



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER
SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

NEWS RELEASE

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Brevard Music Center Announces 2009 Season

(Brevard, NC) –The Brevard Music Center (BMC) is pleased to announce details of its 2009 summer festival, seven weeks of varied performances held from June 26 through August 9. Keith Lockhart returns for his second summer as artistic advisor and principal conductor of the Music Center, a summer institute and festival in the mountains of western North Carolina. Maestro Lockhart, also conductor of the Boston Pops, is an alumnus of the Brevard Music Center. He has stated that his experiences at BMC as a teenaged student were a determining factor in his decision to become a professional musician.

Brevard Music Center hosts approximately 400 high school and college students and 65 artist faculty from 48 states and 12 foreign countries for the educational component of the Center. The more than 80 public performances showcase the talented students, artist faculty and guest artists and include recitals, chamber music, opera and orchestra concerts.

Lockhart will conduct five concerts this year, and has been working with the BMC artistic staff to shape the summer musical programs to benefit its students. There will be six additional conductors featured this summer, in addition to a special appearance by former artistic directors Henry Janiec and David Efron. Other conductors include Steven Smith, Andrew Grams, Larry Rachleff, Grant Llewellyn, Ken Lam and Andre Raphael Smith. Guest artists for the 2009 season include pianists Olga Kern and Norman Krieger; violinist Elena Urioste; violist Roberto Diaz; cellist Andres Diaz; violinist William Preucil; and the Biava Quartet. Tickets are now available for sale either by mail or via internet. Visit the Music Center online at brevardmusic.org for detailed concert listings and ticket purchases.

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Orchestral masterpieces are abundant in this season's offerings at the Brevard Music Center. Keith Lockhart will conduct a mini-series of Tchaikovsky's most-loved symphonies, Nos. 4, 5 and 6 in different concerts throughout July. He will also present Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* on July 12 and a concert titled *An American in Paris* July 24 including other American favorites: *Lincoln Portrait* by Aaron Copland and Barber's *Adagio for Strings*. On July 26, Keith Lockhart will be joined by former artistic directors Henry Janiec and David Efron for a most memorable concert. All three conductors will lead the Brevard Music Center Orchestra in special works of their choice.

Additional highlights include two of Beethoven's most acclaimed works, Symphony No. 9 on August 2 conducted by Grant Llewellyn and Symphony No. 7 on July 3 conducted by Andrew Grams. *The Firebird* (June 28) will be conducted by Steven Smith and the Enigma Variations (August 1) will be presented by the Brevard Sinfonia.

Guest Artists appearing with the Brevard Music Center Orchestra this summer include pianist Norman Krieger, performing Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2 on July 5. Emerging artist, Elena Urioste, performs the Barber Violin Concerto on July 19 and the Season Finale will be Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 with gold medal recipient in the Van Cliburn Competition, Olga Kern, on August 9.

OPERA PRODUCTIONS

The Janiec Opera Company (JOC) is comprised of 40 students from the United States and Canada. They will present four fully-staged productions aided by a production staff of 28 that includes set designers, lighting technicians, wig and make-up artists and choreographers. 2009 productions begin with the comic and light-hearted *Tales of Hoffmann* by Jacques Offenbach on July 11, the matchmaking story of *Hello, Dolly!* on July 23 and 25, and a double bill of Puccini's one act operas *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicci*, featuring the famous aria "O mio babbino caro" on August 8. The JOC will also present a night of favorite opera scenes at the Porter Center for Performing Arts at Brevard College on July 29.

CHAMBER MUSIC

The summer **chamber music series** features the Brevard Music Center's artist faculty and guest artists. Held in the Porter Center at Brevard College, the eleven concerts will present works of Barber, Beethoven, Prokofiev, Faure, Brahms and many others. Favorite artists returning to BMC include violinist William Preucil on July 8, cellist Andres Diaz on July 13 and violist Roberto Diaz on July 15. The Music Center welcomes the Biava Quartet as the Quartet-in-Residence for three weeks of instruction and classes for the students, and will present two recitals, July 20 and 27. I Solisti di Brevard, a select group of gifted Music Center students, present a concert on August 3 and is a favorite on the chamber series. For detailed concerts, go to brevardmusic.org.

LIGHTER FARE

Opening night at the Brevard Music Center will present famous American tenor, Stanford Olsen, singing selections from Broadway and opera. The program also includes Leonard Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story*. Returning to BMC is Rhythm & Brass, an exciting and eclectic group performing jazz and other styles of music, woven from a century of great composers. The annual Patriotic Pops concert on July 4 is titled "From Sea to Shining Sea" and includes favorites such as the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* and *Armed Forces Salute* and ends in grand style with Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture with live canons. Special start time of 2pm allows concert-goers time to view the fireworks display in town that evening.

CONCERT ENHANCEMENTS

The Music Center offers free pre-concert lectures prior to Sunday orchestra concerts and all opera performances. These **Musical Insights** and **Opera Insights** are informative and engaging talks beginning one hour before the scheduled performance. Both are held in Thomas Hall, facing the lake behind Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Brevard Music Center offers **forty free events** throughout the summer. These include student recitals and chamber music, symphonic band, composers' concerts, high school voice programs and opera scenes, and noon-time faculty chamber music at the Porter Center. The BMC Piano Competition finals and the Concerto Competition finals are also free and open to the public.

In a collaborative effort with the Transylvania County Library, students present a series of chamber music concerts on Mondays and Wednesdays at 12:30, beginning July 7. Free performances are a wonderful opportunity to experience the extraordinary talent of the students and faculty in variety of performances and venues.

VENUES AND DINING

The Music Center's 150-acre campus nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina makes it an

ideal summer educational institute and performing arts venue. Students and faculty live and work -- in rehearsals, lessons and private practice -- in buildings throughout the 150-acre campus. Concerts are held in Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium, (seating capacity of 1800), an open-sided hall so that seating on the lawn is also possible. The smaller concert venue on campus is Straus Auditorium, home to many of the free student recitals and chamber concerts. Thomas Hall, located behind the main auditorium, serves as the venue for all pre-concert lectures and is used as a rehearsal space for the many groups on campus.

Many patrons bring picnics to enjoy with family or friends before a performance, taking advantage of one of the many tables scattered around the auditorium or nearby lake. Picnics will also be for sale at the Music Center, please call 828-862-2123 to place your order. Café con Brio offers fine dining on adjacent to the auditorium, provided by the chefs of Hobnob Restaurant of Brevard. Call 828-577-0690 for reservations and information. Light concessions including wine, coffee, and ice cream are available from local vendors.

STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Each summer, 65 distinguished faculty artists are drawn from the most prestigious music schools and symphony orchestras in the country. They commit their summers to teaching the 400 students from 48 states and 12 foreign countries who immerse themselves for six weeks of intense study and performance. For many, attending Brevard Music Center is a life-changing experience. Working, studying and performing alongside faculty and guest artists provide a unique learning experience.

TICKETS and TICKET PACKAGES

Tickets are now available by mail and online at brevardmusic.org. The box office, located in the foyer of Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium, opens May 11 for phone and walk-up orders. The box office phone number is (828) 862-2105 or toll-free (888) 384-8682. A number of ticket packages are available for a savings of 10-30% off of single ticket prices. Packages include **Fridays on the Lawn**, **Summer Sundays**, **Conductor's Circle** and the **Chamber Music Series**. Details can be found on the web or by calling (828) 862-2131.

WEBSITE

Be sure to visit the BMC website, brevardmusic.org, for detailed program information and ticket purchases. The new online ticketing system allows patrons to choose their own seat from the available locations.

The Brevard Music Center was founded by James Christian Pfohl in 1936. His vision to establish a music program for talented young people has since matured into one of this country's finest summer institutes and festivals for aspiring musicians. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina, BMC welcomes to its 150-acre campus each year 400 students, representing over 40 states and eight foreign countries. It has, as well, 65 distinguished faculty artists drawn from America's most prestigious conservatories, universities and orchestras. Each summer, the Center invites an array of celebrated guest artists to appear in performance with the students of BMC. BMC's unique learning environment—students living and working alongside faculty and guest artists—creates an unparalleled sense of community.

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For press inquiries, including photos and interview requests, please contact:

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