



Harmony, Inc.

International Organization of Women Barbershop Singers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HARMONY, INCORPORATED ANNOUNCES CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN SINGERS CONCLUDES DISCUSSIONS WITH BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY, ROLLS OUT PLAN FOR FUTURE

STANDISH, MAINE, OCTOBER 31, 2018 — Harmony, Incorporated, an international organization of female a cappella singers specializing in the barbershop harmony style, has announced the conclusion of its negotiations with the Barbershop Harmony Society to explore potential formal partnership opportunities.

Christina Lewellen, the International President of Harmony, Inc., on behalf of the International Board of Directors, has released the following statement:

Harmony, Inc. sisters,

When Harmony, Incorporated entered into discussions with the Barbershop Harmony Society more than a year ago about an aligned future, we had high hopes that the resulting whole—however that was defined—would be greater than the sum of the parts. Unfortunately, we have reached a point where we cannot ensure the special legacy of Harmony, Inc. if we were to combine with the BHS and, at this time, Harmony, Inc. has decided to cease negotiations.

Please know that Harmony, Inc. committed extensive time and resources to explore options that would allow for a shared future. Despite many common points of interest and areas of alignment, the devil, as they say, is always in the details. We reached an impasse when we realized that our desire to protect the legacy of Harmony, Inc., particularly in the realm of being the exclusive source for the women's contest experience, was not consistent with the vision of the BHS leadership.

To say that your International Board of Directors is disappointed in this outcome is an understatement. Like so many of you, we were hopeful that our organizations could work together to shape the future, but we have found that, in a future that included the possibility of BHS and HI partnering, Harmony's role was undefined and minimized, at best.

Harmony, Inc. is hopeful that our existing relationship with BHS, which includes resource sharing in the realms of music publishing, education, and judging, will continue to operate as it always has—respectfully and independently.

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Harmony, Inc. has existed since 1959 because we believe in who we are and what we represent. That hasn't changed, and we're confident that women who come to know about Harmony, Inc. will find that we offer a unique experience and will find value in joining our close-knit family.

This process has taught us a lot about ourselves and has renewed our commitment to those ideals for which we stand. With this issue settled, we'll go about the business of growing and thriving in a way that elicits pride from our members and adheres rigorously to ideals we've upheld since our founding. The International Board of Directors has developed and launched a new strategic plan known as "Harmony. Stronger." We will evaluate contemporary governance models and strategies that will allow us to thrive and grow on our own—just as we always have.

We're Harmony, we're true to ourselves. We're Harmony, we're family. We're Harmony, we're certain there are women whose lives will change when they find us. We're Harmony, we're ready for the future. We're Harmony, we're strong. We're Harmony—Stronger.

With deepest appreciation for your patience and support, and on behalf of the entire International Board of Directors,

Christina Lewellen

International President

For more information, visit HarmonyInc.org.

About Harmony, Incorporated:

Harmony, Inc. is an international, non-profit organization whose purpose is to empower all women through education, friendship and a cappella singing in the barbershop style. Since 1959, the organization has expanded from its Eastern roots to include more than 60 chapters in the United States and Canada, from California to Newfoundland, and from Manitoba to Florida. For more information, visit HarmonyInc.org.

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