



Mental Health Association in Louisiana

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## **Martin Meader to Come to U. S. for Community Enhancement Projects**

Louisiana invites international film maker and choral director Martin Meader for relief efforts in rebuilding south Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

Martin Meader, co-writer and co executive producer of the Fox film Paradise Road starring Glenn Close, and academy award winners Frances Macdormand and Cate Blanchett, will be in Baton Rouge January 2nd to begin research for his Hurricane Choir project. Planning for a film and radio documentary is underway that will take the audience inside the hearts of those rebuilding their communities and lives. The Hurricane Choir will be formed with 1,000 voices of hurricane survivors singing across south Louisiana in the spring of 2006 along with an international team of artists and local community development workers. This vocal orchestra will create, rehearse and present their future vision by performing a one-hour spectacle for thousands. The story of the performance will be their story of hope and healing in the aftermath and the great potential of their future. Funds raised through the sales of CD's and other items will be donated back into the local areas through Volunteers of America to help them build the future vision of their new communities. Negotiations are taking place for the film and radio documentaries and live simulcast to be aired by the Australian Broadcast Corporation , HBO and other network stations around the globe. It is envisaged that the documentary will appear in film festivals worldwide and that chosen members of the choir will tour the world to continue to raise funds for their loved one's at home. Mr. Meader will hold his first event to begin raising funds with a musical celebration at the Holiday Inn South at I-12 and Airline Hwy on Tuesday January 3rd at 6:30. Anyone wanting to participate should arrive at 6pm for registration and placement.

For more information on the Hurricane Choir, visit [www.hurricanechoir.com](http://www.hurricanechoir.com) or call 225-810-3815.