N E W S R E L E A S E

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Philadelphia Orchestra presents 2008 Kuhn Award to Concertmaster David Kim

Volunteer Committees honor Paul Arnold, Nancy Bean, and Judy Geist on their 25th anniversaries

(*Philadelphia,* May 9, 2008) – At a special ceremony during its matinee subscription concert on Friday, May 9, 2008, The Philadelphia Orchestra Association presented the **C. Hartman Kuhn Award** to **David Kim**, the Orchestra's concertmaster since 1999. Philadelphia Orchestra Association Board Chairman Harold A. Sorgenti presented the Award.

Volunteer Committees President Elizabeth M. Mahoney presented **Paul Arnold**, violin; **Nancy Bean**, assistant concertmaster; and **Judy Geist**, viola, with the traditional watch recognizing their 25 years of service.

The **C. Hartman Kuhn Award** is given annually to "the member of The Philadelphia Orchestra who has shown ability and enterprise of such character as to enhance the standards and the reputation of The Philadelphia Orchestra." The recipient is selected by the music director each year. The Award was established in 1941 and is named for a charter member of the Board of Directors.

Concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra since 1999, **David Kim** was born in Carbondale, Illinois. He started playing the violin at the age of three, began studies with the famed pedagogue Dorothy DeLay at the age of eight, and later received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Juilliard School. In 1986 he was the only American violinist to win a prize at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in 1990 he was a prize winner at the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis.

Mr. Kim is founder and artistic director of the Kingston Chamber Music Festival at the University of Rhode Island (founded in 1989). He also holds the position of special guest artist there and in 2001 was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Arts. Mr. Kim devotes a portion of his schedule each year to bringing classical music to children. In conjunction with the Kingston Chamber Music Festival, he founded an annual outreach program that takes him to elementary schools, performing and speaking about classical music in an effort to cultivate future audiences. To date Mr. Kim has performed for well over 12,000 young people in Rhode Island. He also visits schools in the Philadelphia area each season.

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Mr. Kim appears as soloist with The Philadelphia Orchestra each season, as well as with numerous orchestras around the world. Conductors with whom he has performed as soloist include Christoph von Dohnányi, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Vladimir Jurowski, Andrew Litton, Peter Oundjian, Wolfgang Sawallisch, and Victor Yampolsky. Mr Kim also appears internationally at festivals such as the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival (Finland), the Pacific Music Festival (Japan), and the Seattle Chamber Music Festival.

At age 12 Mr. Kim appeared with Itzhak Perlman as the subject of "Prodigy," a WNEW-TV (New York) production, and he has since been featured nationally in specials on the CBS, NBC, and PBS networks. He has also been featured prominently on National Public Radio and in *Newsweek* magazine. His instrument is a J.B. Guadagnini from Milan, Italy, ca. 1757, on permanent loan from The Philadelphia Orchestra Association. Mr. Kim resides in a suburb of Philadelphia with his wife, Jane, and daughters Natalie and Margaret. He is an avid golfer, wine lover, and sports fan.

The Volunteer Committees for The Philadelphia Orchestra honored **Paul Arnold**, violin; **Nancy Bean**, assistant concertmaster; and **Judy Geist**, viola, for their 25 years of service to the Orchestra. Since 1928 the Volunteer Committees have funded and presented watches to musicians who are completing their 25th year of service.

Violinist **Paul Arnold** is a familiar personality in the Philadelphia classical music scene. He has appeared as a recitalist and chamber musician with such diverse personalities as Yefim Bronfman, Christoph Eschenbach, Tan Dun, Keith Jarrett, the New Arts Trio, and the Emerson Quartet. Mr. Arnold has appeared numerous times in the Saratoga Chamber Series directed by Chantal Juillet, where he has worked beside Martha Argerich, Gil Shaham, Truls Mørk, and Sarah Chang. Mr. Arnold has also been featured over 25 times in The Philadelphia Orchestra's Chamber Music series and Postlude recitals performing widely contrasting repertoire. Mr. Arnold gives master classes around the country. He has most recently given classes and performed at Cornell University, the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Bucknell University.

Before joining The Philadelphia Orchestra, Mr. Arnold was principal second violin of the Rochester Philharmonic, with which he made numerous solo appearances. He is a founding member of both the Society Hill Quintet and the Dalihapa Ensemble. For the last three years he has served as music director of the Philadelphia Museum of Art's Philadelphia Orchestra Connection Series showcasing his colleagues and their associates in musical programs pursuant to current Museum exhibits.

Most recently, Mr. Arnold was featured in a documentary included as the intermission feature of a Philadelphia Orchestra Global Concert Series transmission. The film focused on his arrangement of a Beethoven piano sonata for his string quintet and included a conversation with Maestro Eschenbach on Beethoven and the nature of transcriptions.

Paul Arnold is an avid photographer and has given shows in Saratoga, New York, summer home of The Philadelphia Orchestra.

For the last 15 years Mr. Arnold has been an active lecturer on musical subjects and has given scores

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of Pre-concert Conversations for The Philadelphia Orchestra. His series "I have a friend in the Orchestra" has delighted concertgoers and has endeavored to break down barriers and enhance the audience's full enjoyment of the musical experience.

Nancy Bean is a Seattle native and a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Jascha Brodsky and Felix Galimir. Before joining The Philadelphia Orchestra in 1983, she was assistant concertmaster of the Santa Fe Opera Company. She has appeared as soloist with The Philadelphia Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony, the Seattle Philharmonic, the Everett Symphony, the Wheeling Symphony, the North Carolina Symphony, and the Concerto Soloists of Philadelphia (now the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia).

An active chamber musician, she is founder (in 1987) and first violinist of the Wister Quartet, artistic director of the Philadelphia-based chamber ensemble 1807 & Friends, director of the Liberty String Orchestra, and first violinist of the Amerita Chamber Players. She also performs with guitarist Allen Krantz as a member of Duo Paganini; with Krantz and her husband, cellist Lloyd Smith, as the Florian Trio; with violinist and pianist Davyd Booth as Duo Malibran; with Mr. Smith and Mr. Booth as the Barnard Trio; and with harpist Anne Sullivan as Duo Parisienne.

Ms. Bean has performed in chamber concerts with Emanuel Ax, Yefim Bronfman, Sarah Chang, Alicia de Larrocha, Christoph Eschenbach, Radu Lupu, Garrick Ohlsson, Wolfgang Sawallisch, and Yo-Yo Ma. She has recorded with Koch International and Direct to Tape Records.

Ms. Bean spends her vacation time backpacking, skiing, and mountain biking with her husband.

Judy Geist joined The Philadelphia Orchestra in 1983 under the baton of Riccardo Muti, becoming the first woman violist in the Orchestra's history. In 1992 she moved to the position of fourth chair viola. Originally from East Meadow, New York, Ms. Geist studied violin and viola with Lilo Kantorowitz Glick and attended the Curtis Institute of Music as a student of Joseph de Pasquale. After graduating in 1974, she joined the Audubon Quartet based in Binghamton, New York. She later served as principal violist with the National Ballet of Canada on tour and for several seasons at Lincoln Center, performing repertoire including the viola solos from *Coppélia* and *Giselle,* accompanying dancers Rudolf Nureyev and Karin Kain.

In 1977 Ms. Geist settled in New York City where she became principal violist of the Soviet Émigré Orchestra and the Philharmonia Virtuosi. She performed with the American Ballet Theatre, the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Orpheus, and the New York Philharmonic. She recorded for commercials, film scores, and Broadway shows, and in 1978 she performed with Chick Corea in his 13-piece band on a world tour.

In 1981 Ms. Geist gave her New York debut recital at Merkin Concert Hall, followed by recitals at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, the Ethical Society in Philadelphia, and at the Curtis Institute of Music. She performed concertos with the Main Line Symphony, the Fairfield Chamber Orchestra, and made guest appearances with the Lenox Quartet, the Thouvenal Quartet, and the American Chamber Ensemble. Ms. Geist has performed in The Philadelphia Orchestra's Chamber Music Series with Orchestra colleagues, guest artists, and pianist Christoph Eschenbach. She has participated in the Grand Teton and White Mountain

music festivals, the International Women's Arts Festival, the Milwaukee New Music Festival, the Madeira Bach Festival, Mostly Mozart, and the Newport Jazz Festival.

Ms. Geist has recorded and premiered works with the New York Ensemble, Parnassus, the Philadelphia Composer's Forum, the American Composer's Orchestra, Orchestra of Our Time, Network for New Music, and the Penn Contemporary Players. She has commissioned music by Hannibal Lokumbe and Sylvia Glickman, and in 2002 she performed as artist-in-residence at Cornish College in Seattle.

Since May 2007 Ms. Geist has presented concerts on Whidbey Island in Washington State, including an in-house salon featuring musicians from The Philadelphia Orchestra and the Seattle Symphony. She performed in recital with colleagues at the Whidbey Island Center for the Arts in their Double Feature Series, which also included a showing of the documentary *Music from the Inside Out*. Ms. Geist returned in January 2008 to perform Mozart's Sinfonia concertante with violinist Elizabeth Pitcairn, and this past March performed the Telemann Viola Concerto in a special concert honoring violinist Michael Nutt.

Living a life of two passions, Ms. Geist is an artist who paints portrait commissions in old world and contemporary styles. She has exhibited in solo shows and has presented gallery concerts highlighting the parallels between musical and visual art. As an artist and musician, Ms. Geist has been featured on Philadelphia's NBC10, WHYY radio, and on WQXR in New York.

Founded in 1900, The Philadelphia Orchestra has distinguished itself as one of the leading orchestras in the world through over a century of acclaimed performances, historic international tours, best-selling recordings, and innovation in recording technologies and outreach. The Orchestra has maintained an unparalleled unity in artistic leadership with only six music directors piloting its first century. This rich tradition has been carried on by Christoph Eschenbach, who became music director in September 2003.

Recent Philadelphia Orchestra highlights include multi-casting a concert to large-screen venues through the Internet2 network; the launch of the Orchestra's Online Music Store in September 2006; regular broadcasts on NPR beginning in April 2006; a series of critically acclaimed recordings led by Mr. Eschenbach and released in partnership with Ondine Records; and an ongoing $125 million endowment campaign launched in 2003.

The Philadelphia Orchestra annually touches the lives of more than one million music lovers worldwide through its performances, publications, recordings, and broadcasts. The Orchestra presents a subscription season at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia, in addition to education and community partnership programs, and appears annually at Carnegie Hall. Its summer schedule includes a series at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts, free Neighborhood Concerts, and residencies at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center and Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival.

For more information on The Philadelphia Orchestra, please visit www.philorch.org.

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