



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER
SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

NEWS RELEASE

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Keith Lockhart Returns to BMC

(Brevard, NC) –Keith Lockhart returns this week to the Brevard Music Center to conduct two performances, July 10 and 12. He is in his second year as Artistic Advisor and Principal Conductor and will conduct five performances this season. Lockhart is a Music Center alumnus, attending as a student in 1974 and 1975 and returning as a guest conductor numerous times since 1996. He has been conductor of the Boston Pops orchestra since 1995.

Lockhart will conduct two concerts this weekend. The program on Friday, July 10 at 7:30 with the Transylvania Symphony Orchestra features cellist Angela Park performing Saint-Saens Cello Concerto No. 1. Ms. Park is the recent winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs Young Artist Competition held in June 2009 in Orlando, FL. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and is currently enrolled in the graduate program at the New England Conservatory in Boston. Friday's concert is in memory of Hinda Honigman who served as president of the NFMC from 1967 to 1971 and as a BMC Trustee from 1966 to 1985. Also on the Friday program is the first of three Tchaikovsky symphonies Lockhart will conduct this summer, Symphony No. 4 in F minor. Mozart's Symphony No. 29 in A major will open the concert.

On Sunday, July 12, at 3:00 pm Mr. Lockhart will conduct the Brevard Music Center Orchestra in Gustav Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* ("Song of the Earth") with soloists Mary Phillips, mezzo-soprano and Michael Hendrick, tenor. This poignant work describes one person's relationship with the world, with life, and with death. Mahler himself stated, "I think it is probably the most personal composition I have created thus far."

Tickets are available by calling 828-862-2105 or online, brevardmusic.org.

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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