N E W S R E L E A S E

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Philadelphia Orchestra announces details of 2008 Greenfield Student Competition

Student Competition applications due November 16, 2007

Preliminary auditions held January 11, 18, 22, and 28; final auditions in Verizon Hall on February 1, 2008

(*Philadelphia*, October 8, 2007) – **The Philadelphia Orchestra** announces details of the **2008 Albert M. Greenfield Student Competition**. Talented young student musicians of the Greater Philadelphia area are invited to participate in the Competition, with each winner receiving a cash award and the opportunity to perform as soloists with The Philadelphia Orchestra during the 2008-09 season. **Applications for the Competition must be postmarked no later than Friday, November 16, 2007**. Preliminary auditions will be held at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts on January 11 (vocal division), 18 (junior division), 22 (senior division), and 28 (children's division), 2008. The final round of auditions for all divisions will be held in Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center on February 1, 2008. Results of the Competition will be announced at an open reception following the final round of auditions.

The Greenfield Student Competition is open to all accomplished young instrumentalists and vocalists. Applicants in the instrumental division compete in three categories: **children's division** (ages 12 and under), **junior division** (ages 13-16), and **senior division** (ages 17-21). The vocal division is restricted to applicants between the ages of 17 and 29. (All ages are calculated as of January 11, 2008.) Entrants compete against a standard of excellence – not each other – and are evaluated based on exceptional talent, artistic individuality, virtuosity, and projection as a performer. Winners are named at the discretion of the judges.

Applicants must reside or study regularly with a primary teacher who resides and teaches in Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware, or Philadelphia counties in Pennsylvania; Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Salem, or Mercer counties in New Jersey; or New Castle County in Delaware.

Applications for The Philadelphia Orchestra's 2008 Greenfield Student Competition **must be postmarked no later than Friday, November 16, 2007,** and mailed to: The Philadelphia

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Orchestra, Albert M. Greenfield Student Competition, 260 South Broad Street, 16th Floor, Philadelphia, PA, 19102-4297. A non-refundable $25 registration fee must accompany each application. For complete competition guidelines or to request an application, please call the Orchestra's Education and Community Partnerships Office at 215.893.3141 or visit online at www.philorch.org/education.

Begun in 1933 by then-Music Director Leopold Stokowski, the Student Competition was named in 1992 in recognition of a generous endowment gift from the Albert M. Greenfield Foundation. Since its inception, more than 400 young artists have appeared with The Philadelphia Orchestra as Competition winners. Many have gone on to develop international solo careers, including pianists Richard Goode, André Watts, and Helen Huang; violinists Jaime Laredo, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, and Hilary Hahn; mezzo-soprano Florence Quivar; and bass Eric Owens.

Several winners have gone on to become members of The Philadelphia Orchestra, including violinists Richard Amoroso, Yayoi Numazawa, and Yumi Ninomiya Scott; violists Rachel Ku and Burchard Tang; bassoonist Mark Gigliotti (co-principal); bass trombonist Blair Bollinger; and pianist Kiyoko Takeuti.

The Philadelphia Orchestra's tradition of presenting educational programs dates back to 1921 when Leopold Stokowski initiated a series of concerts exclusively for children. Today, the Orchestra reaches Philadelphia area residents, teachers, students, and children each year through its numerous education and community partnership programs. The Philadelphia Orchestra presents a variety of programs for young people, including Sound All Around (for children ages 3-5), Family Concerts (for children ages 6-12 and their families), and School Concerts (for students in grades 2-12). The Orchestra also offers learning programs for adults, including free PreConcert Conversations before every subscription concert and Lecture/Luncheons with guest speakers.

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