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Contact: Jeff Moyer Music from the Heart e-mail: moyer@jeffmoyer.com

Publication of Meaningful New Youth Musical

Music from the Heart announces the publication of *How Big Is Your Circle?*, a new musical with accompanying activity guide for elementary and middle schools. The work, by Jeff Moyer, addresses the healing of the pervasive social malaise of exclusion, ridicule, and violence experienced by students who are perceived as different and are devalued within school communities. *How Big Is Your Circle?* is a positive, hopeful and practical creative resource for addressing problems of intolerance, social ostracism, and verbal and physical violence within school communities. Cathee Thomas, theatre critic from *The News Herald*, Willoughby, Ohio, wrote, "A noble work that holds great promise in shaping the upcoming generation, this promises to be an important tool for families, youth leaders and teachers...."

Joan Katz Napoli, Director of Educational Programs for the Cleveland Orchestra noted, "Jeff Moyer has created a wonderful, challenging, and flexible set of resources for today's schools which combines musical and performance materials with classroom activities. Moyer presents a work that addresses timely social issues in a realistic, age-appropriate, and positive way and encourages new perspectives on how we see those who are different - and ultimately all others and ourselves."

How Big Is Your Circle? includes a 123 page book containing a director's score for chorus and string orchestra, individual parts, script, and scene by scene activity guide for teacher or leader. The songs that conclude each of the eight scenes are presented on an album-quality CD. The CD contains both accompaniment tracks to be played during performance with singers and musicians and full performance tracks by young musicians and singers from The School of Fine Arts, Willoughby Ohio.

Circle has been a collaborative project between Jeff Moyer, nationally known songsmith, writer, and social justice advocate, and The School of Fine Arts, a community center for arts education and performance known for its progressive and inclusive approach to arts education. Carol Linsenmeier, the School's Music Department Chair, was principally involved in developing arrangements and conducting the young performers during recording sessions at Metrosync Studios, Cleveland, Ohio.

Copies of the musical with accompanying classroom activity guide are available through Music from the Heart, (216-371-5773) and will soon be available through www.jeffmoyer.com.

Press Release