



press release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canton Symphony Orchestra to be showcased in PBS 45 & 49 production

*A Canton Symphony Orchestra Celebration recognizes magical
connection between orchestra and conductor Gerhardt Zimmermann*

Kent, Ohio — Sept. 26, 2006 — The magical connection between the Canton Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Gerhardt Zimmermann creates a wonderful story told in the new PBS 45 & 49 production **A Canton Symphony Orchestra Celebration**. The program, which premieres on Thursday, Oct. 5 at 9 p.m., recognizes the orchestra's 70th anniversary season and Zimmermann's 25 years as its music director.

Through personal insights of the conductor, community members and more, the program recognizes the orchestra's history and ability to create beautiful music. Those interviewed for the production include Rachel R. Schneider, the Canton Symphony Orchestra's board chair; Gary DeVault, trustee; Scott Johnston, principal trumpet player; and Marie-Helene Bernard, the orchestra's president and CEO.

Zimmermann is deemed central to the Canton Symphony Orchestra's success, as he leads it with "remarkable style and polish," according to M.J. Albacete, executive director of the Canton Museum of Art. A recurring theme of the production is the "magic" that occurs after Maestro Zimmermann steps up to the podium.

Don Freeman, chief operating officer of PBS 45 & 49, said, "We chose to produce this special based on our goal of featuring notable events of local importance. The fact that the Canton Symphony Orchestra is celebrating two important anniversaries and is so well-respected made it an obvious choice."

A Canton Symphony Orchestra Celebration also will air on Saturday, Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 8 at 10:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 10:30 p.m. Funding for the production was provided by The Deuble Foundation, The Hoover Foundation and The Henry and Louise Timken Foundation, a supporting organization of Stark Community Foundation.

About PBS 45 & 49

PBS 45 & 49 is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation. A trusted community resource, PBS 45 & 49 uses the power of noncommercial television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. For more information about PBS 45 & 49, visit <http://www.pbs4549.org> or call 1-800-854-4549.

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45 & 49**

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