



For Immediate Release

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**International Film Maker Helps Restore Spirit
Through Hurricane Choir**

Imagine one-thousand voices of hurricane survivors and local residents joining together and finding comfort in song. International film maker Martin Meader has made this a reality by starting research for his Hurricane Choir project, benefiting Volunteers of America Greater Baton Rouge support of Hurricane relief. The project, which consists of the one-thousand hurricane survivors and local residents will culminate in June 2006 in a one-hour choral performance on the steps of the Louisiana State Capitol.

Meader, Australian co-writer and co-executive producer of the Fox film movie, *Paradise Road*, starring Glenn Close, and Academy Award winners Frances Macdormand and Cate Blanchett has set in motion plans to create a documentary on the Hurricane Choir. With the support of international artists, the project will have broad appeal as survivors tell their stories through song. As choral director of the Hurricane Choir, Meader brings lively interaction to each rehearsal by making sure it is high energy and fun. The June concert is scheduled to air live via network stations around the globe!

It is envisioned that the Hurricane Choir (with selected choir members) will travel abroad and appear in festivals worldwide to raise funds to rebuild. Funds raised through the sales of CD's and other items will be donated to continue rebuilding the communities of Louisiana.

If you would like information on being a sponsor of the event, please e-mail daniellesings@gmail.com. Log on to www.hurricanechoir.com to see when we rehearse or how you can dedicate your time by volunteering.

Founded in 1896, Volunteers of America is a national, spiritually based organization providing local human service programs and opportunities for individual and community involvement. Carrying the motto of its founders, Volunteers of America promises to "go wherever we are needed and do whatever comes to hand." Touching the lives of more than 1.8 million people last year, the organization has local affiliations serving the heart of Baton Rouge.



Volunteers of America®
Greater Baton Rouge