

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHASE AWARDS \$15,000 TO SUPPORT LANSING SYMPHONY'S SIDE-BY-SIDE CONCERT

Lansing, MI – November 21, 2008 – Chase has awarded \$15,000 to the Lansing Symphony Orchestra for the LSO's Side-by-Side Concert. The free community concert will be held April 19, 2009 at 3:00pm at Pattengill Middle School in Lansing.

The Side-by-Side Concert will feature members of the Lansing Symphony paired with approximately 50 Lansing and East Lansing high school musicians from the LSO's Partnership Programs. High school band and orchestra directors will select students to join the various instrument sections of the orchestra. Students will rehearse and perform alongside professional orchestral musicians under the direction of the LSO Music Director Timothy Muffitt (*Smart Office Systems Chair*).

The first-place winner of the 2008 Symphony Youth Competition and area Suzuki students will also be highlighted performers at the concert. In addition, the combined orchestra will perform a composition written by the first-place winner of the 2008 Young Composers Competition.

Chase supports the concert as part of its commitment to making a difference in the communities the bank serves.

“The Side-By-Side Concert represents a harmonious combination of Chase's philanthropic goals to support access to high-quality educational opportunities and rich cultural resources,” said Wallace Markham, president of the Lansing market for Chase. “We're pleased to offer the symphony the means to foster creativity and help students acquire skills so they can become productive, engaged citizens.”

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra was established in 1929. More than 20,000 people attend LSO concerts each year, and more than 50,000 listeners are able to hear broadcasts of the Orchestra's concerts by NPR affiliate WKAR-FM Radio. The Symphony's highly acclaimed education programs reach 15,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade in five counties. Over 2,500 children attend the Young People's Concert where students in grades 4 through 6 learn about orchestral instruments, music and practice through a narrated concert. At least 1,000 students participate in the Music In Our Schools presentations which bring LSO musicians into classrooms.

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