

PRINCETON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS APPLAUDS THE PRINCETON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

PSO receives dual awards for artistic excellence, community service

Princeton, NJ, May 27, 2010 ... The Princeton Symphony Orchestra was the recipient of two prestigious arts awards, presented by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA), for its commitment to superior artistry and public service. The PSO was awarded a **Citation of Excellence** for its artistic quality, programming and public service in the arts. It was also designated a **Major Arts Organization** for its solid history of excellence in substantial arts programming, broad public service in the arts and contributions to enhancing the quality of life in New Jersey.

State Arts Council leadership held an awards reception on April 29 in Trenton to acknowledge the importance of the PSO's work.

"We are honored to be recognized and thank the State Arts Council for its tremendous support of arts organizations throughout New Jersey," said Melanie Clarke, Executive Director of the PSO.

The awards – the State Arts Council's most prestigious – are conferred based on grant application review and given to the PSO for the duration of the grant period for which funding is received.

Founded in 1980, the Princeton Symphony Orchestra performs classical masterworks, introduces music by the most celebrated contemporary composers and delights schoolchildren throughout Central New Jersey with their first orchestra experience. Part of its mission is to stimulate appreciation and knowledge of symphonic and orchestra music – making it more accessible to a larger and more diverse community and to young audiences through outreach and education – and to operate in a fiscally responsible manner. In 2009, Rossen Milanov, a respected and internationally known conductor, was appointed as the orchestra’s third Music Director.

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts is a division of the New Jersey Department of State. It receives funding in direct appropriations from the State of New Jersey through a dedicated Hotel/Motel Occupancy fee and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. Since 1966, its volunteer members and professional staff have worked to improve the quality of life in New Jersey by helping the arts to flourish. Visit www.njartscouncil.org.

PHOTO CAPTION:

From left, Steve Runk, Executive Director, New Jersey State Council on the Arts; Sharon Burton Turner, NJSCA Chairwoman; Melanie Clarke, Executive Director, Princeton Symphony Orchestra; Lawrence K. Carlbon, NJSCA Member.

Please visit our website at www.princetonsymphony.org or call the PSO at (609) 497-0020.

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