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For Immediate Release

Tafelmusik Receives 2009 Betty Webster Award

Toronto (**Canada**) ... In a wonderful conclusion to Tafelmusik's 2008-2009 30th anniversary season, the Orchestra has been honoured as this year's recipient of the 2009 Betty Webster Award from Orchestras Canada. Nominated by Joan Cullemore, a former Tafelmusik board treasurer, the Betty Webster Award ("The Betties") is awarded each year by Orchestras Canada to individuals or organizations who have made a sustained and significant contribution over a number of years to the Canadian orchestral community, with an emphasis on leadership, education and volunteerism.

"Tafelmusik's volunteer, staff and artistic leadership team plays a significant role on the Canadian arts scene. Their consistent, confident approach, their commitment to technological, artistic and administrative innovation, and their willingness to share what they know have set a remarkable example. As well, their creative partnering and dedication to education have made them both artistic and business leaders," stated **Vicki Young**, Chair of the 2009 Betty Webster Award Jury and General Manager of the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra.

"We are all really honoured to receive Orchestras Canada's Betty Webster Award. It has been a remarkable and very creative 30th anniversary year with a busy home season, the creation of the fully memorized and staged Galileo Project co-production at the Banff Centre, seven tours including our sold-out Carnegie Hall debut, internet film projects, and many education and artist training activities. To have the honour of this Orchestras Canada award as the grand finale this season is completely thrilling for all our musicians, staff, board and volunteers to celebrate," says Tafelmusik Managing Director **Tricia Baldwin**.

Tafelmusik has much to celebrate with its successes on the national and world stage, while remaining deficit free. 2008/09 will represent its 9th successive balanced budget. This decade, Tafelmusik has grown its operating budget from \$2.5MM in the year 2000 to \$4.65MM, its endowment from \$300,000 to \$1.4MM, and has eliminated its operating fund deficit while creating artistic, working capital and silver anniversary funds by over \$700,000. This has been done while achieving substantial growth in its education, artist training, recording, home season, provincial and international activities. In 2009/10, the orchestra looks forward to an exciting Toronto season, film projects and an expansion in its Web 2.0 activities, as well as an important year on the world stage with tours to Italy, Germany, Quebec, Mexico, the USA, Belgium, Holland, Spain and Portugal.

Orchestras Canada Executive Director **Katherine Carleton** says, "It's an honour to work on behalf of all Canadian orchestras, and never more so when we have the opportunity to recognize a group such as Tafelmusik. They have consistently demonstrated what happens when great art, visionary thinking and wonderful people come together - and we're proud to celebrate them!"

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, led by Music Director Jeanne Lamon and founded in 1979, is one of the world's leading period performance ensembles. All members of the Orchestra are specialists in historical performance practice, and their collaboration results in a delightful transparency, vitality and richness of sound. Tafelmusik performs over 50 concerts a year at home in Toronto, tours extensively around the world, has released over 70 CDs and has received nine JUNO Awards. In 2005, Tafelmusik received a Grammy Award nomination. Tafelmusik is the Baroque Orchestra-in-Residence at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto and operates its annual Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute which attracts pre-professional and professional musicians from around the world. The Tafelmusik Chamber Choir, specializing in baroque performance practice and vocal technique, was formed in 1981 to complement the Orchestra. This season, Tafelmusik celebrated the release of its 76th CD + DVD with Beethoven Symphonies 7 + 8 (Analekta), and has embarked on seven major tours, including its sold-out Carnegie Hall debut in February, 2009.

Tafelmusik's 30th Anniversary Season Presenting Sponsor is
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