KEWEENAW SYMPHONY AND CONCERT CHOIR TO PERFORM

The Rozsa Center will resound with music on Saturday, December 2, when the 70-member Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra and 90-voice Michigan Tech Concert Choir join forces to perform “When Icicles Hang: A Celebration of Winter,” with Dr. Milton Olsson conducting. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m., and is sponsored by the Copper Range Abstract & Title Agency of Houghton and the Michigan Tech Department of Fine Arts.

The evening’s highlights include Thomas Rutter’s “When Icicles Hang,” a modern masterpiece using words from traditional (and famously witty) English songs including Shakespeare’s “When icicles hang” and “Blow, blow, thou winter wind” from As You Like It, Thomas Campion’s delightful “Winter Nights,” and old favorites such as “Bring us good ale” and “Hay, ay, hay ay, make we merry.” Other highlights include Antonio Vivaldi’s exciting “Winter” concerto from The Four Seasons featuring violin soloist Nancy Sirivanakarn (KSO concertmaster), songs by Claude Debussy and Renaissance artist Thomas Morley, a setting of Robert Frost’s “Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening” by U.P. composer-musician Ron Caviani, and Leroy Anderson’s “Sleigh Ride” in a grand finale for chorus and orchestra.

“There are a few serious moments,” says conductor Olsson, who chose the music from his own list of favorites, “but the prevailing mood is that of fun,” in an evening celebrating the unique joys of the season we in the Copper Country know best of all.

Tickets for the December 2 event are $15 general, $5 students from the Rozsa Center Box Office, 487-3200, www.tickets.mtu.edu, and at the door.