in-cheek humor. The group has sung multiple performances of the National Anthem for the Chicago Cubs, and has recorded three CDs: *Cool Yule*, *I Will Be Loved Tonight*, and *Favorite Things*, which will be released in December, 2006.

Friday, December 8

***Paranda* with Latin Sound Crew and Chica Axia**

Parandas are a beloved holiday tradition in many Caribbean countries, including Puerto Rico. Late in the evening (and long after bedtime), a group of carolers travels from door to door, serenading the residents until they awake, invite the group in for treats, and then join the caroling. On December 8, two of Chicago's finest Latin bands, the Latin Sound Crew and Chica Axia, will present the first-ever holiday *paranda* in Millennium Park.

Friday, December 16

Chicago Mass Choir (Gospel)

The *Chicago Mass Choir* is a component of the ECC Music Workshop, which was organized by the late James C. Chambers in 1988 in Chicago, Illinois. The choir consists of dedicated members from various denominations, including ministers and evangelists who have made the Word of God foremost in their music and their lives as well. The *Chicago Mass Choir* is a nationally acclaimed recording group and has been nominated for multiple Grammy and Stellar Awards. The choir is under the leadership of Dr. Feranda B. Williamson, President/CEO, and musical direction of Percy Gray, Jr.

Friday, December 22

Chicago Children's Choir

The Chicago Children's Choir is a multiracial, multicultural choral music education organization, founded in 1956 by the late Christopher Moore, dedicated to shaping the future by making a difference in the lives of children and youth through musical excellence. Today, The Chicago Children's Choir is America's largest, most comprehensive organization devoted to the musical education of children, serving over 3,000 children. By developing musical skills and performing in public, the children acquire poise, increased self-esteem, and an understanding that discipline and hard work bring rewards.

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