



Press Release
American Spirit
Saturday and Sunday, July 17 and 18

The historic City Opera House is the perfect setting for *American Spirit*, the Traverse Symphony Orchestra's opening concerts of the 2010-2011 season, Saturday, July 17, 7:30pm and Sunday, July 18 at 3pm.

The rafters will resonate with the music of Sousa, Copland and Bernstein. Audience members will swing to Satchmo! A tribute to Louis Armstrong and will feel their pride swell with the playing of the Armed Forces medley.

Maestra Amy Mills will make her Traverse City debut on the podium. Recognized nationally as a conductor of distinction, Maestra Mills' exuberant approach to presenting great music has drawn accolades from audiences across the USA and around the world.

A graduate of Northwestern University and Catholic University of America, Ms. Mills was the first woman conductor to pass the rigorous conducting audition for the US Air Force. She served for ten years on active duty as a conductor and then went into the reserves to allow time to pursue her civilian orchestral conducting career.

Maestra Mills also founded the National Women's Symphony, a professional orchestra with both men and women musicians, to give women composers, living and historical, a chance for their music to be heard, recognized and accepted.

The Saturday performance will honor the Traverse City Coast Guard Station and the designation of Traverse City as a Coast Guard City. A color guard presentation will precede the performance.

Tickets are available by calling the Symphony office, 947-7120 or online at TraverseSymphony.org.