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Omaha hosts international conference for music librarians this weekend

What: *MOLA (Major Orchestra Librarians' Association) Annual Conference*

When: April 9-12, 2010

Where: Holland Performing Arts Center, 1200 Douglas Street

Omaha, Neb – The Omaha Symphony hosts the 28th annual Major Orchestra Librarians' Association (MOLA) conference April 9-12 at the Embassy Suites in downtown Omaha.

Performance librarians—who acquire, prepare, catalogue, and maintain the music for professional performance ensembles—will converge in Omaha for continuing education and communication with their colleagues.

“This is an incredible moment and opportunity of exposure for the Omaha Symphony and the city of Omaha,” said Omaha Symphony music librarian and conference host Jessica Slais.

“The 110 music professionals attending represent American orchestras large and small, as well as ensembles from 11 countries around the world.”

Of the 110, around 80 attendees work for orchestras, opera companies, conservatories, and military bands. Others represent music publishers and vendors. Some of the represented organizations include:

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From Seoul to South Dakota—Music Librarians visit Omaha for MOLA conference

New York Philharmonic
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
The United States Army Band
Interlochen Center for the Arts
BBC Symphony Orchestra

Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra
Metropolitan Opera
Orquestra Simfònica de Barcelona
Los Angeles Philharmonic
Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra

Since its founding in 1983, MOLA's mission has been to facilitate communication among professional performance librarians, and that will be priority one at the conference. "Although advances in technology have drastically changed the speed and regularity with which MOLA members can communicate and help one another, nothing can match time spent learning, sharing, and socializing in the company of our colleagues," said Slais.

Attendees will experience a wide range of workshops, from hands-on music repair and binding to discussions about copyright laws, disaster preparedness, and new music recognition software. Omaha Symphony music director Thomas Wilkins will give one of the weekend's highlighted speeches, entitled "No Apologies Necessary: Americanizing the American Orchestra."

For a full MOLA conference agenda, please contact Sarah Brownlee at 402.342.3836 x140 or sbrownlee@omahasymphony.org.

The Omaha Symphony is a non-profit organization that presents more than 200 live orchestral performances from September through June. In addition to MasterWorks, Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks, Chamber, Sights and Sounds, and Family series concerts, the orchestra tours both Nebraska and Iowa providing education and community engagement concerts and special events. For tickets or information regarding the Omaha Symphony, call 402.342.3560 or visit www.omahasymphony.org.

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