

# A Concert for a Cause! World-Renowned Cantors to Perform at Concert to Benefit Jewish Elderly

**Chicagoans needed to fill theater!**

NORTHBROOK, IL (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – Chicagoans can attend a musical event featuring some of the biggest names in Jewish cantorial music and perform a mitzvah at the same time when they purchase tickets for “To Life! A Jewish Musical Celebration,” presented by the International Cantorial Foundation on Wednesday, November 16, 2005 at 7:30 p.m., at the North Shore Center of Performing Arts in Skokie.



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The concert will feature internationally acclaimed cantors, including Chazzan Alberto Mizrahi of Chicago, known as “the Jewish Pavarotti;” and Cantor Sol Zim of New York, considered America’s superstar of Jewish music; and local choirs singing Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino and cantorial music, and opera and Broadway show tunes – for a higher purpose.

Proceeds from ticket sales will be used to videotape the concert and produce a DVD to be distributed FREE to senior residences throughout the country so that elderly residents can experience the joy of a live Jewish concert.

Margo Oberman, a Council for Jewish Elderly board member (CJE), is the event chair. CJE will be helping to distribute the DVD, which is being produced by

Jacky Comforty, the Evanston filmmaker who produced the acclaimed film "The Optimists."

"To Life!" is the brainstorm of Marshall Witzel, 79, of Highland Park, who founded the International Cantorial Foundation. The Foundation provides scholarships to individuals wishing to pursue a career in the cantorate and seeks to promote a love and appreciation for Jewish music.

The event features the cantors performing solos and duets with Cantor Kim Komrad, of Baltimore, a rising star in the Jewish world; Kol Zimrah, Chicago's extraordinary 70-voice community chorus, conducted by Richard Boldrey; the Solomon Schechter Day School Student Choir, directed by Roz Ebstein; and Ilana Goldberg, a 16-year-old vocalist from Highland Park.

Witzel said his purpose in creating the project is "To make our elderly feel that the world and their kin have not forgotten them." Says Witzel: "We have created an extraordinary musical event. Now we need to fill up the theater with Jewish music lovers and people who care about our elderly."

To purchase tickets, contact Witzel at the International Cantorial Foundation at 847.480.7785. Ticket prices are: \$50 (main floor, rows A-Q), \$36 (main floor, rows R-V), or \$18 (balcony).

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