



NEWS BRIEF

The Salvation Army Metropolitan Division • 5040 N. Pulaski Road • Chicago, IL 60630

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Salvation Army Youth Band Holds Benefit Concert for Relief Efforts in Japan

*World Renowned Opera Tenor Simon Kyung Lee to Perform
with Youth Musicians from Southern California*

March 22, 2011 (Chicago) – **The Salvation Army Southern California Divisional Youth Band**, a 33-piece brass ensemble featuring the best high school and college musicians from across Southern California, will perform in Chicago as the first stop in the group's international tour at the Mayfair Community Church in Chicago (5020 N. Pulaski), on **Saturday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m.** The band will perform a variety of brass styles, from classical to jazz, and will also feature choral accompaniments.

Also performing at the benefit concert is world renowned opera singer **Simon Kyung Lee**, a tenor whose latest performances include La Boheme and Romantic & Tragic Love with the Singapore Lyric Opera.

Entrance to the concert is **FREE**, but The Salvation Army will be collecting **voluntary donations at the door to benefit The Salvation Army's disaster relief efforts in Japan.**

Salvation Army Relief Efforts in Japan

Three Salvation Army teams in Japan are providing vital assistance to people affected by the country's 9.0 magnitude earthquake, the resulting tsunami and ongoing problems at a nuclear power station. The first team went to Sendai, the area of Japan with the most damage, where about 1,000 meals were served to evacuees. Hot meals and drinks were prepared in The Salvation Army's mobile emergency canteen and given out at Sendai Corps (Salvation Army church). Handy towels and Salvation Army publications were also distributed.

A second team went to a relief office in the Mito area and unloaded bottles of water, biscuits, blankets, nappies (diapers) and tissue boxes for distribution to evacuees.

The third team headed to the vicinity around the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station, but snow and shortage of petrol meant they had to divert to other areas to support evacuees.

The Salvation Army's current focus is on continuing to provide for the immediate needs of survivors, but long-term plans are being developed, such as the provision of cooking equipment when people return to their communities.

There are many ways people can contribute money to The Salvation Army's disaster relief efforts in Japan. People can text the words "JAPAN" or "QUAKE" to 80888 to make a \$10 donation, call 1-800-SAL-ARMY, online at <https://donate.salvationarmyusa.org>.

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ADD 1 – SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DIVISIONAL YOUTH BAND

About The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is the largest direct provider of social services to people in need in Greater Chicago. The Salvation Army Metropolitan Division serves people in need in Greater Chicago, northern Illinois and northwestern Indiana. Among the assistance provided are youth programs; early childhood development services; feeding programs for homeless adults, children and seniors; emergency lodging for families and individuals in crisis; disaster relief; senior housing; spiritual counseling and substance abuse rehabilitation programs. For more information about The Salvation Army Metropolitan Division or to donate or volunteer, please visit www.salarmychicago.org or call 1-800-SAL-ARMY (1-800-825-2769).

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