## Lady Cove Women's Choir Brings Home Double Gold at World Choir Games

Newfoundland choir recognized as one of the top in the world

## St. John's NL, July 22, 2014

Members of Lady Cove Women's Choir have just arrived back in Canada with two gold medals from the World Choir Games. The games brought together more than 500 choirs from 59 countries in Riga, Latvia.

The choir competed in two categories. It received a gold medal and ranked third overall in the highly competitive female choir category with a score of 91.13, less than 2 points behind the winning choir from Denmark. In the sacred music category the choir also received a gold medal with a score of 87.63, coming in 11<sup>th</sup> out of 42 choirs. Many judges gave the choir scores of 9 or 10 in all of the artistic and technical areas.

"The World Choir Games in Latvia has been one of the hardest and most rewarding competitions I have ever participated in," said Kellie Walsh, the choir's director and founder.

"Most importantly however, the choir has grown from preparing for this competition. We are a much stronger choir, and for me that is what working towards competition is truly all about."

David Chafe, the choir's accompanist was blown away with the performance by the women. "It's the most artful, expressive, intensive, loving, giving, sensitive and sincere performances I have ever experienced by Lady Cove in all my eleven years with this world-class ensemble. I can barely find the words to adequately describe how proud I am to work these extraordinary musicians every week and see our efforts be recognized on the world stage in this way. It's really incredible" he said.

The competition was a chance to showcase the talent of the Newfoundland singers to an international audience. As a result of the choir's performance, Lady Cove has already been invited to a festival in Germany, and has received inquiries from other festivals and competitions.

Lady Cove Women's Choir is named after the community of Lady Cove in Trinity Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador. Based in St. John's, the choir of over 40 voices was established by Kellie Walsh in September 2003. After winning first place in the 2008 CBC Radio Competition for Amateur Choirs in the Contemporary Music category, the group took first place at the 2008 Bela Bartok New Music Competition in Debrecen, Hungary. This past season, Lady Cove celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and released their second recording, *Heart's Delight*.

## Below is a photo of one of the gold medals won by the choir



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