

Chanticleer Press Release

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For Immediate Release: Press release from Summit Chorale

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**Chanticleer, America's Premier Vocal Ensemble,
To Perform in Summit**

In celebration of its 100th anniversary season, Summit Chorale will present the award-winning vocal ensemble Chanticleer in concert on October 4, 2008, 8:00 PM, at Summit High School, 125 Kent Place Blvd., Summit, NJ.

Chanticleer, based in San Francisco, has developed a remarkable reputation for its vivid interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz, and from gospel to venturesome new music. With its seamless blend of twelve male voices, ranging from countertenor to bass, the ensemble has earned international renown as "an orchestra of voices."

The group will present its 2008 touring program *Wondrous Free*, an appreciation of the 250th anniversary of the first American song "My Days Have Been So Wondrous Free." The program demonstrates the diversity of song in America in the context of song throughout the world, and includes the premiere of David Conte's *The Homecoming* about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Also included are Early American hymns, European madrigals, American folk songs, Jazz and Gospel.

Named for the “clear-singing” rooster in Geoffrey Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales, Chanticleer was founded in 1978 by tenor Louis Botto, who served as Artistic Director until his death in 1997. He was succeeded by countertenor Joseph Jennings, a prolific composer and arranger who has provided the group with some of its most popular repertoire. Tenor Matthew Oltman was named Music Director in 2008. Now in its 30th year, Chanticleer was named Musical America’s “Ensemble of the Year” in December and at the National Performing Arts Conference in June it received the inaugural “Dale Warland Commissioning Award” from Chorus America.

Tickets for Chanticleer’s Summit concert may be purchased through www.brownpapertickets.com. Prices are \$45 for general admission, \$75 for preferred seating and \$100 for VIP seating, to include a post-concert reception with the artists. More information is available by calling 862-926-9605 or visiting Summit Chorale’s website, www.summitchorale.org.

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