

The University of Santo Tomas (UST) Singers in Olympia

We welcome the UST Singers in Olympia, Washington on Saturday, June 11, 2005, in a concert at the River Ridge High School starting at 7:30 o'clock in the evening.

As part of their concert tour in the USA covering 12 states, in May 2005 the UST Singers will perform first at the Kemper Arena in Kansas City. Appearing with the UST Singers are American tenor Daniel Rodriguez, Grammy award winner Aaron Neville, Dove award winner Rachael Lampa and the world-famous trio, The Irish Tenors.

The UST Singers, founded in 1992, is a premiere mixed chorale ensemble composed of some 34 select students and alumni representing the different colleges and faculties of the Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines, the oldest university in the Philippines. The University of Santo Tomas (UST) Singers, under the baton of Fidel Gener Calalang, Jr., was bestowed the accolade "Choir of the World" at the 47th Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales, making it the first Asian choir to achieve such prestigious honors.

The UST Singers has built a repertoire of beautiful interpretations that cover significant parts of choral literature of the last five centuries, enabling the Ensemble to attain much success in the leading international choral competitions in Europe. They also *sing and dance* to Broadway, Filipino, and modern pieces.

Since 1993, the UST Singers has earned 45 prizes in Italy, France, Germany, Spain, Mexico, United Kingdom and other countries. Their awards included the Gran Premio "Città di Gorizia" at the 37th Concorso Internazionale di Canto Corale "; the C. A. Seghizzi" held in Gorizia, Italy, besting 21 other international entries; Best Choir Prize at the Internationaler Chorwettbewerb in Germany; Best Festival Choir at the Tonen 2002 International Contest for Chamber Choirs in Netherlands; and first place awards in five categories at the Mezinarodni Festival in the Czech Republic.

The latest awards of the UST Singers were the "Excellence AVEC Distinction" in the mixed choir category, and the "Ville de Vevey Jury Prize" for Best Programming and Interpretation at the Montreux International Choral Festival in Switzerland; and the Best Choir Award at the World Choral Festival 2004 in Puebla, Mexico.