



FIDELITY
FUTURESTAGE®



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FIDELITY FUTURESTAGE® LAUNCHES 2010 NATIONAL MUSIC PROGRAM WITH CELEBRATION AND SURPRISE INSTRUMENT DONATIONS AT BOSTON'S SYMPHONY HALL, AND WITH SIMULCAST EVENTS FROM CHICAGO, HOUSTON AND LOS ANGELES

- Maestro Keith Lockhart helped Fidelity surprise 200 Boston high school students with special unveiling of \$100,000 worth of new musical instruments for local schools
- Kickoff of the 2010 Fidelity FutureStage Music Competition announced, where student winners will perform onstage at Symphony Hall as part of a special Boston Pops Concert in May
- Film and TV stars Jamie Foxx and Dominic Monaghan led the celebrations from Los Angeles, Joan Cusack from Chicago

BOSTON, February 9, 2010 – Fidelity Investments® and the Boston Pops today announced the kickoff of the **2010 Fidelity FutureStage® Music Program**, part of a national initiative to support and strengthen public school arts programs and to provide unique educational opportunities for student musicians to explore and develop their individual talents.

The celebration event at historic Symphony Hall was part of a four-city simulcast, connecting more than 1,500 high school students via satellite from Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, the Houston Symphony's Jones Hall and Kenwood Academy in Chicago. The event brought together Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart, **2009 FutureStage music competition student winners Chris Middleton and AnJalique Perry**, and special guests from every city via simulcast, including event host Dominic Monaghan and musician/actor Jamie Foxx in Los Angeles and actress Joan Cusack in Chicago.

Highlights of the event included the announcement of four Boston area public high schools selected to be part of 2010 Fidelity FutureStage program: **Boston Arts Academy, Boston Latin Academy, Cambridge Rindge & Latin and the Roland Hayes School of Music**; details about the 2010 Fidelity FutureStage Music Competition, culminating in a performance at a Boston Pops Concert on May 26; and the grand finale of the day: the surprise unveiling of more than \$100,000 worth of new musical instruments for the four FutureStage schools – part of an overall donation by Fidelity Investments to public school programs across the country valued in total over \$500,000.

Peter Cieszko, president of Fidelity Investments Institutional Services Company, opened the celebration from Symphony Hall in Boston as he welcomed the entire simulcast audience. "Fidelity FutureStage was created to support arts education programs in our public schools, and invest in the future of our students

by providing opportunities to participate, experience and benefit from the arts, both in and out of the classroom,” said Mr. Cieszko. “Research shows that students participating in quality music education programs score an average of 20 percent higher on standardized tests and a combined 100 points more on the College Board SATs¹, and we’re happy to provide more opportunities that may help to influence these important student success measures.”

Connected to students in Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston via satellite, and visible to each other on large onstage projection screens, Boston students showed off their city and school pride, and shared musical performances with their peers in the other three cities. As part of the program, Boston’s talented 2009 FutureStage Music Competition winners, vocalist AnJalique Perry (Roland Hayes School of Music) and singer/songwriter and pianist Chris Middleton (Boston Latin School) performed with members of the Boston Pops for the entire simulcast audience. Maestro Keith Lockhart introduced the performers and special guests, and shared his own thoughts about the vital importance of music education.

"Music has had such an incredible impact on me both professionally and personally, providing indescribable enjoyment, inspiration and satisfaction in so many aspects of my life," said Mr. Lockhart. "It's very exciting to work with Fidelity FutureStage in bringing instruments to the schools, knowing that they have such potential to have a positive impact on students, including their ability to learn on a multitude of levels. The Boston Pops is proud to partner with Fidelity FutureStage to provide the resources and experiences that help open doors and encourage young people to explore the arts."

Also announced today were details of the 2010 Fidelity FutureStage Music Competition, open to full-time students in grades 9 – 12 attending any Boston and Cambridge public high school. Instrumental musicians and/or vocalists performing as soloists or ensembles can apply starting on February 10. Winners will receive coaching from music professionals to prepare for a performance onstage with the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall on May 26. More details about the competition can be found at www.futurestage.com.

For the program’s grand finale, Keith Lockhart and Fidelity’s Peter Cieszko, along with Jamie Foxx in Los Angeles, Joan Cusack in Chicago, and Houston Pops Conductor Michael Krajewski in Houston, led the Symphony Hall audience up to the big surprise of the day: the announcement and unveiling of more than \$500,000 worth of new musical instruments donated by Fidelity. Video split screens allowed the students to share their excitement with students in Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles as cameras showed dozens of new instruments being revealed simultaneously in each venue.

Fidelity’s donation in Boston is made up of approximately \$25,000 worth of much-needed new instruments for each for the four FutureStage schools – Boston Arts Academy, Boston Latin Academy, Cambridge Rindge & Latin and the Roland Hayes School of Music. The thrilled students and their teachers accepted dozens of much-needed new instruments, ranging from violins, cellos keyboards and electric guitars to saxophones, trombones and shiny silver trumpets – all specifically requested by their respective school music programs.

Schools in Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles received similar donations, and an additional \$100,000 worth of new instruments is being donated to other school programs in need around the country, rounding out Fidelity’s total donation.

Fidelity Investments works with The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation (MHOF) to select schools for the Fidelity FutureStage program. MHOF is a national non-profit organization dedicated to bringing musical instruments to under-funded school and community programs, and inspiring creativity and expression through music participation. The Foundation evaluates the instrumental needs of each school music program and then facilitates the purchase and delivery of the instruments on behalf of Fidelity FutureStage.

About Fidelity FutureStage: Resources, Experiences and Mentorship

Fidelity FutureStage was created by Fidelity Investments to support music and other arts education programs in local schools and communities. Today, working with some of the world's most recognized orchestras, Fidelity FutureStage provides unique educational opportunities for students to explore and expand their interests in music, including: the donation of new musical instruments, field trips to symphony rehearsals and concerts, classroom workshops by symphony musicians, professional mentoring and opportunities for student ensembles to perform in public forums. Locally, the Community Music Center of Boston provides professional coaching for FutureStage students as they prepare to take part in the 2010 Fidelity FutureStage Music Competition and reach other performance goals.

Since 2006, Fidelity FutureStage music and theater programs have touched more than 20,000 students representing over 100 public schools in 26 cities across the country. To date, the program has donated more than 1,200 new instruments valued at over \$1.35 million. For more information about Fidelity FutureStage, visit www.futurestage.com.

About Fidelity Investments

Fidelity Investments is one of the world's largest providers of financial services, with assets under administration of over \$3.2 trillion, including managed assets of \$1.5 trillion as of December 31, 2009. Fidelity offers investment management, retirement planning, brokerage, and human resources and benefits outsourcing services to over 20 million individuals and institutions as well as through 5,000 financial intermediary firms. The firm is the largest mutual fund company in the United States, the No. 1 provider of workplace retirement savings plans, the largest mutual fund supermarket, a leading online brokerage firm and one of the largest providers of custody and clearing services to financial professionals. For more information about Fidelity Investments, visit www.fidelity.com.

About the Boston Pops

The Boston Pops Orchestra was founded in 1885 as a subsection of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, founded four years earlier. Keith Lockhart currently is in his fifteenth season as conductor of the Boston Pops and was named the 20th conductor in February 1995. The Boston Pops, "America's Orchestra," performs for an audience of nearly 900,000 people annually in Boston, across the country, and around the world, and reaches millions more through its recordings and television broadcasts. For more, visit www.bso.org.

About The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation

Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation supports music education and its many benefits by donating musical instruments to underserved schools, community and individual students nationwide. The organization — inspired by the 1995 motion picture, Mr. Holland's Opus — was founded by Michael Kamen, who composed the music for that movie and countless others. In the last ten years, new and refurbished instruments with a value of well over \$7 million have been donated to 920 school and community music programs and soloists across the country. For more about the Foundation, visit www.mhopus.org.

About The Community Music Center of Boston

Community Music Center of Boston (CMCB) was founded in 1910 and focuses on delivering exceptional music classes and experiences at their location in Boston's South End and at public schools and community organizations. For 30 years, CMCB has supported the Boston public schools, bringing CMCB's exceptional faculty into city classrooms. Today, CMCB serves 4,000 students in nearly 25 schools each week. For more, visit www.cmcb.org.

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¹ ***The Harris Poll® #112, November 12, 2007***, <http://www.menc.org/resources/view/harris-poll-links-music-education-to-higher-incomes>