



## NEWS FOR RELEASE

### Long Island Philharmonic reaches 80,000 attendees at Scheduled Summer Concerts

(For Immediate Release)

May 9, 2011 (Melville, NY)—The Long Island Philharmonic will be playing to approximately 80,000 attendees at this summer's scheduled free concerts at parks throughout Long Island. The Long Island Philharmonic is preparing for a summer of free concerts that will reach their largest audience to date. In this economy, many Long Islanders have been forced to cut cultural events from their budgets. This only enhances the importance of the partnership between the Philharmonic and towns throughout Long Island, as they bring orchestral music to Long Islanders.

Long Island's only professional orchestra, the Long Island Philharmonic is committed to providing creative programs that reach a broad audience since its founding in 1979 by folk singer Harry Chapin and a group of Long Island business executives. "The Long Island Philharmonic is dedicated to performing the highest quality of musical programming, as they work to entertain, excite and inspire Long Islanders," according to Philharmonic Chairman, Larry Austin.

Jack Russell, President of the Long Island Philharmonic explains, "As the Long Island Philharmonic works to develop our own long term sustainability plans, we continue to invest in ensuring these free concerts are available to Long Island, as they are key to meeting our mission."

- Kicking off the season on July 4<sup>th</sup> at the Brookhaven Amphitheater Arts & Cultural Center at Bald Hill in Farmingville, the Philharmonic will be performing a pops concert accompanied by fireworks in celebration of Independence Day.
- On Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, at Heckscher State Park in East Islip, the Islip Arts Council will "Salute the Armed Forces of the USA" as the Long Island Philharmonic and Music Director David Stewart Wiley perform a special program honoring those who serve in our Armed Forces now and recognizing and remembering those who served in the past. This event, accompanied by fireworks, will attract approximately 40,000-50,000 Long Islanders.
- Then, on August 12<sup>th</sup>, the Philharmonic will start performing their "Music Under the Stars" concerts throughout the Island. Attendees will enjoy a star-filled night while the Long Island Philharmonic and Maestro David Stewart Wiley perform some of the world's most extraordinary music.
  - Friday, August 12, 2011 at 7:30 pm – Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre at Eisenhower Park, East Meadow
  - Saturday, August 13, 2011 at 8:30 pm – Chapin Rainbow Stage at Heckscher Park, Huntington
  - Sunday, August 14, 2011 at 7:30 pm – Brookhaven Amphitheater Arts & Cultural Center at Bald Hill, Farmingville

Music Director & Conductor David Stewart Wiley said, "Our professional musicians and I are thrilled to present a wide variety of orchestral showpieces for music lovers of all ages. As an example, a family could attend the concerts on July 4<sup>th</sup> at Brookhaven, July 16<sup>th</sup> at Heckscher State Park in East Islip, and the concerts in August, and hear an entirely different program each time. We love seeing excited families at our concerts, sometimes conducting along with our LI Philharmonic with their glow sticks. I invite Long Islanders to come our and join in the fun with us for our 2011 Summer Parks Concerts!"

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