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Stockton Symphony Announces its 2010–11 Season, “Pure Inspiration” Featuring Internationally Renowned Guest Artists

STOCKTON, CA – The Stockton Symphony is proud to present its 2010–11 season, “Pure Inspiration.” Conducted by Music Director Peter Jaffe, the Symphony’s 84th will include five Classics concerts, performed on both Thursday and Saturday evenings, and three Symphonic Pops concerts, including a traditional Holiday Pops in December, a romantic Valentine Pops in February, and a sensational tribute to the Beatles at the annual Pops & Picnic in May. All concerts, with the exception of Pops & Picnic, will be performed at San Joaquin Delta College’s Atherton Auditorium. The Beatles evening will be performed at the Alex G. Spanos Center at the University of the Pacific.

The Symphony’s season opens on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at 8:00PM, with its first Classics set entitled “Heroism with Heart.” The concerts will feature violinist Elena Urioste, of Mexican-Basque heritage, who is a graduate of the rigorous Phoenix program for talented young Latino and African-American musicians. This rapidly rising star captured first prize at the 2007 Sion International Violin Competition, won the Sphinx Competition at age sixteen, and was one of three recipients of the prestigious London Music Masters Award. The *Detroit Metro Times* proclaims that “there’s a level of brilliance to her technique that lets her expose the heart of the music.” Ms. Urioste will perform Bruch’s passionate Violin Concerto No. 1, which has not been heard in Stockton for many years. Beethoven’s dramatic Overture to *Fidelio* will open the program and Prokofiev’s stirring and powerful Symphony No. 5 will conclude the evening. “Heroism with Heart” will be repeated on Saturday, September 25, 2010 at 6:00PM.

The second Classics concert of the 2010–11 season, “Eternal Quest,” will be performed on Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 8:00PM, and again on Saturday, October 16, 2010 at

6:00PM. The program will feature Israeli-born cellist Amit Peled, who exhibits profound artistry and penetrating musicianship, making him one of today's most captivating cellists on the worldwide concert stage. Acclaimed by the *Baltimore Sun* for his "simply gorgeous sound," Mr. Peled will play the soul-searching *Schelomo: Hebraic Rhapsody for Cello and Orchestra* by Ernest Bloch. The concert will also include the insatiable longing of Wagner's Prelude und Liebestod (Prelude and Love-Death) from *Tristan und Isolde*, *The Unanswered Question* by Charles Ives and the celebrated "Enigma" Variations by Edward Elgar, a collection of character tributes to dear friends.

On Thursday, November 11, 2010 at 8:00PM, and Saturday, November 13, 2010 at 6:00PM, the Symphony will perform its third Classics set, "Magnificent Mozart." These programs will include Mozart's colorful Overture to *The Abduction from the Seraglio* and his elegant Symphony No. 38 in D major, "Prague." Anja Strauss (soprano), Janet Campbell (mezzo-soprano), Brian Thorsett (tenor), and Ralph Cato (baritone) will join forces with the Stockton Symphony and the Stockton Chorale to perform Mozart's Requiem—his monumental final work—capping an evening celebrating the beauty and power of the composer's genius.

In "Symphonic Spice," the fourth set of Classics concerts, the Stockton Symphony will participate in the Henry Fogel Commissioning Consortium, premiering a new work by one of Argentina's hottest composers, Osvaldo Golijov. The two performances will take place on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at 8:00PM, and Saturday, March 12, 2011 at 6:00PM. Chilean-born flutist Viviana Guzmán will be featured in a sultry Suite of Tangos for Flute and Orchestra by Piazzolla/Rodriguez, a sampling of her exotic world flute collection in her own arrangements, and a signature encore of Giulio Briccialdi's *Carnival of Venice*. Described as "an exceptionally equipped flutist and a remarkable performer," by the incomparable flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal, Ms. Guzmán has performed in more than eighty-five countries and on all seven continents. The Symphony will conclude the evening with Manuel de Falla's rhythmically charged Suite No. 2 from *El sombrero de tres picos (The Three-cornered Hat)*.

Back by popular demand, knockout pianist Chu-Fang Huang will make her second appearance with the Stockton Symphony in the Classics season finale entitled "From Russia with Love" on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 8:00PM, and Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 6:00PM. Reprising her virtuoso role, Ms. Huang will perform Rachmaninoff's famous tour-

de-force, the Piano Concerto No. 2. As first-prize winner of the 2005 Cleveland International Piano Competition, finalist in the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, and winner of the 2006 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Ms. Huang has made concert appearances around the globe. The programs will open with Mikhail Glinka's ebullient Overture to *Ruslan and Lyudmila* and close with Igor Stravinsky's blockbuster *Firebird* Suite, evoking a fantastic tale of supernatural effects and hair-raising suspense.

The Stockton Symphony will again offer a three-concert Pops series, including the traditional Holiday Pops concert on December 12, 2010 at 3:00PM, a Valentine Pops evening entitled "Embraceable You: An Evening of Gershwin and Cole Porter" on February 12, 2011 at 6:00PM, and a sensational Pops & Picnic event entitled "Classical Mystery Tour: A Tribute to the Beatles with the Stockton Symphony" on April 29, 2011. The Holiday Pops concert has sold out for two years running and will provide numerous beloved holiday carols, sing-alongs, the Stockton Chorale, and the welcome return of tenor Eric Margiore, who starred in "Festa Italiana" in 2006. The recent debut of the Stockton Symphony's Valentine Pops last month also proved to be a sellout, with standing room only; next season's program will offer romantic favorites by Cole Porter and Gershwin, featuring baritone Leon Williams. The Pops series culminates with the annual Pops & Picnic, which will showcase original members of the Broadway sensation *Beatlemania* performing live in concert with the Stockton Symphony. Timeless classics will include "Yesterday," "Imagine," "Yellow Submarine," "Hey Jude," "All You Need Is Love," and so many more. The *Newport News* proclaims, "Never has the music of the Beatles sounded as good as this night with the live orchestra."

To receive discounts by subscribing to the Symphony's 2010–11 Classics season and/or Pops series, please call the Symphony office at (209) 951-0196 at your earliest convenience. Subscriptions for the Classics Series for brand new subscribers start at only \$55. New Pops Series subscriptions start at only \$53. Reserved single tickets will go on sale July 15, 2010, ranging from \$22 to \$55 for all Classics concerts as well as the Holiday and Valentine Pops. Student tickets are half price, starting at \$10. For the annual Pops & Picnic, tickets range from \$22 to \$80, with student tickets starting at \$11. For further information about concert repertoire, guest soloists, and ticket prices, please visit www.stocktonsymphony.org.