**MEDIA STATEMENT FOR RELEASE WITHOUT EMBARGO**

**ISSUED BY THE DRAKENSBERG BOYS CHOIR SCHOOL**

***HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh to attend a fundraising concert in aid of Drakensberg***

***Boy Choir, based in South Africa supported by Wells Cathedral School. HRH The***

***Duchess of Edinburgh is a Patron of the Wells Cathedral Choristers Trust.***

**MEDIA RELEASE ISSUED WITHOUT EMBARGO**

**JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA – HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh will visit Wells Cathedral on 25 September in support of the Drakensberg Boys Choir who will be performing a fundraising concert alongside the Wells Cathedral Schools Choir and Musicians. The performance will be a diverse repertoire, blending classical and Afro-Pop music, and will captivate the audience. The repertoire will range from the timeless compositions of Carl Orff and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart to the vibrant rhythms of Afro-Pop and traditional African contemporary works, promising to enchant audiences of all tastes.**

This is a wonderful opportunity for both world renowned music schools to come together to showcase their musical talents, while raising funds for future talented individuals. It promises to be a joyous evening and should not be missed.

To find out more, visit: [*Drakensberg Boys Choir at Wells Cathedral Tickets, Wed 25 Sep 2024 at 19:00 | Eventbrite*](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/drakensberg-boys-choir-at-wells-cathedral-tickets-916288281917?aff=ebdsoporgprofile)

**The Drakensberg Boys Choir School (DBCS)** prepares boys for life and leadership through excellence in music, academics, sports, and social enrichment. Known affectionately as "Drakie boys," students are encouraged to harness their musical talents to bring hope and positive change in South Africa and globally. With a 57-year history, DBCS is the only established choir school in South Africa, earning international respect and producing young men of exemplary character.

For many of their talented boys, attending Drakensberg is a long-held dream come true. Unfortunately, some boy’s world-class talent cannot be realised due to a lack of funding. As a result, the Drakies bursary fund is critical in providing deserving boys with the opportunity to perform on the world choir stage, an honour they would not have had without generous donations to their bursary fund. Proceeds from the UK tour will go to the bursary fund.

**The Wells Cathedral School and the Wells Cathedral Choristers** - The Drakensberg Boys Choir will be joined for this special performance by the Choristers of Wells Cathedral Choir and the musicians and singers of Wells Cathedral School. The Wells Cathedral Choristers are the treble voices of the world renowned Wells Cathedral Choir; lauded by Gramophone magazine as the world’s leading choir with children. They continue a tradition that dates back to the 10th century AD. The School’s own choirs have an international reputation and maintain a busy schedule of concerts, recordings and broadcasts. They have toured extensively to Europe and the Far East and have been prize winners in major international competitions including ‘Let the Peoples Sing’, ‘Musica Eterna Roma’, ‘BBC Choir of the Year', and most recently at the “International Choral Festival of Preveza’.

**FIN**

**(889 words)**

**EDITORS' NOTES**

**Media release issued by Stone on behalf of Drakensberg Boys Choir**

**To purchase DBC UK Tour 2024 concert tickets, visit** <https://share.stone.consulting/Drakies_UK_24>

Visit the website: <http://www.dbchoir.com>

**Media contact for further media information or interview requests:**

Willem S Eksteen, Stone CE and Drakensberg Boys Choir School Director

Drakensberg Boys Choir School

Email: media@stone.consulting / willem@stone.consulting

Phone: +27 11 447 0168 / +27 83 272 6304

**Alternative media contact or request for in-studio or recorded media appearances:**

Amanda Cunningham

Drakensberg Boys Choir School Parent Association

Email: dbcsdpa@gmail.com

Phone: +27 83 255 6546

**Book the choir for performance or enquire about enrolling at DBCS:**

Helga Cato

Drakensberg Boys Choir School

Email: hcato@dbchoir.com

Phone: +27 36 468 1012 / +27 83 773 7450

**Contribute to the DBCS bursary fund:**

Lizel Potgieter, DBCS Bursar

Drakensberg Boys Choir School

Email: accountant@dbchoir.com

Phone: +27 36 468 1012

**More helpful website links for media reference:**

* Please visit the Facebook page for views of the sold-out performances and activity during the four-day Music in the Mountains festival that took place on the Freedom Day long weekend and more information on the choir – <https://www.facebook.com/dbchoir>
* The photo page on the Facebook page gives a good view of the diversity, life and extraordinary talent of the boys at Drakensberg Boys Choir School – <https://www.facebook.com/dbchoir/photos>
* Visit these links for a glimpse of the world-renowned choir's international and local choral work, both in the classical and distinctly African genres – <https://www.youtube.com/user/DBCHOIR>, <https://youtu.be/C521O4XHO_I>, <https://www.facebook.com/dbchoir/videos/934329527988775/> and <https://dbchoir.com/web/videos/>