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UMS and New York Philharmonic Launch Five-Year Residency Partnership Opening in 2015

The New York Philharmonic Will Come to Ann Arbor for Performances and Activities Three Times in Five Years

Berlin Philharmonic and Another Orchestra TBA Round Out Five-Year Residency Program

The **University Musical Society** of the University of Michigan and the New York Philharmonic have announced an ambitious five-year residency partnership, beginning with concerts and activities in October 2015. The partnership is the centerpiece of a larger program bringing three different orchestras to Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium each season. Each residency will include multi-performance residencies, master classes and workshops for University of Michigan students, and activities for the regional community.

The **New York Philharmonic** anchors the program, with appearances in the 2015-16, 2017-18, and 2019-20 seasons. The first residency, entitled "Tradition and Innovation," will include performances by the Philharmonic and music director Alan Gilbert on October 9-11, 2015 in Hill Auditorium, and will feature music by the New York Philharmonic's former composer-in-residence Magnus Lindberg, Ravel, and Beethoven (Friday, October 9); Esa-Pekka Salonen and Mahler (Saturday, October 10); and a new film project with David Newman on the podium (Sunday, October 11). In addition, orchestra members and management will participate in a wide range of educational activities in partnership with University units and community

organizations, including workshops, co-commissions and co-productions, as well as possible performance opportunities for University of Michigan groups in New York.

Additional residencies with UMS will feature the **Berlin Philharmonic** (2016-17 season) and another orchestra to be named later (2018-19).

“UMS has a long history of presenting top-ranked orchestras in multi-day residencies going back more than 100 years,” says Kenneth C. Fischer, President of UMS. “What is significant about these residencies is the breadth and depth of their education and community engagement activities. We are proud to have the New York Philharmonic as our anchor partner for this endeavor, and to help the next generation of artistic leaders flourish; the students at the University of Michigan and the community-at-large have incredible learning moments in store. One can’t help but to grow and be inspired by the quality, vitality, and adventurous spirit of one of America’s greatest orchestras.”

“The New York Philharmonic is extremely proud to enter into this formal partnership with UMS over the next five seasons, which extends beyond performance and practice to a spirit of experimentation and creation,” said Matthew VanBesien, President and Executive Director of the New York Philharmonic. “Our Orchestra and Alan Gilbert have always cherished the opportunities to be in Ann Arbor, and at the wonderful Hill Auditorium on the University of Michigan campus. Thanks to Ken Fischer and the forward-thinking leadership of UMS who have made this commitment to the Philharmonic, I am confident we will be able to create a truly dynamic range of performances, creative workshops, and educational opportunities for the students at Michigan and the people of Ann Arbor.”

The concerts of the first residency take place during Homecoming Weekend at the University of Michigan and will provide a unique opportunity for University of Michigan alumni to experience one of the country’s premier orchestras on familiar ground. Tickets will be available in spring 2015; residency details will be announced in the fall. For more information, contact the UMS Ticket Office at 734-764-2538, or send an email to ums-nyphil@umich.edu to be added to the email list for further information.

“I am particularly pleased to announce this initiative during the Victors for Michigan Campaign, as these multi-performance residencies embody UMS’s commitment to our three campaign goals: Bold Artistic Ideas, Engaged Learning through the Arts, and Access and Inclusiveness,” added Fischer, who noted that a seven-figure lead gift will help support a portion of the expenses associated with the three-year commitment to the New York Philharmonic.

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One of the oldest performing arts presenters in the country, **UMS** (also known as the University Musical Society) contributes to a vibrant cultural community by connecting audiences with performing artists from around the world in uncommon and engaging experiences. UMS is an independent non-profit affiliated with the University of Michigan, presenting over 70 music, theater, and dance performances by professional touring artists each season, along with over 100 free educational activities. UMS is part of the University of Michigan's "Victors for Michigan" campaign, reinforcing its commitment to bold artistic leadership, engaged learning through the arts, and access and inclusiveness.

The New York Philharmonic continues to play a leading cultural role in New York City, the United States, and the world. This season's projects will connect the Philharmonic with up to 50 million music lovers through live concerts in New York City and on its worldwide tours; digital downloads; international broadcasts on television, radio, and online; and as a resource through its wide range of education programs. Having commissioned and/or premiered works by leading composers from every era, the Orchestra now champions contemporary music through *CONTACT!* and the NY PHIL BIENNIAL. A resource for its community and the world, the Philharmonic complements its annual free citywide Concerts in the Parks with wide-ranging education programs, including the famed Young People's Concerts and national and international partnerships that combine performance with intensive training by Philharmonic musicians to cultivate tomorrow's leading orchestral musicians. Renowned around the world, having appeared in 432 cities in 63 countries, America's oldest symphony orchestra has long been a media pioneer, releasing almost 2,000 recordings since 1917 and today sharing live performances through downloads and online. Alan Gilbert became Music Director in 2009, succeeding 20th-century musical giants including Bernstein, Toscanini, and Mahler. The New York Philharmonic has performed 15 concerts under UMS auspices since 1916, most recently with a two-concert appearance in February 2013.

Founded during UMS's third season in 1882, **Berlin Philharmonic** has long been considered one of the world's finest orchestras. Hans von Bülow catapulted the ensemble into one of the leading orchestras in Germany in the late 19th century, and lengthy tenures by Arthur Nikisch, Wilhelm Furtwängler, Sergiu Celibidache, and Herbert von Karajan further cemented its stature. In 2002, Simon Rattle was named artistic director. The Berlin Philharmonic has appeared on the UMS roster seven times since 1955, most recently in November 2009, when they performed a program of Brahms and Schoenberg under the baton of Simon Rattle.