

# LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LANSING SYMPHONY PRESENTS HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN

**October 7, 2008 – Lansing, MI** – As fall sets on mid-Michigan and crisp breezes blow, families everywhere are gearing up for that very special time of year: Halloween. The Lansing Symphony Orchestra will celebrate the season with its **Halloween Spooktacular! Family Concert on Sunday,**

**October 26, 2008 at 3 p.m.** at Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall. The one-hour program is perfect for ghosts and ghouls of all ages and will feature all your favorite "spooky" music performed live on stage. Guest Conductor John Varineau, Associate Conductor of the Grand Rapids Symphony, will lead the Orchestra in a program that includes three pieces featured in Disney's *Fantasia*: Bach's Toccata in D Minor, Mussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain*, and Dukas' *Sorcerer's Apprentice* (remember Mickey with the hat and the bucket?) Other classical favorites on the program include Gounod's "Funeral March of a Marionette" and Saint-Saëns' *Danse Macabre*. And what would a Halloween Spooktacular! be without some music from *Harry Potter*? The program will conclude with an arrangement of John Williams' music from the film.



Everyone in attendance is encouraged to wear their costumes and join us for a parade in the Wharton Center lobby at 2:45pm prior to the performance. Guest Conductor John Varineau – a veteran of

family and educational concerts – is guaranteed to entertain the audience with his costumes and narration.

**Tickets for the Halloween Spooktacular! Family Concert are \$15 for Adults and \$7 for Students**, for any seat in the Wharton Center's Great Hall (Grand Tier not available for this performance). Group discounts are available: 25% for groups of 10 or more and 50% for groups of 50 or more. **Tickets are available by calling (517) 487-5001 or online 24 hours a day at [www.lansingsymphony.org](http://www.lansingsymphony.org).**



John Varineau is in his twenty-fourth season as the Associate Conductor of the Grand Rapids Symphony. He conducts the GRS in all of its series, including the Richard and Helen Devos Classical Series, Fox Motors Pops, Rising Stars concerts, Chase Picnic Pops, Family Series, Lollipops, and all educational programs. He is the conductor of the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony and Classical Orchestras, and he conducts for the Grand Rapids Ballet. As a free-lance conductor, he has conducted the Detroit

Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, Duluth-Superior Orchestra, Traverse City Symphony and Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. This performance will be his first with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Varineau grew up in the state of Wyoming and studied at Michigan State University, the University of Wyoming and Yale University. He is an active performer on the clarinet and serves in an adjunct capacity for Calvin College, Cornerstone University and Grand Rapids Community College. Mr. Varineau also writes the program notes for all of the LSO's MasterWorks concerts. He and his wife Gwen live in Grand Rapids with their two children.

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. More information on the Lansing Symphony's programs is available at [www.lansingsymphony.org](http://www.lansingsymphony.org)

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