



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SARATOGA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

BEETHOVEN, SHOSTAKOVICH and OPERA ARIAS

Guest Soloist, Karl Olsen, Baritone

October 12th and 13th, 2009

Langley, WA, September 14, 2009: Whidbey Island's own ***Saratoga Chamber Orchestra*** is pleased to announce the first concert of the 2009-2010 season featuring the ever popular Beethoven's "Symphony #5" as well as "Festive Overture, Op. 96" by Dmitri Shostakovich. Under the musical direction of Legh W. Burns, the first concerts of the 2009-2010 season will held on October 12, 2009 in Coupeville and October 13, 2009 in Langley, beginning at 7 p.m.

Greenbank resident, Karl Olsen, will be featured as Baritone soloist in two opera arias, "Vision fugitive" from Massenet's opera "Hérodiade" and "Di Provenza" from "La Traviata" by Giuseppe Verdi. In addition to his duties as Minister of Music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland, Olsen is also the newest member of the well known folk music group, The Brother's Four, touring nationally and internationally with the group. "We were so fortunate to engage such a diverse talent such as Karl to sing with the orchestra for our opening set of concerts," conductor Legh Burns says, "and is another great example of the vast number of talented musicians that live here on Whidbey".

The concerts will be held October 12th at Coupeville's Performing Arts Center (PAC) and October 13th at South Whidbey High School in Langley. Both start at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$20/\$18/\$15 and available for the Coupeville concert at Bayleaf in Coupeville and Oak Harbor and ClickMusic.biz in Oak Harbor. Tickets for the October 13th concert available at Moonraker Books in Langley. Credit card sales for both concerts accepted online at www.brownpapertickets.com or cash and check available at the door. For additional information please visit our website www.saratogachamberorchestra.org.

###

Saratoga Chamber Orchestra
PO Box 1524, Langley, WA 98260
360.221.2353

About **Karl Olsen**, Guest Soloist:

A native of Seattle, Karl Olsen began his musical training at an early age. Karl holds formal degrees in music education, a Master of Arts in voice and choral music from the University of Denver and also certification in the creative music educational approach of Orff Schulwerk.

Karl's musical career is multi-dimensional as a singer, songwriter, choral director, church music director, and elementary school music and folk dance teacher. He sings in Whidbey Island's favorite maritime musical ensemble, the Shifty Sailors, and is the newest member of the renowned folk group The Brothers Four. In addition, Karl is Minister of Music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland.

Karl's home is in Greenbank with wife Deb Lund, a children's author and teacher, and their three children, Kaj, 12, Sandra, 11 and Jean, 7.

About the **SARATOGA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**:

The **SARATOGA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, was formed in 2007 as an expansion of the Saratoga Chamber Players founded by Whidbey Island's legendary violinist and arts supporter, Michael Nutt. The SCO's mission is to provide quality musical experiences to Whidbey's audiences, as well as an educational opportunity for deserving students. The SCO's programming is a varied repertoire from Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #5 to Stravinsky's L'histoire du Soldat.

Legh W. Burns has been the music director of the SARATOGA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA since its inception. He is Professor Emeritus of the University of Oklahoma and former first trumpet of the United States Air Force Band in Washington D.C. Additionally, Mr. Burns has taught at Springfield (IL) Junior College and the University of Denver, where he founded the National Trumpet Symposium and was founder and conductor of the Festival Chamber Orchestra of Denver.

The ensemble is comprised of musicians from all corners of Whidbey Island. Individual members of the SCO have held or currently hold positions in the Seattle Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Diego Symphony, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Boulder (CO) Philharmonic, Pacific Northwest Ballet, as well as other regional and community orchestras and musical ensembles. The unique multi-generational membership of the SCO, allows talented youth of the community to perform alongside adult members in a professional-educational setting.

###

Saratoga Chamber Orchestra
PO Box 1524, Langley, WA 98260
360.221.2353