



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2007

NEWS RELEASE

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**AUGUSTA SYMPHONY MASTERWORKS
A POWERFUL EXPERIENCE
SOPRANO LEAH PARTRIDGE
JANUARY 12, 2008**



The **Augusta Symphony**, under the direction of **Music Director Donald Portnoy**, announces a **Masterworks Concert** featuring **soprano Leah Partridge** on **Saturday, January 12**. Ms. Partridge is featured in **Mahler's Symphony No. 4**, **Bellini's "Ah non credea mirarti...Ah! non giunge"** from *La Sonnambula*, and **Gounod's "Je veux vivre"** from *Romeo et Juliette*. The orchestra is highlighted in **Puccini's Capriccio Sinfonico**. The **7:30 p.m. concert is at First Baptist of Augusta**.

Tickets are **\$25, \$40, and \$50** and may be purchased online at www.augustasympphony.org or by calling **706.826.4705**. Full-time students and military personnel with valid I.D. may purchase \$7 tickets on concert evening only (no advance reservations can be taken for discounted tickets). The concert box office opens at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist of Augusta. This season presents **Interludes**, an opportunity for patrons to discuss the evening's performance and enjoy light refreshments. **Interludes**, hosted by The Friends of the Symphony support group, begin at 7 p.m. and resume during intermission in the Welcome Center at First Baptist of Augusta.

A native of **Lincolnton, Georgia**, **soprano Leah Partridge** has established herself as a singer with "undeniable star quality" (*Sun Sentinel*). Her performances include title roles in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Violetta in *La Traviata*, and Gilda in *Rigoletto*. Ms. Partridge made her debut at the Atlanta Opera as Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*. As

a concert soloist, she has performed Handel's Messiah with the San Diego and Atlanta Symphonies, and also performed in "Bernstein's Broadway" with the Atlanta Symphony under Director Robert Spano.

During the 2007-2008 season, Ms. Partridge makes her Metropolitan Opera debut as the First Niece in a new production of Britten's *Peter Grimes*. Other engagements include performances with the Augusta Symphony, Michigan Opera Theatre, and the Macon Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Partridge earned her Bachelor of Music degree from Mercer University and her Master of Music degree from Indiana University where she received the prestigious Wilfred C. Bain opera fellowship.

For interview requests, contact Brittany Jacocks at Columbia Artists Management, Inc. via telephone at 212.841.9548 or email bjacocks@cami.com. For more information about soprano Leah Partridge, visit <http://www.cami.com/?cat=Vocal&webid=841>.

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For more information about the Augusta Symphony, visit www.augustasympphony.org, call 706.826.4705, fax 706.826.4735, or email marketing@augustasympphony.org. Located on the second floor of the Sacred Heart Cultural Center, the Symphony office is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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*The Augusta Symphony Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit entity and is supported in part by an award from the **Georgia Council for the Arts** through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. The Georgia Council is a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. The Augusta Symphony is also supported in part by the **Columbia County Community and Leisure Services** and the **Greater Augusta Arts Council** through appropriations from the **City of Augusta**.*



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