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Houghton College celebrates holidays with "Christmas Prism"



HOUGHTON—Soft lighting and silhouetted nativity figures graced Wesley Chapel on the evenings of December 5th and 6th for Houghton College's second annual Christmas Prism, a celebration of the season led by Houghton's Greatbatch School of Music.

An audience totaling more than 1,200 for both nights was enveloped in presentations of visual art, vocal and instrumental music, and dance, a multi-dimensional celebration of Christmas in contrast with the standard Christmas concert.

"It was certainly unique how this

concert incorporated all aspect of the arts and blended them together on one stage," said Allison Beck, a Houghton College senior.

The performances involved students, professors and community members who worked since early Fall on the presentation. "Prism displayed how well-rounded Houghton's arts programs are and showcased the talent that we have here," Beck said.

With applause absent from the performance until the last note, the audience was invited to experience every measure of the celebration uninterrupted. Each number blended into the next, forming a continuation and flow that culminated in Handel's Hallelujah Chorus, in which all artists participated and all audience members stood.

Performance soloist and Prism Director Ben R. King, associate dean and director of the Greatbatch School of Music, said, "It is our intent that a Prism celebration becomes one of the many honored and cherished holiday traditions at Houghton College."