N E W S R E L E A S E

CONTACTS:
Katherine Blodgett
Director of Public/Media Relations
phone: 215.893.1939
e-mail: kblodgett@philorch.org

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Philadelphia Orchestra offers concerts tailor-made for children and families

Family Concert Series highlights include Prokofiev's **Peter and the Wolf,** *"The Bernstein Beat" hosted by Jamie Bernstein, and* **The Composer is Dead** *by famed children's author Lemony Snicket*

Sound All Around – a 2007 "Best of Philly" winner – continues in Center City and Bryn Mawr

(*Philadelphia*, October 10, 2007) – The Philadelphia Orchestra's Family Concert Series and Sound All Around are designed to bring the wonder of classical music to children in a way that they can understand and enjoy. The five-concert **Family Concert Series** exposes children ages 6 to 12 to full symphonic works in Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. The award-winning **Sound All Around** program for ages 3 to 5 engages children with music and introduces them to orchestral sounds and instruments. The series is offered at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia and at the Baldwin School in Bryn Mawr.

Family Concert Series

The Family Concert Series features orchestral music carefully chosen and presented to appeal to children ages 6 to 12 and their families. Sometimes stories, dance, drama, or visual elements illuminate the music. The conductor or host may make the experience interactive by involving the audience in some way. Concerts often give children an opportunity to see their peers perform by showcasing young classical soloists who have won the Orchestra's **Albert M. Greenfield Student Competition**. In the 2007-08 season, three of the five Family Concerts feature Greenfield Competition winners.

The Orchestra's 2007-08 Family Concert Series opens on **Saturday, October 27, 2007,** with a children's classic: **Prokofiev's** ***Peter and the Wolf***. The Russian composer's tale of a boy hero and his animal friends – and enemy – has captivated audiences for over 70 years. Rossen Milanov conducts, and actor Michael Boudewyns narrates the work. Twenty-one-year-old Greenfield Competition winner Harrison Hollingsworth performs the beautiful Bassoon Concerto written by Mozart when he was 18

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years old. The concert opens with Rameau's Overture to *Zaïs*, depicting the four elements – earth, air, fire, and water.

Music is a vital part of ceremonies and celebrations around the globe. During holiday season in America, the air is filled with the sounds of "White Christmas," "Jingle Bells," "Little Drummer Boy," and selections from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. But what do people listen to in other lands? On **Saturday, December 8, 2007, "Holiday Traditions Around the World"** explores music heard in different cultures during the winter holidays. The program also features 11-year-old harpist Katherine Kapelsohn performing a movement from Dittersdorf's elegant Harp Concerto. Conductor David Amado returns to lead this program.

Beginning in January 2008, the Orchestra celebrates the 90th anniversary of conductor, composer, and music mentor **Leonard Bernstein**. The Family Concert on **Saturday, March 1, 2008,** features a special guest: the maestro's daughter Jamie. Ms. Bernstein carries on her father's legacy with **"The Bernstein Beat,"** a concert modeled on his famous Young People's Concerts. Mr. Bernstein's televised programs introduced an entire generation to the joys of classical music. Jamie Bernstein joins the Orchestra to host a concert that explores rhythm and focuses on the composer's liveliest works. The program includes selections from *Fancy Free*, *Jeremiah* (Symphony No. 1), *Mass*, *On the Town*, *Candide*, and *West Side Story*.

On **Saturday, March 29, 2008, "Legends and Music"** brings to life colorful Persian legends from long ago. Rimsky-Korsakov's ***Sheherazade*** is based on *The Arabian Nights*. Audiences can hear Sinbad the Sailor's ship at sea, listen to the story of Prince Kalander, experience a Baghdad festival, and survive a musical shipwreck. **"Seven Passages," from Persian Trilogy** by Persian-American composer Behzad Ranjbaran dramatically depicts the trials of a hero who encounters wild beasts, witches, demons, and dragons while attempting to rescue his countrymen. The piece is part of Ranjbaran's Persian Trilogy drawn from *Shahnameh*, a 10th-century epic poem of myths and stories about the history of Persia (now known as Iran). Award-winning storyteller **Charlotte Blake Alston** joins the Orchestra for this magical music-making. The concert opens with an excerpt from **Dvo ák's Cello Concerto**, played by 19-year-old Greenfield winner Angela Park.

The books *A Series of Unfortunate Events* by famed children's author **Lemony Snicket** have sold over 50 million copies worldwide and the first three have been made into a major motion picture. On **Saturday, May 10, 2008,** Mr. Snicket (sometimes known as Daniel Handler) makes a visit to the final Family Concert of the season with a special new work, ***The Composer is Dead***. This gripping whodunit murder mystery is a collaboration between Mr. Snicket and his composer friend Nathaniel Stookey. Together they lead audiences on an investigative stroll through the ranks of the orchestra in search of a suspect. The *San Francisco Chronicle* has called the work "a deliciously morbid entertainment." Thirteen-year-old pianist **Jenny Yen Yu Chen** kicks off the concert with the third movement of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3.

Pre-Concert Adventures take place in Perelman Theater an hour and a half prior to each Family

Concert. These sessions allow children and their families to learn more about the music they will hear and to meet Orchestra musicians or guest artists. **Misty Tolle-Pereira**, a horn player and director of educational outreach at the 92nd Street Y in New York City, returns to host the Pre-Concert Adventures.

Sound All Around and Suburban Sound All Around

The Philadelphia Orchestra's **Sound All Around** is the 2007 winner of *Philadelphia* magazine's **"Best of Philly" award** in the category of music program. The popular program brings children ages 3 to 5 close to the musicians of the Orchestra, who demonstrate their instruments and perform short musical selections. The interactive, 40-minute presentations are perfect for young attention spans. Host **Charlotte Blake Alston** – known as "Miss Charlotte" – uses stories to capture children's imaginations and prepare them for a lifetime of loving and learning about orchestral music. Some of the activities she leads include singing simple songs, imitating the sounds of the instruments, and mimicking the movements of a visiting musician. As *Philadelphia* magazine states, "[T]he emphasis is on learning to appreciate the artistry – and just plain fun – of the symphony, from learning to sit in your place to recognizing the difference between a violin and a viola."

Sound All Around continues in **Center City** at the **Academy of Music Ballroom** and at the **Baldwin School** in **Bryn Mawr.** All performances are hosted by Charlotte Blake Alston, except for February 16, at the Baldwin School, hosted by Misty Tolle Pereira.

Tickets for both locations are available at 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org. Tickets for the **Center City** location are $8.50 (per single ticket) and $42.50 (per five-concert subscription). Tickets for **Suburban Sound All Around** are $15 (per single ticket) and $67.50 (per five-concert subscription). Single tickets are also available at the door on the day of the performance.

The Philadelphia Orchestra's educational and outreach activities enrich the lives of over 35,000 youngsters and 140,000 adults in the Philadelphia region each year, through a variety of musical encounters, including subscription concerts, Sound All Around (for children ages 3 to 5), Family Concerts (for children ages 6 to 12), School Concerts, a School Partnership Program, Music Educator Workshops, Master Classes, Side-By-Side Rehearsals, Open Rehearsals, the Albert M. Greenfield Student Competition, free Neighborhood Concerts, and collaborations with conservatories and colleges.

Founded in 1900, The Philadelphia Orchestra has distinguished itself as one of the leading orchestras in the world through a century of acclaimed performances, historic international tours, best-selling recordings, and its unprecedented record of 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: Fritz Scheel (1900-07), Carl Pohlig (1907-12), Leopold Stokowski (1912-41), Eugene Ormandy (1936-80), Riccardo Muti (1980-92), and Wolfgang Sawallisch (1993-2003).

This tradition is carried on by Christoph Eschenbach, who became music director in 2003. The 2007-08 season, Mr. Eschenbach's last, focuses on monumental works of the symphonic repertoire, including Mahler's Symphony No. 8 ("Symphony of a Thousand"), Orff's *Carmina burana*, and Richard

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Strauss's *An Alpine Symphony*. During his tenure, Mr. Eschenbach has conducted Beethoven's nine symphonies paired with music of our time; led a four-week Late Great Works Festival; launched the Orchestra's first-ever multi-year cycle of Mahler's complete symphonies; and led tours of Europe, Asia, Florida and Puerto Rico, and the United States.

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, www.thephiladelphiaorchestra.com, 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 a $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 in Philadelphia each year from September to May, in addition to education and community partnership programs, and appears annually at Carnegie Hall. Its summer schedule includes an outdoor series at Philadelphia's Mann Center for the Performing Arts, free Neighborhood Concerts, and residencies at Saratoga Performing Arts Center in upstate New York, and the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival.

SOUND ALL AROUND
Academy of Music Ballroom

October 6 at 10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. – Saturday morning and afternoon
October 8 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Monday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
David Cramer, *flute*
Susanne Son, *piano*

PNC is proud to sponsor the Sound All Around series at the Academy of Music.
Sound All Around is endowed in perpetuity by the Garrison Family Fund for Children's Concerts.

Tickets: $8.50, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

SOUND ALL AROUND
Academy of Music Ballroom

November 3 at 10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. – Saturday morning and afternoon
November 5 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Monday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
Angela Zator Nelson, *percussion*
Susanne Son, *piano*

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FAMILY CONCERT NO. 1 – *PETER AND THE WOLF*
Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 27 at 11:30 a.m. – Saturday morning

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Rossen Milanov, *conductor*
Harrison Hollingsworth, *bassoon* – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Michael Boudewyns, *narrator*

Rameau	Overture to *Zaïs*
Mozart	First movement from Bassoon Concerto
Prokofiev	*Peter and the Wolf*

The Philadelphia Orchestra Family Concerts are sponsored by Independence Blue Cross.
Additional support is provided by UGI Amerigas, the Presser Foundation, and the Zisman Family Foundation.

Tickets: $5-$45, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

SUBURBAN SOUND ALL AROUND
The Baldwin School

November 10 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Saturday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
David Cramer, *flute*
Susanne Son, *piano*

The Sound All Around concert series is endowed in perpetuity by the Garrison Family Fund for Children's Concerts. The Volunteer Committees of The Philadelphia Orchestra proudly support this program.

Tickets: $18, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

FAMILY CONCERT NO. 2 – HOLIDAY TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD
Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 8 at 11:30 a.m. – Saturday morning

The Philadelphia Orchestra
David Amado, *conductor*
Katherine Kapelsohn, *harp* – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Program includes:

Dittersdorf	Third movement from Harp Concerto in A major

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Tickets: $5-$45, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

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SUBURBAN SOUND ALL AROUND
The Baldwin School

December 22 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Saturday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
Angela Zator Nelson, *percussion*
Susanne Son, *piano*

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Tickets: $18, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

SUBURBAN SOUND ALL AROUND
The Baldwin School

January 19 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Saturday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
Shelley Showers, *horn*
Susanne Son, *piano*

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Tickets: $18, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

SUBURBAN SOUND ALL AROUND
The Baldwin School

February 16 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Saturday morning

Misty Tolle-Pereira, *host and storyteller*
Robert Kesselman, *bass*
Susanne Son, *piano*

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Tickets: $18, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

SOUND ALL AROUND
Academy of Music Ballroom

February 23 at 10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. – Saturday morning and afternoon
February 25 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Monday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
Shelley Showers, *horn*
Susanne Son, *piano*

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Tickets: $8.50, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

FAMILY CONCERT NO. 3 – THE BERNSTEIN BEAT
Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 1 at 11:30 a.m. – Saturday morning

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Rossen Milanov, *conductor*
Jamie Bernstein, *host*

Program includes selections from *Fancy Free*, *Jeremiah* (Symphony No. 1), *Mass*, *On the Town*, *Candide*, and *West Side Story*.

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Additional support is provided by UGI Amerigas, the Presser Foundation, and the Zisman Family Foundation.

Tickets: $5-$45, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

SUBURBAN SOUND ALL AROUND
The Baldwin School

March 8 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Saturday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
David Kramer, *flute*
Jennifer Montone, *horn*
Rob Kesselman, *bass*
Angela Zator Nelson, *percussion*
Susanne Son, *piano*

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SOUND ALL AROUND
Academy of Music Ballroom

March 15 at 10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. – Saturday morning and afternoon
March 17 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Monday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
Robert Kesselman, *bass*
Susanne Son, *piano*

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Tickets: $8.50, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

FAMILY CONCERT NO. 4 – LEGENDS AND MUSIC
Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 29 at 11:30 a.m. – Saturday morning

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Conductor TBA
Charlotte Blake Alston, *host*
Angela Park, *cello*

Dvo□ák	Excerpt from Cello Concerto in B minor
Ranjbaran	"Seven Passages," from Persian Trilogy
Rimsky-Korsakov	*Sheherazade*

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SOUND ALL AROUND
Academy of Music Ballroom

April 19 at 10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. – Saturday morning and afternoon
April 21 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – Monday morning

Charlotte Blake Alston, *host and storyteller*
David Kramer, *flute*
Jennifer Montone, *horn*
Rob Kesselman, *bass*
Angela Zator Nelson, *percussion*
Susanne Son, *piano*

The Sound All Around concert series at the Academy of Music is sponsored by PNC and is endowed in perpetuity by the Garrison Family Fund for Children's Concerts.

Tickets: $8.50, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

FAMILY CONCERT NO. 5 – *THE COMPOSER IS DEAD*
Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

May 10 at 11:30 a.m. – Saturday morning

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Rossen Milanov, *conductor*
Jenny Yen Yu Chen, *piano* – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Lemony Snicket, *narrator* – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Nathaniel Stookey, *narrator* – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Beethoven	Third movement from Piano Concerto No. 3
Stookey	*The Composer Is Dead* – A new work by Lemony Snicket with music by Nathaniel Stookey

The Philadelphia Orchestra Family Concerts are sponsored by Independence Blue Cross.
Additional support is provided by UGI Amerigas, the Presser Foundation, and the Zisman Family Foundation.

Tickets: $5-$45, 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org

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