

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

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WILLIAMSTON COUPLE NAMED 2008/2009 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

August 24, 2009 – Lansing, MI – Frank and Jeanne McKowen of Williamston, MI have been named the Lansing Symphony Orchestra’s 2008/2009 Volunteers of the Year. The annual award is presented to individuals who show the finest example of volunteerism through distinguished service to the organization and generous support through volunteering.

The award was presented at the Lansing Symphony’s 2008/2009 Annual Meeting on Thursday, July 16th at the Lexington Lansing Hotel. Lansing Symphony Board Member and V.P. of Volunteers Virginia P. Allen presented the award to the McKowens.



Pictured (left to right):
Virginia P. Allen, Frank McKowen, Jeanne McKowen.
Picture by Lynne Crowell.

“It was our pleasure to award LSO Volunteer of the Year to Frank and Jeanne McKowen,” explains Allen. “As lovers of the LSO, they go beyond what might be expected and do anything they can to contribute to our success. There is no job too small or too mundane for them to willingly and cheerfully tackle. As retired high school music teachers, they have continued to serve the cause of great music.”

Frank and Jeanne McKowen live in Williamston. They have been volunteers for the Lansing Symphony for over 10 years and have done everything from ushering at concerts to sorting and counting

ticket stubs to staffing an outdoor information booth during a torrential downpour. Jeanne retired from Webberville Community Schools in 2002 where she taught K-6 music and art. Frank retired from Lansing's Sexton High School in 1979 where he taught choral music. He currently owns his own piano tuning business.

The McKowens were chosen for the award based on a unanimous vote of the steering committee of the LSO's volunteer group Symphony Ambassadors. Past winners of the award have been Sandra Grettenberger of East Lansing (2006/2007) and Lynne Small of Okemos (2007/2008). For more information on becoming a Symphony Ambassador, please contact Catherine Guarino at the LSO office at (517) 487-5001.

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.

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