

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LANSING SYMPHONY TO OPEN POPS SERIES WITH “A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: TAKE II”

LANSING, Mich. – November 4, 2009 – The Lansing Symphony Orchestra will present **A Night at the Movies: Take II** on Saturday, November 21st, the first concert in its **2009/2010 Pops Series**. Conducted by Music Director Timothy Muffitt, the concert will feature popular film scores from yesterday and today, including *Silverado*, *Dances with Wolves*, *Doctor Zhivago*, *Spider-Man*, *Chariots of Fire*, *The Pink Panther*, *Ben-Hur*, *Superman*, *Star Trek*, *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*, and – of course – a little something from *Star Wars*. The concert will be held at 8:00pm at the Wharton Center's Great Hall.



MSU Professor of Saxophone Joseph Lulloff will be featured, along with percussionist Gwen Burgett Thrasher and LSO Principal Bass Ed Fedewa, on “Escapades,” a collection of tunes from John Williams’ score to *Catch Me If You Can*. LSO Principal Oboe Jan Eberle will be featured on “Gabriel’s Oboe” from the film *The Mission*.

Single tickets for Pops concerts range from \$12 to \$35, based on seating, with student prices available. Three-concert Pops Series subscriptions range from \$33 to \$93, with a 25% discount available for first-time subscribers. Tickets are available by calling (517) 487-5001 or online at www.LansingSymphony.org.

The first “Night at the Movies” was a part of the 2007/2008 Pops Series and was so well received that the theme was brought back “by popular demand.” The **2009/2010 Pops Series** also includes the annual **Holiday**

Pops on Sunday, December 20, 2009 and **Rocket Man: The Music of Elton John** on Friday, April 16, 2010.

Both concerts will also be held at the Wharton Center.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra Pops Series is generously sponsored by Auto-Owners Insurance. WJZL is the Pops Series Media Partner. A Night at the Movies: Take II is sponsored in part by Foster, Swift, Collins and Smith, PC.

The 2009/2010 season marks **Music Director Timothy Muffitt's** fourth season with the Lansing Symphony. In addition to his role with the LSO, Muffitt is in his 11th season as Music Director & Conductor of the Baton Rouge Symphony. In the summer, he also serves as Music Director of the Chautauqua Institution's Music School Festival Orchestra, one of the country's premier orchestral training ensembles. Previously, Muffitt served as the Associate Conductor of the Austin Symphony and as Artistic Director of the Louisiana Philharmonic's Casual Classics Series, for which he was awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Service from the American Federation of Musicians. Muffitt has appeared with leading orchestras throughout the country and is recognized as a strong proponent of community arts education. He also has appeared with the San Francisco Symphony, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Long Beach Symphony, Columbus Ohio's Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Virginia Symphony, the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra in Chicago, and the Symphonies of Houston, Phoenix, Edmonton, Harrisburg, and Spokane. He has worked with many prominent performers, including Renee Fleming, Yo Yo Ma, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Andre Watts, Alicia de Larrocha, Pinchas Zukerman, Van Cliburn, Lynn Harrell, and Itzhak Perlman; and many prominent composers, including John Cage, Joseph Schwantner, Ellen Taffe Zwilich, John Harbison, Joan Tower, and Bernard Rands. Born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, Timothy Muffitt studied at the Eastman School of Music, where he earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra was established in 1929 and is celebrating its 80th anniversary. 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 grades in five counties. For more information, visit www.LansingSymphony.org.

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