



NEWS RELEASE

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***HOLIDAY POPS!* CONCERT USHERS IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT**

MANSFIELD, OHIO. The Renaissance Performing Arts Association, General Motors-Mansfield and Key Bank proudly present *Holiday Pops!* with the Mansfield Symphony and Chorus on Saturday, December 22 at 8PM and Sunday, December 23 at 2:30PM in the Renaissance Theatre. Tickets are \$28.50, \$22.50, and \$12.50 and may be purchased at the Renaissance Box Office, 10AM – 5PM, Monday – Friday, by calling 419-522-2726 and online at www.MansfieldTickets.com.

Over 150 artists will gather on the Renaissance stage for a completely new 2007 *HOLIDAY POPS!* This year homage will be paid to simpler times with a send up to the glory days of radio. Step into the 1940's with our "Holiday Radio Cavalcade" featuring the Mansfield Symphony conducted by Music Director Robert Franz and the Mansfield Symphony Chorus under the direction of Deborah Logan. The entire theatre will become the sound stage of a live radio broadcast complete with "ON AIR" and "APLAUSE" signs and fun radio jingles. A cast of local actors, Douglas Wertz, Beau Roberts, Maureen Browning, Brandon Smith, and Marilyn Forster, will perform "A Christmas Carol", which was adapted by Michael Thomas from the Charles Dickens novel. Michael Thomas, returning to north central Ohio after a 25 year absence, began his career in Chicago before migrating to New York, Los Angeles, and London, where he worked as a writer, musical director, and actor. His TV, theater and film writing credits include *30 Rock* (which received the 2007 Emmy Award for Outstanding Comedy

Series), *Tracey Takes On*, *True to Form*, *Saturday Night Live*, *Shrek II*, *Legally Blond*, *The Incredibles*, *Broken Flowers*, *Nurse Betty*, *Head of State*, *Dreamboat*, *Melancholy Baby*, *Hamlet: The Musical*, *The Loved One*, *Broadway Danny Rose*, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Little Mr. Nobody*, *Nonsense and Imbecility*, and *Second City*. He has won three Joseph Jefferson Awards, an After Dark Award, and Time Out New York's Best of the Best. The Mansfield Symphony and Chorus will perform all your holiday favorites including "We Need A Little Christmas," "Little Drummer Boy," "Frosty the Snowman & Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," "Farandole," "White Christmas," "Adeste Fideles," "Believe" from *The Polar Express*, and many more.

HOLIDAY POPS! is presented by the Renaissance Performing Arts Association, General Motors-Mansfield, and Key Bank, sponsored by G.L. Cook Plumbing and Heating, and with the support of the Ohio Arts Council.

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