

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Catherine Guarino, Director of Communications & Ticket Sales
(517) 487-5001 ext. 10 - catherine@lansingsymphony.org

LANSING SYMPHONY TO PRESENT VALENTINE'S DAY "BROADWAY ROMANCE"

January 26, 2009 – Lansing, MI – This Valentine's Day (February 14, 2009), the Lansing Symphony Orchestra will present a **Broadway Romance** Pops concert at the Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall. This concert, featuring a fantastic collection of showstoppers from beloved Broadway musicals, will be a perfect date for music lovers of all ages. The program will include such favorites as "I Could Have Danced All Night" from *My Fair Lady*, "Anything You Can Do" from *Annie Get Your Gun*, "Luck Be Lady" from *Guys and Dolls*, "This Nearly Was Mine" from *South Pacific*, "I Dreamed a Dream" from *Les Miserables*, "Music of the Night" and "All I Ask of You" from *Phantom of the Opera*, as well as medleys from *Chicago*, *South Pacific*, and *West Side Story*. **Tickets range from \$10-\$33, with student prices available.**

Tickets available online at www.LansingSymphony.org or by calling (517) 487-5001.

Performing this diverse program will be Broadway Duo Christina Saffran Ashford, Soprano and Norman Large, Tenor. The two Broadway veterans will craft an evening of song that the *New York Times* has called "terrific ... romantic ... unbeatable." Guest Conductor David Wiley will lead the orchestra.

Christina Saffran Ashford's Broadway career is extensive, having starred as Kathy Seldon in *Singin' In The Rain*, Maggie in *A Chorus Line*, Shoo Shoo in *Sophisticated Ladies*, Rosabud and Edwin Drood in *Drood*

Broadway Romance

Saturday, February 14, 2009
8:00 p.m.
Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall

David Wiley *Guest Conductor*
Christina Saffran Ashford *Soprano*
Norman Large *Tenor*

Tickets: \$10-\$33

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and Zaneeta in *The Music Man*. Audiences throughout the world have been thrilled by her leading performances in *My Fair Lady*, *Showboat*, *South Pacific*, *White Christmas*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Damn Yankees*, *The Sound of Music*, *Pajama Game*, *Grease*, *Company*, *Chess* and many more.

Norman Large's varied career bridges Broadway, film, television, concert, opera and recording. He starred in the original Broadway productions of *The Woman in White*, *Les Miserables*, *A Doll's Life* and *Silverlake*. Worldwide, he has starred in numerous major productions, including *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Cats*, *My Fair Lady*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Urinetown*, *Man of La Mancha*, *South Pacific*, *The Sound of Music*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *West Side Story* and *The King & I*. He has been a principal artist with the New York City Opera and has sung with symphony orchestras nationwide.

David Wiley serves concurrently as Music Director & Conductor of Virginia's Roanoke Symphony Orchestra and New York's Long Island Philharmonic. Prior to these positions, he served as Assistant Conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra and Assistant Conductor of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. Active as a guest conductor, pianist, lecturer and composer, David Wiley regularly conducts top professional orchestras throughout the United States. Recent seasons have seen Wiley guest conducting with the symphonies of San Francisco, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Minnesota, Saint Louis, Atlanta, Oregon, Honolulu, Utah and Buffalo, as well as many orchestras throughout Europe, Asia and Africa.

The LSO Pops Series is sponsored by Auto-Owners Insurance. Broadway Romance is co-sponsored by Leap, Inc., National City and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Media Partner: 92.9 WJZL.

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.

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