



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Georgia Berkovich
(213) 624-4588
gberkovich@midnightmission.org

MUSIC WITH A MISSION – STRIKING A CHORD SINCE 2010

WHAT: Music With A Mission (MWAM) – Urban Voices Project (UVP)

WHEN: Thursday – May 30, 2019 – 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

WHERE: The Midnight Mission, 601 S. San Pedro St., LA, CA 90014

WHO: **URBAN VOICES PROJECT** www.urbanvoicesproject.org

The Urban Voices Choir is composed of artists and performers from the Skid Row neighborhood in Downtown Los Angeles. Throughout the year, they are sharing music and its healing power with many individuals and audiences inside and outside the neighborhood of Skid Row, the epicenter of Los Angeles's homeless crisis. The choir is one of many programs presented by Urban Voices Project, a non-profit that creates supportive community spaces with music to bridge vulnerable individuals to a sense of purpose and improved health. UVP engages men, women and families across the greater Los Angeles area with music workshops in partnership with social, civic and healthcare organizations. Community singing and music education combine to provide practical opportunities for individuals to transcend their current circumstances and participate in a creative program of positive change. Our outreach ensemble performances shift the narrative and perception of homelessness in today's society. The Urban Voices Project has found recognition in the front pages of the Los Angeles Times, featured on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* in 2014 as well as *The New Yorker* in 2018.

The Midnight Mission (TMM) is thrilled to welcome Urban Voices Project's (UVP) choir to MWAM. Although UVP has been a part of TMM's family for many years, performing at our special events and even with other ensembles at MWAM, this will be their first time headlining MWAM. We hope you can join us for this very special occasion.

WHY: The Midnight hosts Music With a Mission (MWAM) to entertain and inspire those living on Skid Row. Music is a survival tactic for many people in dealing with life's difficulties. MWAM's aimed at bringing our community together through music. MWAM is quite simple. Musicians bring their instruments and play for our homeless and near-homeless guests. It is an intimate setting, so musicians have the opportunity to interact with our guests, answer questions and talk about music and its history. We encourage musicians to invite their fan base so they can engage and enjoy music with individuals they would not normally encounter in their daily lives. **We are currently looking for sponsors for this ever-growing community event. If you are interested, please contact Georgia Berkovich at 213-624-4588 or gberkovich@midnightmission.org.**

About The Midnight Mission: Founded in 1914, The Midnight Mission offers paths to self-sufficiency to men, women and children who have lost direction. Our emergency services and 12-step recovery, family living, job training, education and workforce development programs offer a compassionate bridge to achieve and maintain healthy, productive lives. We remove obstacles and provide the accountability and structure that people who are experiencing homelessness need to be productive in their communities. Our conviction and commitment to their success define us. For additional information, please visit www.midnightmission.org.