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**THE FIRST-EVER *LANDMARKS FESTIVAL AT THE SHELL*
COMES TO THE ESPLANADE THIS SUMMER**

**Boston Landmarks Orchestra Will Produce Nine Free Concerts
at the Hatch Shell on Wednesday Evenings Beginning July 11**

Boston, MA – May 25, 2007 – A major new summer arts tradition launches at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade on July 11 with the opening night of the inaugural season of the *Landmarks Festival at the Shell*. The new festival will offer Boston music lovers nine free classical concerts produced by the Boston Landmarks Orchestra with Charles Ansbacher as Conductor and Festival Artistic Director. Seven of the concerts will feature the Boston Landmarks Orchestra, in collaboration with the Boston Lyric Opera, The Boston Community Choir and the New World Chorale. The Longwood Symphony Orchestra and The Greenwood Music Camp Orchestra, with soloists from NPR's *From The Top*, will also perform concerts on the series. The Boston Landmarks Orchestra has over the past 5 years commissioned new works for children based on events or individuals in Boston's history. These compositions will all be played during the upcoming season.

Carrying on the spirit of performing classical music for free at the Hatch Shell, the concerts will start at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings running through September 5. Also, several of the concerts will be repeated in other Boston neighborhoods.

“The history and the setting of the Hatch Shell make it a unique outdoor venue for classical music,” said Ansbacher, who along with being the founder of the Boston Landmarks was recently appointed Principal Guest Conductor of the Moscow Symphony and is conductor Laureate of the Colorado Springs Symphony. “With the Charles River on one side and the panorama of the city skyline on the other, it is the perfect spot for evening concerts in the summer. We are extremely excited about undertaking what we hope will become a new summer-time tradition for the residents of Boston.”

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Ansbacher founded the Boston Landmarks Orchestra in 2001 to perform free concerts celebrating historical, geographical and architectural settings. By presenting exceptional music performances in significant settings, the Orchestra fosters a broad appreciation of classical music while bringing together the area's diverse communities.

The programs for the *Landmarks Festival at the Shell* will be:

- **July 11 – Opening Night** – Beethoven's famous *Ode to Joy* and Hadyn's *Symphony No. 104* featuring The New World Chorale, directed by Holly Krafka.
- **July 18 – French Romantics** – Guest soloist will be crossover cellist Matt Haimovitz, who is as comfortable performing in a jazz club as he is on the concert stage, in an all French program with works by Bizet, Fauré, Rameau, Ravel and Saint-Saëns. This performance will be repeated on Friday, July 20 at 8 p.m. at Sanders Theatre, Cambridge and Sunday, July 22 at 6 p.m. at Jamaica Pond.
- **July 25 – Young Brilliance** – With the Greenwood Music Camp Orchestra, Fredric Cohen, Conductor. Celebrating the talent of young artists and Greenwood's 75th Anniversary with NPR's *FROM THE TOP* soloists Emily Smith, violin, and Oliver Hagen, clarinet, in works by Brahms, Weber and Saint-Saëns.
- **August 1 – David and "Old Ironsides" Landmarks Orchestra's Newest Commission** – This special program will feature a new classical composition, *David and "Old Ironsides"* that tells the story of David DeBias, a young African-American who joined the crew of USS CONSTITUTION at the age of eight. The piece, composed by Larry Bell with text by Constance Leeds, will premiere at Charlestown Navy Yard on Tuesday, July 31, at 7 p.m. before being presented at the Hatch Shell the following evening. It will also be performed on August 2, 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon at the Shirley-Eustis House in Roxbury; August 2 at 7 p.m. at The Adams National Historical Park in Quincy; and August 3 at 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon at the Great Hall at Codman Square in Dorchester. Julian Wachner's *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*, commissioned by the Landmarks Orchestra in 2004, will also be performed.
- **August 8 – Salute the Red Sox** – An all-American program, with a special performance of Julian Wachner's *Lifting The Curse: A Story of the Red Sox*, with text by Bill Littlefield, commissioned by the Landmarks Orchestra in 2006 and other works by Copland, Sousa and John Williams. It will also be performed on August 12 at 6 p.m. at Dorchester Park in Dorchester.
- **August 15 – A Taste of the Opera: With the Boston Lyric Opera** – Singers from the Boston Lyric Opera will perform opera favorites as well as selection from BLO's 2007-08 season, including *La Bohème*, *The Elixir of Love* and *The Abduction from the Seraglio*.
- **August 22 – Musical Magic** – Longwood Symphony Orchestra, Jonathan McPhee, conductor, featuring the winner of the Chinese Performing Arts Foundation's piano competition in a performance of Mendelssohn's *Piano No. 1*, plus John William's *Suite from Harry Potter* and Tchaikovsky's *Sleeping Beauty*.

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- **August 29 – With Liberty and Justice For All** – With the Boston Community Choir, Brother Dennis Slaughter, Artistic Director, featuring a performance of Landmark Orchestra’s 2005 commission, Nkeiru Okoye’s *The Journey of Phillis Wheatley*, with text by Carolivia Haddon, and Copland’s *Lincoln Portrait* and Gospel Music.
- **September 5 – Green Masterpieces** – Featuring music inspired by nature, landscapes and the environment, including Beethoven’s *6th Symphony*, Handel’s *Water Music*, and *The Birds* by Respighi as well as Landmark Orchestra’s first commission, *Make Way for Ducklings*, composed by Daniel Pinkham in 2003.

The *Landmarks Festival at the Shell* is being held in partnership with Boston's Classical Station 99.5 WCRB, and in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. The *Landmarks Festival at the Shell* is underwritten by the Boston Globe Foundation with additional funding from The Boston Foundation, the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Music Performance Fund and Bose Corporation. Neighborhood concerts and concerts for children are sponsored by Bank of America with additional funding from State Street Foundation, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and supported by the City of Boston, Thomas M. Menino, Mayor, and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s ParkArts Program. Boston's Classical Station 99.5 WCRB, The Boston Globe, New England Cable News (NECN) and WGBH-TV will serve as media sponsors. For more information about the inaugural season of the *Landmarks Festival at the Shell*, please visit www.landmarksorchestra.org

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About Charles Ansbacher, Conductor and Artistic Director:

The orchestra’s founding director, Charles Ansbacher, has been bringing free classical music to diverse audiences around the world for over 35 years. Whether in the parks of Colorado Springs, where he led the orchestra for almost twenty years, the beloved concert halls of Vienna, or in economically troubled countries across Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Maestro Ansbacher has proven that he has a keen ability to organize the myriad elements necessary to bring music to broad and diverse audiences.

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