



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STUDENTS INVITED TO COLLABORATE WITH THE PHILHARMONIC IN *DRAWN TO THE MUSIC*

MANCHESTER, NH, October 1, 2011 -- The New Hampshire Philharmonic has announced the theme of this year's *Drawn to the Music* project.

Schoolchildren from across New Hampshire are invited to participate in this state-wide collaboration with the New Hampshire Philharmonic, bringing together music, stories and drawing. This year's project will focus on *Firebird*, music by Igor Stravinsky.

Through the *Drawn to the Music* project, now in its sixth year, area schoolchildren create a unique work of art – an illustrated performance version of a great orchestral piece. The musicians of the New Hampshire Philharmonic then perform this illustrated version at a subsequent concert.

Schoolchildren from around the state will create an original, illustrated version of the exciting orchestral work *Firebird*, by Igor Stravinsky. Schoolchildren from kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to create drawings to illustrate the music and the text.

The student illustrations chosen will be projected over the stage as the orchestra of the New Hampshire Philharmonic performs this great orchestral work at its spring concert in April 2012. An illustrated program book will provide a permanent record of the collaboration. Selected illustrations will be posted on the Philharmonic's website.

It is likely that during the performance as many as ninety illustrations will be shown. It is the intention of the Philharmonic to select at least one illustration from every school and grade level submitted. Each child whose drawing is selected will receive a complimentary ticket to the concert.

Artwork is due at the Philharmonic offices by noon on January 30, 2012.

Parents or educators are asked to send in their child's color drawing on a white sheet of paper 8.5 inches tall by 11 inches wide. The Philharmonic notes that, due to staff constraints, it will be not possible to return artwork by mail. Artists are welcome to reclaim their artwork at the end of the concert.

The Philharmonic performs *Firebird* on April 28, 2012 at the Palace Theatre Manchester, as part of its spring concert. The piece will be narrated by Laura Knoy of New Hampshire Public Radio.

Prior to the concert (from 6 to 6:30) Laura Knoy will lead a discussion of the work and other works on the concert program. Students whose artwork is selected are invited to be in the group photograph that will take place at 6:30 on the day of the concert in the reception room.

The Philharmonic's project *Drawn to the Music* is in its sixth year of collaboration through music, storytelling and drawing. In previous years, participating students have created unique, illustrated versions of Prokofiev's *Cinderella*, Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, Prokofiev's *Peter and the*

Wolf, Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and Ravel's *Mother Goose*. A visual record of the lively illustrations can be viewed at the orchestra's website nhphil.org.

This year's project is underwritten by a variety of foundations and corporate sponsors.

For more information about this project, please visit the website of the New Hampshire Philharmonic at www.nhphil.org or contact the Philharmonic at 603/647-6476 or info@nhphil.org.