



## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **THE NEW PHILHARMONIC OF NEW JERSEY AND THE WESTFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF “MUSICA MORRISTOWN!”**

**Powerful fusion of artistic and administrative talent to buoy Morris County as a  
destination for world-class symphonic performances.**

WESTFIELD, NJ (Aug. 11) The Westfield Symphony Orchestra and The New Philharmonic of NJ jointly announced today the establishment of a premier concert series and festival designed to place orchestral music at the forefront of the Morris County performing arts scene. The “MUSICA MORRISTOWN!” festival will initially highlight three exciting performances for its inaugural season, beginning with Central Jersey’s premier 9/11 commemorative concert titled “America the Brave” on September 11, highlighting Dvorak’s *New World Symphony*, Barber’s elegiac *Adagio for Strings*, Irvin Berlin’s *God Bless America* and Copland’s *Fanfare to the Common Man*.

As an inspiration for this first concert Maestro Wroe observed: “September 11<sup>th</sup> is felt deeply all across the country of course, but it does have special relevance here.” Continuing, Wroe explained: “So many members of our local communities were personally affected. We think this tribute will be both greatly moving and inspiring considering the fortitude and resilience of the American people.”

In addition to the September 11<sup>th</sup> event, the MUSICA MORRISTOWN! concert series offers presentations on October 30<sup>th</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup> and boasts a collaboration with The Dance Theater of Harlem Ensemble, a magnificent roster of guest singers and instrumentalists, as well as a Halloween celebration featuring a silver screen viewing of Douglas Fairbanks’ 1929 masterpiece *The Iron Mask* complete with a live symphonic soundtrack created by film composer Carl Davis and a spotlight on Richard Wagner’s monster music from *The Ring*.

Making its initial home at College of St Elizabeth’s Dolan Hall in Morristown, this joint venture is a result of an unprecedented fusion of artistic and managerial resources to create a new, revitalized face of the New Philharmonic of NJ under the joint artistic stewardship of WSO’s Music Director David Wroe and revered veteran Maestro Leon Hyman.

“This will indeed constitute a new musical milestone for both orchestras and I am honored, proud and eager to lead such a brave and prestigious new initiative,” exclaimed Maestro Wroe. “By melding the excellence and dynamism of these two already outstanding musical forces we will be able to bring unique artistic synergies to expanded New Jersey audiences as well as execute a pioneering new business model in response to unprecedented economic pressure.”

The New Philharmonic of New Jersey’s President, Barry Zucker, added: “This is the face of rebirth. It’s about new energy, momentum and synergies which will carry us all forward together on a wave of exquisite musical experiences. With this initiative we look for an opportunity not only to serve, but to expand the audience for orchestral music in our region, and offer world class performances that help establish New Jersey as a leader in performing arts. I can’t wait for the new season to begin!”

The two orchestras will indeed create a formidable musical force. Both are recognized by the NJ State Council on the Arts as “Distinguished Arts Organizations” and each has received multiple Citations of Excellence from NJSCA.

The fully professional New Philharmonic of New Jersey, founded more than 30 years ago by Leon Hyman and Karen Pinoci, is one of the finest musical organizations in the region. In addition to an adventurous orchestral subscription season, the NPNJ has presented Musicales and Ensembles, a Holiday Pops concert, and creative educational outreach programs in the Morristown area.

Created in 1983, the fully professional Westfield Symphony Orchestra, the resident orchestra of Union County, has a presence throughout the cultural communities of central New Jersey, and appears as far afield as NYC’s Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall on a regular basis. In addition to an adventurous subscription season, popular concerts near and far, and a rousing New Year’s Eve celebration, the WSO sponsors educational and music therapy programs.

Mark L. Fleder, President of WSO Board of Trustees, commented on the planned initiative: "This is the most exciting development in the professional classical music scene in New Jersey in a long time. Westfield and New Philharmonic combined forces will form the platform for great new opportunities and much wider exposure to audiences throughout our state and beyond. We are thrilled about the future!

Further information about the 2011-2012 MUSICA MORRISTOWN! concert series and the New Philharmonic-Westfield Symphony collaboration call 908 232 9400. Subscribe and save! For tickets (\$25, \$40 and \$50) and subscription details call 973-408-3978 or visit The F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre box office at Drew University, 36 Madison Avenue, Madison, NJ 07940.