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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Benjamin Zander, Visionary Conductor and Educator, to Guest Conduct Albany Symphony

(ALBANY, NY) - The Albany Symphony is proud to welcome Benjamin Zander, visionary conductor, educator, and inspirational force, as guest conductor on a Saturday, January 23rd performance at the Palace Theatre. Maestro Zander - who has devoted a large part of his life to studying and interpreting the works of Gustav Mahler - will be conducting Mahler's monumental Fifth Symphony on January 23rd at the Palace Theatre at 7:30pm, with a special pre-concert talk from the Palace stage at 6:00pm.

The Albany Symphony will be hosting a full week of events open to the public, including an inspiring presentation entitled "The Art of Possibility," a high-energy event based on his book of the same name that showcases the power of positive leadership. When asked what the goal is for his week with the Albany Symphony, Zander's reply: "Providing life changing experiences for all." The fascinating thing is that Benjamin Zander can do this with his words as well as his music-making.

Zander is the Music Director of the Boston Philharmonic and of the world renowned New England Conservatory Youth Orchestra. He is the co-author of the best-selling business motivation book, "The Art of Possibility," published by Harvard University Business Press, and travels the world leading motivational workshops for major corporations, foundations and governments.

Also featured on the concert will be one of Richard Strauss' signature pieces, the *Emperor Waltz*. The concert will be held without an intermission. More information about the performance or its featured artists can be found at the Albany Symphony's website at www.albanysymphony.com, or by calling (518) 465-4755.

Zander Week Events: Presented by the Albany Symphony

Art of Possibility Talk

When: Monday, January 18th, 7:00pm; Networking Reception at 6:00pm

Where: Massry Center for the Arts, the College of St. Rose

Free & open to the public; reservations required by calling: (518) 465-4755. Limited seats available.

An Intimate Conversation with Benjamin Zander

When: Tuesday, January 19th, 11:00am

Where: Center for Jewish Studies, University at Albany, Room B78

Free & open to the public; information by calling: (518) 465-4755

Vanguard PreVue: The Power of Mahler's Music

When: Thursday, January 21st, 11:00am

Where: Albany Public Library

Free & open to the public; information by calling: (518) 465-4755

Zander Conducts Mahler 5

When: Saturday, January 23rd, 7:30pm; *Illustrative Pre-Concert Talk:* 6:00pm

Where: Palace Theatre, Albany

Tickets for the performance can be purchased at the Palace Theatre Box Office (518-465-4663), or by visiting PalaceAlbany.com or Ticketmaster.com. \$25-\$49, \$15 Students

About the ASO

The Albany Symphony Orchestra is one of this region's oldest and most revered music and cultural organizations, having won numerous national awards for its adventurous programming of contemporary music and innovative educational efforts involving area schools for nearly 80 years. As the only professional symphony orchestra based within the Capital Region, the Albany Symphony aims to enrich a broad and diverse regional community, engaging over 150,000 people each year across an extended geographical area.

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