

National Symphony Orchestra

Leonard Slatkin, Music Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
FEBRUARY 12, 2007**

Koch Industries, Inc. and the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation to Sponsor 2007 Kansas Residency

The National Symphony Orchestra and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts have announced that **Koch Industries, Inc.** and the **Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation** will sponsor the National Symphony Orchestra's Kansas Residency. The Residency will take place March 22 - 29 with concerts in five cities throughout the state. Proceeds from all concerts will remain in the state to benefit the presenting performing arts organizations.

"Koch Industries is the perfect partner for the Kansas Residency," stated National Symphony Orchestra Executive Director Rita Shapiro. "Both the company and the foundation have a deep commitment to education and to the state's many fine arts organizations. Their support has made this visit possible and we look forward to working together."

According to Charles G. Koch, chairman and CEO of Koch Industries, Inc., "This Residency offers a first-time opportunity for Kansans throughout the state to experience the National Symphony Orchestra in their own hometown. Koch Industries and the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation are pleased to partner in this endeavor and we look forward to welcoming the National Symphony to our home state."

Full orchestral concerts will take place in Topeka, Wichita, Hays, Lawrence, and Pittsburg, with proceeds of the concerts benefiting the presenting arts organizations. In addition, more than 100 events are scheduled in schools, libraries, and retirement centers, with presentations for all age levels.

The Residency is funded by the **Kennedy Center** through a grant from the **U.S. Department of Education**, as it has been since 1994. Beginning in 2006, chamber music and outreach events are being supported by the **Kennedy Center Abe Fortas Memorial Fund** for chamber music and by a major gift to the fund from the late Carolyn E. Agger, widow of Abe Fortas.

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About Koch Industries, Inc. & The Fred C. & Mary R. Koch Foundation

Based in Wichita, Kan., Koch Industries, Inc. is a privately held company with about 80,000 employees and a presence in 60 countries. Koch Industries owns a diverse group of companies engaged in refining and chemicals; process equipment and technologies; fibers and polymers; commodity and financial trading; and forest and consumer products.

Established in 1953, The Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation focuses on Kansas-based non-profit organizations that enhance the quality of life in Kansas. The Foundation directs its support toward organizations involved with the arts and art education, environmental stewardship, human services and education.

American Residency Facts

Youngest audience: The neonatal unit at Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville, North Carolina. Principal Second Violin Marissa Regni performed.

Artistic Exchanges: NSO members have met and worked with Franco-American fiddlers, an Athabaskan fiddler, Salish-Kootenai drummers and dancers, and local rap artists.

To date, more than 330,000 people across the nation have attended 1,679 educational, performance, and outreach events in 16 states as part of the American Residencies.