

## For Immediate Release

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### **SING FOR HOPE PERFORMS AT INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FESTIVALS in SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA**

Sing for Hope, an "artists' peace corps" that mobilizes world-class artists who donate time and talent in volunteer service programs that benefit schools, hospitals and communities, will make a special performance at the **Third Annual International Women's Festival on March 6<sup>th</sup>**. The International Women's Festival is a non-profit event celebrating International Women's Day with inspirational leaders from business, the arts, social causes and politics. The renowned festival speakers will address the crucial issues facing women today in interactive, multicultural, and entertaining presentations focusing on the five key areas of women's lives: Personal, Professional, Philanthropic, Political, and Planet.

**Sing for Hope's performance at the Third Annual International Women's Festival will be held at the Earl Warren Showgrounds in Santa Barbara at 5:00pm on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010.** Inspired by a belief in the transformative power of the arts, the performers in this concert will donate their time and tremendous talent to raise awareness both for International Women's Day and also for Sing for Hope's vital programs that benefit underserved communities in the United States.

Sing for Hope Donor Artists for the event include **Mezzo Soprano Geeta Novotny** (Los Angeles Opera, Carnegie Hall, The Metropolitan Opera), **Soprano Mignonne Profant** (Opera Pacific, Opera Santa Barbara, Long Beach Civic Light Opera), **Tenor Daniel Montenegro** (San Francisco Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Los Angeles Philharmonic), **Pianist Jeremy Frank** (Los Angeles Opera, Wolf Trap Opera Company, Seattle Opera), **Double Violinist, Singer, and Composer Gingga Shankar** (Carnegie Hall, Hollywood Bowl, Madison Square Garden), and **Actor & XRT Artistic Director Aaron Ganz** (American Repertory Theatre, Utah Shakespearean Festival, Moscow Art Theatre). The artists will perform a special program featuring popular opera arias, Broadway songs, new world music, monologues, duets and more!

Concert admission is a suggested donation of \$25. A portion of the proceeds will support the work of the Weidemann Foundation, which serves organizations conducting exceptional and potentially self-sustaining projects in microlending and community development. The Weidemann Foundation will direct the funds raised to its partners working with women in Haiti.

For more information or to schedule an interview with Sing for Hope or the artists on the event, please contact Christopher Herbert at 212.966.5955.

#### **About Sing for Hope**

*"What Sing for Hope does is wonderfully simple. It maintains a roster of compassionate, world-class artists who donate time and talent to the humanitarian causes that inspire them."*

*- Dr. Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Sing for Hope Board Member*

Founded by opera singers with a desire to lift their voices for social change, Sing for Hope mobilizes over 600 world-class artists – from classical musicians to photographers to Broadway performers – who donate time and talent in our volunteer service programs that benefit schools, hospitals and communities. Sing for Hope provides three programs: Art U! (dynamic arts and leadership education for underserved children), Healing Arts (in-hospital performances and workshops that complement the healing process), and Community Arts (events that raise awareness and funds for humanitarian causes, and projects that dismantle barriers to arts accessibility). Each Sing for Hope project is defined by the volunteerism of professional artists and our belief in the transformative

power of the arts. Sing for Hope ([www.singforhope.org](http://www.singforhope.org)) is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

**About the International Women's Festivals**

The Women's Festivals were created to celebrate the accomplishments and nurture the dreams of women in an interactive, multi-cultural, and entertaining format focusing on the five key areas of women's lives: Personal, Professional, Philanthropic, Political and Planet (also known as the "5 Ps"). The Women's Festival creates a unique opportunity to provide a rich common experience and a fertile environment for networking and resource sharing. Proceeds benefit the National Association of Women Business Owners, Women's Economic Ventures, Score and Girls Inc.

For more information specifically about the **International Women's Festivals** on March 5 & 6 in Santa Barbara, California, please contact Patty DeDominic at 805.565.9967 or visit the website [www.womensfestivals.org](http://www.womensfestivals.org).