



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## HOLIDAY POPS WITH THE PHILHARMONIC TO FEATURE AMY COVENO OF CHANNEL 9

MANCHESTER, NH, November 1, 2010 -- The New Hampshire Philharmonic kicks off the holiday season with its annual holiday pops concert.

The evening provides a means for concertgoers to step into the holiday season with an evening of pleasing musical chestnuts. The concert will take place on Saturday, November 27 at 8 pm in Derry's renowned Stockbridge Theatre.

Regional journalist **Amy Coven** hosts the festivities. Well-known for her role as news anchor at Channel 9, Ms. Coven will be providing engaging commentary on the pieces performed throughout the evening.

The evening provides an international musical tour of holiday favorites. The first half is oriented towards light classical works, and the second half is devoted to pops favorites. The first half of the festive evening includes *Sleigh Ride* by New England native Leroy Anderson, classic dances from Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker*, and choral selections from the *Messiah* by George Frederick Handel.

The concert will be conducted by the Philharmonic's Music Director Anthony Princiotti. Princiotti commented on the program. "The Philharmonic's Pops concerts have always been not only an important part of our concert seasons, but indeed a crucial element of the organization's mission, which is to connect people to the power and beauty of the music we play and present it in a way that makes its universality clear. Part of this effort involves demystifying the aura of "difficulty" that surrounds so much classical music presentation by playing music that is at once of the highest quality and extremely accessible. Our Pops concerts are a perfect platform for this concept. "

Massed choruses from both Pinkerton Academy and Timberlane School will join the Philharmonic in the first half for choral selections from the *Messiah*, and return in the second half for a medley of light-hearted Christmas pops songs. The Pinkerton Academy Chorale is being prepared for the concert by Thomas Quigley, with Melanie Whitney and Sandra Clarke. Mr. Quigley will also lead his group in several a cappella selections during the concert.

The Pinkerton Academy Chorale has previously sung with the New Hampshire Philharmonic, the New Hampshire Symphony and the Nashua Symphony, and at the New Hampshire Education Awards, the NH Martin Luther King Celebration, and for various local and regional venues. In 1994, the choir was selected to represent the State of New Hampshire for the 50th Anniversary of D-Day celebrations in Washington, D.C., the premier of the Zulu mass in 2007, and in 2008 members of the Chorale represented New Hampshire singing with the 400th Jamestown, Virginia Anniversary Festival Chorus. In addition to these performances the Chorale has consistently achieved Superior Awards at national choral festivals

The concert represents the fourth year in the partnership between the Philharmonic and the Pinkerton choral group. The Philharmonic's Princiotti was effusive in his praise: "The educational and artistic quality of the work done by Tom Quigley and his staff is an incredible resource to the students and parents they serve. Their program is truly a New Hampshire treasure."

After intermission, the second half of the program will open with the white hot *Brazilian Sleighbells*, plus the all-time American favorite *White Christmas* by Irving Berlin. Included in the evening is the ever-popular Carol Sing-along. "The sing-along is always considered a highlight of the evening; my sense it that people often start

off singing in ways that feel a little bit ritualistic, but after a little while they start to develop a sense of musical interaction with the accompaniment that is being played by the orchestra, and soon they are experiencing something rather extraordinary: making music in a coordinated, spirited fashion with hundreds of other people.” Words to these favored carols will be provided in the program book.

Should the audience request it, sources indicate that the Philharmonic’s stands ready with its crowd-pleasing encore *Jingle Bells Forever*, a blending of the melody of James Pierpont’s popular Christmas song with a John Phillip Sousa march.

Concertgoers are advised to secure their tickets early, as last year’s concert sold out well in advance. The Philharmonic’s Executive Director Paul Hoffman noted about the venue choice, “We’re so pleased to return to the Stockbridge Theatre. It’s a beautiful, modern hall with clear sightlines and fine acoustics. A real gem.”

Note to Editors: Photos are available electronically.

###

The concert takes place on Saturday, November 27 (8 pm) at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, Derry. Tickets range in price from \$15 to \$50 and are available through the Stockbridge box office at 603/437 5210. Complete information about the 106<sup>th</sup> season of the New Hampshire Philharmonic can be found at [www.nhphil.org](http://www.nhphil.org).

.....

The New Hampshire Philharmonic connects people to the power of classical music, through compelling performances and educational programs. The Philharmonic is the state’s oldest orchestra, tracing its roots to 1905. The orchestra brings together the finest student, amateur and professional musicians from around the state in engaging performances of the core repertoire.

The New Hampshire Philharmonic receives crucial and ongoing support from Peerless Insurance, the Frederick Smyth Institute, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, Graphicast, and from the members of the Philharmonic Society.

The orchestra recognizes ongoing support from: Norwin and Elizabeth Bean Foundation, Doris Benz Trust, Byrne Foundation, Cogswell Benevolent Trust, Paul and Sandra Montrone, Farny R. Wurlitzer Foundation, Hinckley Allen Snyder and Target.

###

Contact: Paul Hoffman  
Executive Director  
603-647-6476  
[info@nhphil.org](mailto:info@nhphil.org)

.....

## CALENDAR LISTING

### 106<sup>th</sup> season

The New Hampshire Philharmonic  
Music Director Anthony Princiotti  
2010-2011

**Nov 27, 2010 (Saturday 8pm)**  
Stockbridge Theatre Derry

Holiday Pops

The New Hampshire Philharmonic

Music Director Anthony Princiotti

Holiday favorites

Program to include selections from *Messiah*, *Nutcracker* and the carol sing-along. Concert collaboration with the combined choruses of Pinkerton Academy and Timberlane School.

**March 12, 2011 (Saturday 8pm)**

Palace Theatre Manchester

Spring Concert

The New Hampshire Philharmonic

Music Director Anthony Princiotti

Bach Concerto for Violin and Oboe

Shostakovich Cello Concerto 1

Beethoven Symphony 5

**June 4, 2011 (Saturday 8pm)**

Palace Theatre Manchester

Spring Pops

The New Hampshire Philharmonic

Music Director Anthony Princiotti

An evening of romantic enchantment

Program to include Prokofiev's *Cinderella*