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## **Symphony in C President Krishna Thiagarajan tapped as Executive Director of Orpheus Chamber Orchestra**

**CAMDEN- Symphony in C and Music Director Rossen Milanov are proud to announce that Symphony in C President Krishna Thiagarajan will be the new Executive Director of Orpheus Chamber Orchestra effective January 1, 2013.** Thiagarajan arrives at Orpheus from Symphony C, where he served as president since 2010. Of the appointment, **Thiagarajan commented**, "I am absolutely thrilled to be joining Orpheus and I feel extremely honored to have been chosen to lead the organization during its 40th anniversary. I am also incredibly proud to have served Symphony in C during their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Symphony in C will always be a defining moment in my life. I will miss working with everyone here and hope to be as productive as a supporter as I was as President."

**Thiagarajan joined Symphony in C as President in 2010 and quickly set new standards in the areas of artistic planning and collaboration as well as community engagement.** Working with Maestro Rossen Milanov and Symphony in C's Board of Directors, Thiagarajan oversaw the creation of a new strategic plan and an expansion of performances in New Jersey and Philadelphia. New collaborations with artists from the Curtis Institute of Music, Academy of Vocal Arts and the Mendelssohn Club Choir as well as a focus on area premieres brought new audiences to the Symphony and expanded the orchestra's repertoire. During this time, the Symphony saw annual growth in ticket and subscription sales which culminated in a 20% gain during the 2012-13 season. In addition to increased earned income, the Symphony saw individual support double over two years which lead to overall budget growth by 25%. Symphony in C also continued to strengthen their ties to the community in Camden and increased the education programs which now serve Camden, Camden County as well as Philadelphia.

**Robert R. Kugler, Chairman of the Board of Symphony in C,** "While we will miss Krishna's extraordinary leadership, we celebrate the success of Symphony in C we have all enjoyed during his tenure which made him such an attractive candidate to another organization."

**Marc Mayer, Chairman of the Board of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra,** "All of us at Orpheus are excited that Krishna will be joining us at this important moment in our history. Krishna's experience as a musician and as an administrator makes him the ideal choice for our Executive Director. His intellect, taste, creativity and courage will benefit Orpheus greatly as we prepare for the next 40 years of great music, uniquely realized."

**About Symphony in C: Now it's 60<sup>th</sup> season, Symphony in C is one of three professional training orchestras in the United States** preparing musicians and conductors who are on the cusp of world-class careers through concert, educational outreach and professional development programs. Performing at the Gordon Theater at Rutgers Camden Center for the Arts in Camden, New Jersey, Symphony in C serves over 90,000 people annually through its critically-acclaimed concert series, educational outreach programs and radio broadcasts. Symphony in C has been designated a Major Arts Institution by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and strives to continue making artistic, educational, and economic impact on a regional, national and global scale.

**About Orpheus Chamber Orchestra:** A self-governing organization, the Grammy Award-winning **Orpheus Chamber Orchestra** was founded in 1972 by a group of fellow musicians who aspired to perform diverse orchestral repertoire using chamber-music ensemble techniques. Today, Orpheus continues to uphold this philosophy, performing without a conductor and rotating musical leadership roles for each work. Striving to empower its musicians by integrating them into virtually every facet of the organization, Orpheus is changing the way the world thinks about musicians, conductors, and orchestras. The musical results of this method are extraordinary: *The Chicago Tribune* cheers, "Orpheus Chamber Orchestra shattered the mold, becoming in the process one of the more memorable events in this festival's 13-year history." And *The New York Times* raves, "Orpheus, whose string players perform with the physical verve of members of a string quartet, produced a convincingly full-blooded sound." *The Los Angeles Times* agrees: "A virtuosic whole...they're fast. They're together. They're aggressive. They can be electrifying."