Racine Symphony
ORCHESTRA

ANDREW MASSEY, MUSIC DIRECTOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Racine Symphony Orchestra Announces 2008-09 Classical Season:
"Experience the Classics—Close to Home"
Opening Concert on Nov. 1st Features Racine Pianist Fumi Nishikiori in an All-Mozart Program.
Family-friendly Ticketing Options and New Events Announced for Coming Year

RACINE, WI | October 10, 2008

The Racine Symphony Orchestra opens its 77th classical season with an **all-Mozart program at First Presbyterian Church** (716 College Ave., Racine) on **Saturday, November 1st at 7 p.m**. RSO **Music Director Andrew Massey** will conduct, with **guest artist Fumi Nishikiori, piano**, performing Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20. Also on the program are the overture to the opera *Così fan tutte* and Symphony No. 38 ("Prague").

Fumi **Nishikiori**-Nakayama is a regular piano soloist at Racine's **First Presbyterian Church**. She earned her Bachelor's and Master's degree both in piano and harpsichord from the Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University and from Indiana University, where she was the recipient of numerous awards and conducted the Indiana University orchestras and vocal ensembles. Her love for vocal music and theater led her to work as an opera coach for Indiana University Opera Theater for 6 years. Currently, Ms. Nishikiori teaches at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music in Milwaukee, freelances as a piano-harpsichord soloist and accompanist in Milwaukee and the greater Chicago area, and often participates in recording of newly composed works by Midwestern composers. Her lecture recitals, "Keyboards Across the Centuries," present performance on harpsichord, fortepiano, and modern piano. In 2007, she received the Distinguished Musician Award at the Ibla Grand Prize competition in Ragusa, Italy.

The **Racine Symphony Orchestra**, now in its 77th season, is the oldest orchestra in continuous operation in the state of Wisconsin. Begun by Frederick Schulte, who served as conductor for many years, the orchestra has performed under the batons of Dudley Powers, Stephen Colburn, and David Becker and Alexander Platt. The RSO is dedicated to preserving our musical heritage by entertaining, educating and enriching audiences and musicians in the Racine community.

Flex passes and individual tickets are now on sale at **www.racinesymphony.org**. New ticketing options such as **student and senior discounts**, as well as **family passes** are being offered this season. In the coming months, the RSO will welcome guest artists **Ami Bouterse, soprano** (**Holiday Pops**,

December 5); **violinist Janice Martin** (February 7, 2009); and **Choral Arts Society** (March 21, 2009). The **season finale** will be at Memorial Hall on Saturday May 9, 2009.

New this year, the **Young Artist Recital** (April 26, 2009) will feature student musicians who win top prizes at RSO's 2009 Young Artist Competition. The Young Artist Competition is sponsored by Educators Credit Union.

RSO Board member Ellen Cardwell commented: "This lively season will showcase the talents of guest artists with Racine-area connections, and feature Music Director Massey's informative concert notes, illuminating some of the most beloved selections from the classical repertoire. Attractive pricing for families, students and seniors, puts 'first-class' concert-going and classical music exposure right in the heart of our community, without having to drive far or search for parking.

"With the classical concert series now scheduled on Saturdays, attending an RSO concert can become the focus for a memorable evening whether you have a date, a colleague, your spouse or your entire family enjoying it with you," Cardwell added.

The Racine Symphony Orchestra's 2008-09 season is supported by Platinum Corporate Season Sponsor **Chase** and Gold Corporate Season Sponsor **Johnson Bank**.

EVENT DETAILS
Racine Symphony Orchestra, with Fumi Nishikiori, piano
Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, 716 College Ave., Racine

Free street parking available in the neighborhood,
and in parking lots courtesy of First Presbyterian Church and Porter's of Racine.

MOZART Overture to *Così fan tutte*
MOZART Symphony No. 38, "Prague"
MOZART Piano Concerto No. 20

Advance Tickets (purchased or reserved by Oct. 31)
$55 (family pass, up to 5 family members), $23 (adult), $20 (senior), $5 (students ages 8-22), and free for children under 8, though tickets are required.

Day-of-concert Tickets (purchased at the door)
$55 (family pass, up to 5 family members), $25 adult, $22 (senior), $8 (students ages 8-22), and free for children under 8, though tickets are required.

Flex Passes on sale through Nov. 1 ($85 or $80 for seniors) include 4 tickets good in any combination at Nov., Feb., Mar., and May concerts, plus other discounts and benefits. **Holiday Pops tickets and tables sold separately.**

Full 2008-09 season information and tickets are available at www.racinesymphony.org, or by calling (262) 636-9285.