

Press Release

Pierre Monteux Foundation Names New President

Hancock, September 9, 2005

The Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, which sponsors the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians, announces that Nancie Monteux Barendse, the daughter of the noted conductor and founder of the school, Pierre Monteux, has retired as President of the Board after serving for over 20 years, and has been named President Emerita.

Ginia Davis Wexler, of Sullivan, well known for her leadership of the Hancock County Friends of the Arts, which operates the Farmstead Barn and other activities for children in the arts, was named President. She performed widely as a singer and had numerous appearances with Pierre Monteux in concerts and operas. Wexler commented: "Doris Monteux was my voice teacher, as well as my aunt; so I feel gratified and honored to be associated with the school in this position."

The foundation is also pleased to announce that three new Board members were elected at the annual meeting: Steven Crabtree and Kurt Wray of Hancock, and Philip Standel of Lamoine. Wexler said: "These long-time supporters of the school will bring vital energy and skills to the board and will be important members as we move ahead with our plans for the future."

The following officers continue in their previous positions: Robert Taylor of Oberlin, Ohio as Vice President; Ronald Schwizer of Hancock as Treasurer; and Elaine Randall of Corea as Treasurer. Other continuing board members are: Rev. Philip Devenish and Jean O'Meara of Hancock; Bruce Mallonee, Bangor; Mary Purslow, Sorrento; Katharine Thompson, Sullivan; and Michael Jinbo (ex-officio), New York.

Claude Monteux, the son of Pierre, also retired from the Board and was made an emeritus Board Member; he will continue in the role of musical advisor for the school.

The Pierre Monteux School was founded in 1943 when Pierre and his wife Doris Hodgkins Monteux settled in Hancock on the shores of Taunton Bay. Michael Jinbo, the school's third maestro, has just concluded his tenth season as music director. The school immerses students in intensive study and preparation for professional careers and also offers top quality orchestral and chamber music concerts to the community during six weeks in June and July at the Forest Studio in Hancock.

The school recently received a \$25,000 grant from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation to upgrade student housing and complete renovation of the Forest Studio. The first capital campaign in the school's history is underway to improve and ensure the future of the school and to provide an endowment for scholarships and resident artists. For more information about the school visit: www.monteuxschool.org.

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