



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

St. Louis Public Radio | 90.7 KWMU: Phil Donato, 314-516-5425, pdonato@stlpublicradio.org
SLSO: Adam Crane, 314-286-4136, adamc@slso.org

**CHRISTIAN CUDNIK NAMED HOST OF
ST. LOUIS PUBLIC RADIO'S LIVE
SAINT LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BROADCASTS**

St. Louis Public Radio | 90.7 KWMU is pleased to announce **Christian Cudnik** has been named the host of St. Louis Public Radio's live broadcasts of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra's Wells Fargo Advisors Orchestral Series concerts which begin September 18.

Cudnik has served as the Saturday morning host of St. Louis Public Radio since 2003, and recently was named the broadcast voice of Classical 90.7 KWMU-3. A 17-year broadcast veteran, Cudnik attained the number one-ranked radio program in Philadelphia and was nominated for two Philadelphia AIR Awards including "Best Field Reporting," for coverage of 'Woodstock 99' in Rome, New York, and "Best Evening Program Host," at the heritage rock station WMMR. He has served as the host of several live radio broadcasts including concert coverage of The Rolling Stones, U2, Bruce Springsteen, Pearl Jam, R.E.M. and the Tibetan Freedom Concert from Washington DC.

"I am thrilled to be chosen as the host of this exciting new collaboration between these two great St. Louis institutions," said Cudnik, "I look forward to the new SLSO season and broadcasting live from historic Powell Hall."

In addition to his radio work, Cudnik is an Emmy Award-winning producer having been honored in 2008 for "Best Historical Documentary" for the Higher Education Channel's film *Seeking Freedom*. The documentary also earned him two 2009 Telly Awards. His biographical profiles and interviews are regularly featured on HEC-TV and in the *Saint Louis Beacon*. His photography received national exposure in 2005 in *Pointe & Dance Magazine* and this inspired the creation of his first independent documentary called, *Enduring Tradition: Ballet in the Heartland*. His second documentary, *Collective*



Improvisation featuring the story of jazz in St. Louis, earned Cudnik one of three 2009 Telly Awards. Recently, Cudnik directed *Wallace Herndon Smith: Artist without Boundaries*, (premiered at the Sheldon Concert Hall in the spring of 2010), *Footsteps Into the World Beneath* (premiere scheduled for March 2011 at the Missouri History Museum) and a Native American-Archaeology documentary called, *Uncovering Ancient Saint Louis* (premiered in 2009 at the Missouri History Museum, and on The Archaeology Channel and aired on PBS affiliates in St. Louis, Southern Illinois, Springfield, Missouri and Topeka, Kansas).

Cudnik, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, resides in Florissant with his wife, Jennifer, and daughter, Elsa Rosemary.

#

St. Louis Public Radio | 90.7 KWMU provides the St. Louis region award-winning, in-depth news, insightful discussion, and entertaining programs that focus on the issues and people who shape our community, our country and our world. Signature programs include: *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, *Fresh Air*, *This American Life*, *Marketplace*, *Car Talk*, *St. Louis on the Air*, *BBC World Service*, *The Tavis Smiley Show*, *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!* and *A Prairie Home Companion*.

St. Louis Public Radio, which broadcasts in HD on 90.7, 90.7-2 and 90.7-3, reaches nearly 272,000 people each week in the bi-state area. St. Louis Public Radio | 90.7 KWMU is a member-supported service of the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Founded in 1880, the **Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO)** is the second-oldest orchestra in the country and is widely considered one of the world's finest. In September 2005, internationally acclaimed conductor David Robertson became the 12th Music Director and second American-born conductor in the Orchestra's history. In its 130th season, the SLSO continues to strive for artistic excellence, fiscal responsibility and community connection. In addition to its regular concert performances at Powell Hall, the SLSO is an integral part of the St. Louis community, presenting more than 250 free education and community partnership programs each year. In June 2008, the SLSO launched Building Our Business, which takes a proactive, two-pronged approach: build audiences and re-invigorate the SLSO brand making the SLSO and Powell Hall the place to be; and build the base for enhanced institutional commitment and donations. This is all part of a larger strategic plan adopted in May 2009 that includes new core ideology and a 10-year strategic vision focusing on artistic and institutional excellence, doubling the existing audience, and revenue growth across all key operating areas.