

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Catherine Guarino, Director of Education & Community Engagement
(517) 487-5001 ext. 10 - catherine@lansingsymphony.org

LANSING SYMPHONY TO FEATURE 20 STUDENT MUSICIANS IN HOLIDAY POPS SIDE-BY-SIDE PERFORMANCE

Lansing, MI – November 23, 2010 – Twenty local student musicians have been chosen to perform with the **Lansing Symphony Orchestra** in a **Side-by-Side Performance** at its December 12th **Holiday Pops** concert. Area instrumentalists grades 6 through 12 were invited to audition for an opportunity to rehearse and perform Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite* side-by-side with Lansing Symphony musicians. The program, sponsored by Macy's and the Capital Region Community Foundation's Youth Action Fund, gives local students an opportunity to work with and learn from professional musicians, to be led by Music Director Timothy Muffitt and to perform onstage at the Wharton Center during the orchestra's most popular concert of the year.

Auditions were held Friday, November 19, 2010 Lansing's Pattengill Middle School. Students were asked to perform excerpts from the *Nutcracker Suite* for the audition, which was judged by Lansing Symphony musicians. Based on their auditions, the following students have been selected:

Sarah Bacon, Viola – age 15 – daughter of Michael & Linda Bacon of Charlotte, MI – homeschool student

Ritwik Biswas, Violin II – age 14 – son of Preetha & Subir Biswas of Okemos, MI – Okemos High School

Hannah Brown, Violin I – age 17 – daughter of Michael & Patricia Brown of Haslett, MI – homeschool student

Benjamin Case, Trumpet – age 18 – son of Paul & Barb Case of St. Johns, MI – homeschool student

Jody Chou, Violin I – age 16 – daughter of Huei-huang Hsu & Hong-kun Chou of Okemos, MI – Okemos High School

Kristin Cimmerer, Violin II – age 13 – daughter of Amy & Mark Cimmerer of Holt, MI – Chippewa Middle School

Mary Ruth Harrast, Violin I – age 17 – daughter of Steve & Michelle Harrast of Mt. Pleasant, MI – Mt. Pleasant High School

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Alex Kindel, Flute – age 16 – son of Ron & Deb Kindel of Eagle, MI – Grand Ledge High School
Curtis Kuo, Cello – age 14 – son of Min-Hao Kuo & Ginger Yang of East Lansing, MI – Okemos High School
Natalie Lee, Violin I – age 14 – daughter of Mei-Hui Tai & Feng-Jong Lee of Okemos, MI – Okemos High School
Alexa Lupi, Violin I – age 16 – daughter of Patricia & Frank Lupi of East Lansing, MI – East Lansing High School
Will Matus, Bassoon – age 16 – son of Susan Murray & Jamie Matus of Okemos, MI – Okemos High School
Chris Newman, French Horn – age 16 – son of Ron & Sarah Newman of Okemos, MI – Okemos High School
Logan Raterink, Oboe – age 16 – son of Dennis & Terri Raterink of Lansing, MI – Waverly High School
Andrew Stine, Viola – age 16 – son of Joseph & Nancy Stine of Dewitt, MI – homeschool student
Leila Syal, Viola – age 14 – daughter of Matt & Dianne Syal of East Lansing, MI – East Lansing High School
Meredith Wright, Cello – age 15 – daughter of Alan &Carolynn Wright of Lansing, MI – Waverly High School
Debra Yan, Violin II – age 14 – daughter of Yue Lu & Honggao Yan of Okemos, MI – Okemos High School
Annie Zhao, Violin II – age 11 – daughter of May Hu of Okemos, MI – Kinawa Middle School
Emily Zuo, Violin II – age 14 – daughter of Suzanne & Stanley Zuo of East Lansing, MI – East Lansing High School

The students will participate in a mentor rehearsal with Timothy Muffitt and select Lansing Symphony musicians on Saturday, December 11th at 10:00am at East Lansing's MacDonald Middle School Auditorium. They will also participate in the dress rehearsal of the full orchestra on Sunday, December 12th at 10:00am in Wharton Center's Great Hall. Media is invited to observe these rehearsals. The Holiday Pops performance will be held, Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 3:00pm at Wharton Center's Great Hall.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra was established in 1929. More than 20,000 people attend Lansing Symphony concerts each year, and more than 250,000 listeners are able to hear broadcasts of the Lansing Symphony's performances by NPR affiliate WKAR-FM Radio. The Lansing Symphony's education programs reach students in kindergarten through 12th grades. For more information, visit www.LansingSymphony.org or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

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