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THE JERUSALEM YOUTH CHORUS ANNOUNCES

"A DIFFERENT SONG": NORTH AMERICAN SPRING TOUR

A 4-City Tour from March 29 - April 14

The Jerusalem Youth Chorus (JYC) is delighted to announce that 18 singers will visit and perform in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, Boston, and Vancouver between March 29 and April 14, 2024. The US tour is bookended by a high-profile, televised performance in Los Angeles to be announced, and a livestreamed performance at TED 2024, TED's flagship conference, in Vancouver, BC.

The chorus has continued to meet and rehearse weekly in Jerusalem since the events of October 7, collaborating to coordinate safe transportation and to provide a safe space for the youth of East and West Jerusalem to meet, to sing, to talk, and to grow together. We are now thrilled and grateful to be able to bring the chorus from Jerusalem for concerts in North America to celebrate and uplift the work of this phenomenal group of young people.

This tour was originally supposed to take place in October 2023, but was postponed due to the outbreak of war on October 7. In lieu, JYC leadership Micah Hendler, Artistic Director & Founder, and Amer Abu Arqub, Executive Director, organized a <u>virtual concert</u> with collaboration from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and brought a musical speaking tour and workshop to LA, Chicago, Washington D.C., New York, and Boston to share JYC's music and dialogue model and provide a space for catharsis and healing for diaspora communities impacted by the war. This spring, we are collaborating with the <u>One America Movement</u>, a movement that works with faith communities across America to fight toxic polarization, to inspire and equip American audiences to build bridges in their own communities even in divisive times.

Micah Hendler, JYC Founder & Artistic Director, says of this tour, "The mission of the Jerusalem Youth Chorus has never been more vital - to demonstrate a viable alternative to violence in Israel-Palestine and sing out for peace, justice, inclusion, and equality. The opportunities that we have on this tour to truly amplify our singers' voices, like performing at

TED 2024, will allow us to seize the moment when all eyes are on Israel-Palestine and help us all sing a different song."

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

Los Angeles | APRIL 1 7:00pm | Private Residence

Tickets: https://jerusalemyouthchorus.app.getcuebox.com/o/Q053VCG4/shows/SCWR7RQC

Washington, D.C. | APRIL 9

7:00pm | Adas Israel Congregation

Tickets: https://jerusalemyouthchorus.app.getcuebox.com/o/Q053VCG4/shows/ZXV0XLZJ

Boston | APRIL 14

4:00pm | Emmanuel Church, Boston

Hosted by Emmanuel Church in the City of Boston, Central Reform Temple,

In Concert With the Northeastern University Nor'easters

Tickets: https://jerusalemyouthchorus.app.getcuebox.com/o/Q053VCG4/shows/763W5GVP

About the JERUSALEM YOUTH CHORUS

The Jerusalem Youth Chorus is a choral and dialogue program for Palestinian and Israeli youth in Jerusalem. Our mission is to provide a space for these young people from East and West Jerusalem to grow together in song and dialogue. Through the co-creation of music and sharing of stories, we empower youth in Jerusalem with the responsibility to speak and sing their truths, as they become leaders in their communities and inspire singers and listeners around the world to work for peace, justice, inclusion, and equality.

We envision a Jerusalem - and a broader Israel-Palestine - defined not by hatred, division, and injustice, not by occupation, terror, and violence, but by acknowledgement of a shared connection to place, celebration of individual and collective belonging to that place, and systems that allow that belonging to be equally realized by Jews, Christians, and Muslims, Palestinians and Israelis alike. We reject attempts to pit Arabs and Jews, Israelis and Palestinians, against one another in service of systemic violence that robs all of their agency to even imagine, let alone choose, a different way. Instead, as we create a home for all in the chorus, we seek to show what Jerusalem could be - and use our songs and stories, within a broad ecosystem of change, as a catalyst to bring that future about.

For Media Inquiries:

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