

The Perlman Music Program

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE PERLMAN MUSIC PROGRAM HONORS MUSICAL ARTIST BILLY JOEL MAY 3, 2008 CONCERT AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART AND DINNER AT DANIEL \$400,000 RAISED FOR PROGRAM

New York, NY - The Perlman Music Program (PMP) is pleased to announce its 2008 Annual Benefit Concert to be held on May 3, 2008 at The Metropolitan Museum of Art followed by a Benefit Dinner at Daniel. At this special event, The Perlman Music Program will honor musical artist Billy Joel as the recipient of the 2nd Annual *PMP Arts Make Music Award* for Outstanding Contributions to the Arts.

As supporters of The Perlman Music Program, Billy Joel joins ranks with Arlene and Alan Alda, Jim Clark, David Geffen, Ronald S. and Jo Carole Lauder, and Steven Spielberg, all of whom have demonstrated outstanding generosity to PMP over the years.

The evening will begin with a performance of chamber music by world-renown violinist Itzhak Perlman and alumni of The Perlman Music Program. This special program, featuring Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 3, BWV 1048 and Schumann's Quintet for Piano and Strings in E Flat Major, Opus 44, will share the musical talent nurtured by Mr. Perlman and the faculty of The Perlman Music Program with PMP's closest friends and patrons. The concert will be immediately followed by a Benefit Dinner at Daniel, honoring musical artist Billy Joel, for his exceptional contributions to art and culture.

The Concert and Benefit Dinner provide the opportunity for all of PMP's supporters to gather in celebration of the program's continued growth and accomplishments. Benefit Committee Members include: Eleanor and Garrett Albert, Arlene and Alan Alda, Christine and Randall Blank, Ann and Michael Bunyaner, Shoshana and Jay Dweck, Hermione Foundation, Evelyn and Leonard Lauder, Jo Carole Lauder, Abby and Mitch Leigh, Violy McCausland, Friedrike Merck, Toby and Itzhak Perlman, Carol and Lawrence Saper, Jerry and Emily Spiegel, Steven Spielberg, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan B. Stark, Herbert and Svetlana Wachtell, Jody Wolfe and The Mailman Foundation. Proceeds from the Benefit are earmarked The Perlman Music Program Annual Fund.

The Perlman Music Program was established by Toby Perlman in 1993 to provide a positive learning environment and a world-class faculty, led by Itzhak Perlman, for exceptionally promising young violin, viola, cello, and bass students.

The Perlman Music Program has quickly developed an international reputation as a leader in the field of classical music training institutions. Our television coverage has included "60 Minutes", "Live from Lincoln Center", and "Perlman in Shanghai", a documentary on PMP's 2002 tour to China aired frequently on PBS. In addition, in 2002 The New York Times featured PMP in a three-day, front page series.

Events such as the Annual Benefit Concert and Dinner provide performance opportunities for talented PMP students and serve as fundraisers for the Program, which must raise \$1.7 million annually to maintain a prestigious faculty and an idyllic campus on Shelter Island, New York for the summer session.

For more information about the concert and benefit dinner, please contact Maureen M. Nash, Director of Development at 212-877-3230, or at mnash@perlmanmusicprogram.org.

The Perlman Music Program Mission

The Perlman Music Program welcomes young musicians of rare and special talent into a richly supportive musical community. Through intensive summer programs, year-round mentoring, and on occasion, an international study or performance tour, the program offers unparalleled musical training for students, ages 12 to 30, who play the violin, viola, cello, and bass. With a faculty led by Itzhak Perlman and comprising some of the most gifted musical minds of our time, the Program offers an artistic and personal experience that changes students' lives forever.

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