

FORT COLLINS SYMPHONY GUILD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORT COLLINS SYMPHONY GUILD WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR SHARP FLATS LOFT TOUR 2007

FORT COLLINS, CO. -- The Fort Collins Symphony Guild has won a "Gold Book Award of Excellence" from the League of American Orchestras (LAO) for its Sharp Flats loft tour held in May 2007 to benefit the Fort Collins Symphony Orchestra. The award will be presented at the LAO's National Conference in Denver, June 10-14, 2008.

Ten guilds around the country will be honored for their fundraising efforts to support their symphony orchestras. The selection process was conducted over 10 months by the Volunteer Council of the LAO.

The Fort Collins Symphony Guild, now 45-years-old and growing, has raised more than \$1 million to support the Fort Collins Symphony. Its membership now totals 158 men and women who have as their mission to support the symphony, educationally, financially and socially.

"This is indeed a wonderful honor for the Fort Collins Symphony Guild. Without their continuing financial support of our fine orchestra, we would not be the top-notch performing group we are now," said Maestro Wes Kenney. "Kudos to the Fort Collins Symphony Guild for being among the few so honored," he added.

The Sharp Flats '07 loft tour was held May 18 and 19, and included six lofts and one retail space in Old Town. The Guild is repeating the loft tour this year on May 30 and 31. It will showcase six different lofts in Old Town Fort Collins.

Chair of the Sharp Flats '07 loft tour, and the person who will accept the award on June 13, 2008 on behalf of Symphony Guild, will be Judith Hyfield-Starr, immediate past president of the Guild. She commented that more than 100 Guild members worked tirelessly for more than 14 months to put on this event that grossed in excess of \$47,000.

Further information about the Sharp Flats '08 loft tour may be obtained from Lynn Leedy, 493-0632 or Jane Sullivan, 498-9491.