MESSAGE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

So many special events are planned for this year, it is almost possible to ignore therealities of daily work with the Orchestra. But we must continue to look for new ways to keep the Philharmonic fresh and exciting once the celebrations are concluded.

Part of this involves one of the words I often find myself using while talking about these goals: *partnership*. This is a fundamental need of any organization that wishes to prosper in a city.

This past year I have been working with the Orchestra to unite my ideas with their own, and to form an understanding between us, and build upon a foundation of artistic excellence. That is one of the partnerships. But just as important is the bond that must exist between the Philharmonic and its audience.

We have many plans to help cement this bond. To reach beyond the walls of Avery Fisher Hall. To make concerts more convenient for busy people who may not have time for a standard performance. To create new music lovers out of children who perhaps have never heard classical music.

In short, to bring the joys of music to more people than ever before. This is what we believe will truly make us New York City's Orchestra.

But there is one more side to this partnership, necessary if these ideas are to work. Our audience must continue to join us, as it has so loyally throughout our long history. I hope you will support these plans with a gift to this Campaign.

Let us, as partners, use this anniversary season to celebrate the past and look toward the future.

With my best wishes,

Kurt Masur