

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LANSING SYMPHONY INVITES COMMUNITY TO FREE SIDE-BY-SIDE CONCERT

Lansing, MI – April 9, 2009 – On **Sunday, April 19, 2009 at 3:00pm**, the Lansing Symphony Orchestra (LSO) will present a free **Side-by-Side Concert** for the Greater Lansing community at Pattengill Middle School. Conducted by **Music Director Timothy Muffitt**, the Side-by-Side Concert will feature LSO musicians paired with student musicians from East Lansing High School. Students were nominated by their music teachers to rehearse and perform a concert with the LSO. The program will include Bizet's *Carmen* Suite No. 1, Beethoven's *Egmont* Overture, Gliere's "Russian Sailor's Dance," Sibelius' *Finlandia*, and additional pieces featuring special guests.

The third movement of Saint-Saens' Violin Concert in B Minor will be performed by violinist **Hannah Linz**, the first-place winner of the 2007/2008 Symphony Youth Competition. Linz is a senior at Okemos High School and studies with Sunny Cirlin. The program will also include the winning composition of the 2008/2009 LSO Composition Contest: *Overture for Orchestra* by **Chris Newman**, a 14-year old Okemos High School student. Newman is the son of MSU composition and theory teacher Ron Newman and MSU Assistant Professor of Vocal Jazz Sunny Wilkinson. Local students from the **MSU Community Music School Suzuki Program** and **Okemos Virtuosi** will combine with the ensemble to perform the first movement of Haydn's Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Major.

"This concert presents a wonderful chance for the LSO to give back to our community," explains Muffitt. "Not only are we providing an opportunity for high school musicians to rehearse and perform

along side professional musicians, we are rewarding the talents of young soloists and composers and encouraging them to pursue their careers. We are so happy to present this free concert as our gift to the community, thanks to the generosity of corporate and community sponsors.”

The Side-by-Side Concert is sponsored by **CHASE, Lansing State Journal** and the **Capital Area Community Foundation’s Youth Fund**.

Pattengill Middle School is located at 626 Marshall St. in Lansing. **The Side-by-Side concert is offered free of charge to all Greater Lansing residents.**

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 LSO’s performances 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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