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Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra Selects New Music Director *Dr. Peter Wilson to lead the Orchestra as it begins its fifth decade*

Richmond, Va. (September 12, 2013) - The Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra, Richmond's premier community orchestra for over forty years, today announced the selection of Dr. Peter Wilson, of Fairfax Virginia, as its new Music Director, effective September 1, 2013. Wilson, an established conductor and concert violinist, assumes primary responsibility for the artistic leadership of the Orchestra, including conducting its public performances, at the beginning of its 2013-14 concert season.

Among many other professional achievements, Wilson holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts from The Catholic University of America, conducts several other orchestras, and regularly performs at the White House with "The President's Own" United States Marine Band. For more information on Wilson's activities, please see the attached bio.

In announcing Wilson's selection as the Philharmonic's new Music Director, Orchestra President Durwood Felton, said: "It's a joy and pleasure to welcome Peter Wilson to the artistic leadership of the Richmond Philharmonic. Peter is a remarkably talented and communicative artist who, while inspiring his collaborating musicians to consistently strive for their best performances, projects a friendly, welcoming presence to audiences and the general public, such that the collective experience of the world's great art music is heightened for all."

In accepting the Orchestra's Music Director position, Wilson said: "While I was deeply honored to be selected and to accept the invitation to serve as the RPO's new Music Director, my overwhelming feeling was that of joy. Joy to be reuniting with these wonderful musicians who gather for their mutual love of great orchestral music, and who show a collaborative spirit that is contagious. It is my goal to develop that engaging spirit and to share it with the greater Richmond community through exciting performances and great music making! Please join us, and let the music embrace you!"

The Orchestra's 2013-14 season-opening concert, entitled "MILESTONES," will take place on Sunday, November 10, 2013, beginning at 4:00 pm, at the VCU Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, 922 Park Avenue, Richmond, Virginia. With this concert, the Orchestra will

celebrate the beginning of its fifth decade by performing Beethoven's immortal Fifth Symphony. For further information on the Orchestra's 2013-14 Season, please see the attached schedule.

The Richmond Philharmonic is one of the relatively few member-run orchestras across the United States, having been in continuous operation for over forty years. Its Music Director is chosen by the vote of its members, all of whom play in the Orchestra. The process leading to Wilson's selection began in the fall of 2011, when the Orchestra's Search Committee initiated a national search for candidates. The search produced more than 75 applications, from across the United States and as far away as Italy and Croatia. In the spring of 2012, the Orchestra invited five semifinalist candidates to audition, and following these auditions, three finalist candidates were chosen. During the Orchestra's 2012-13 Concert Season, each finalist conducted a complete concert cycle with the Orchestra, and the Orchestra's selection of Wilson occurred following completion of that process.

Media interviews with Peter Wilson may be arranged by contacting the Orchestra as set forth above. For more information about the Orchestra, please see <http://www.richmondphilharmonic.org>.