
Ford Made in America

General Project Description

In 2001, an entrepreneurial group of smaller-budget orchestras banded together and pooled their resources to commission a renowned American composer. Through this unique initiative, the Ford Made in America program was formed. Ford Made in America is the largest orchestral commissioning consortium in the country's history and has created a national network through which participating orchestras have access to resources normally not available to orchestras of their size. In addition to giving participating orchestras the opportunity to commission and premiere a new work, the resources offered to the orchestras enhance their engagement with their communities, deepen their involvement with young people, and further their mastery of the music of our time. The program exemplifies the spirit of partnership, commitment to creativity, and the true vitality of America's orchestras and composers.

Ford Made in America is made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company.

Major support is also provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional funding from The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Francis Goelet Charitable Lead Trusts, and The Amphion Foundation.

In September 2008, the second round of Ford Made in America begins, with the premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Joseph Schwantner's new work *Chasing Light...* Receiving its world premiere by the Reno Chamber Orchestra in Reno, Nevada, *Chasing Light...* will be performed by 58 orchestras representing all 50 states over the course of the 2008–09 and 2009–10 concert seasons. Based upon an original poem by the composer and inspired by the colors of rural New England where the composer now lives, *Chasing Light...* promises to evoke a vivid landscape of color and texture, as wondrous and diverse as America itself.

The new round of Ford Made in America promises to build upon the success of the first round, which featured a commissioned piece by composer Joan Tower. Her work, entitled *Made in America*, used "America the Beautiful" as the departure point for a unique musical journey that is at once original and familiar. *Made in America* had its world premiere in October 2005 in Glens Falls, New York, and was performed by a group of 65 orchestras representing all 50 states. Over the course of the 2005–06 and 2006–07 concert seasons, *Made in America* received more than 80 performances and was heard by more than 75,000 audience members across the nation, an unprecedented accomplishment for a brand-new work. The Nashville Symphony's recording of Joan Tower's *Made in America* won two Grammy® awards in 2008, and Joan Tower won a Grammy® in the Best Classical Composition category for *Made in America*.

Ford Made in America is more than just a performance of one piece. Each participating orchestra is also equipped with a “tool kit” which aids them in maximizing local fund-raising, marketing, and promotion efforts that specifically address new music. Education lesson plans in the tool kit serve as the basis for developing distinctive community-based programs. Technical support is available from Ford Made in America project managers, and orchestras have the opportunity to learn from each other and share collective wisdom about their experiences, forging new connections within the industry.

In the end, Ford Made in America achieves two major goals: First, it encourages the performance and commissioning of new music by orchestras nationwide. Second, new music becomes the catalyst for effecting institutional growth in each orchestra through the collective efforts of the consortium.

Ford Made in America is spearheaded by two national music service organizations: the League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer, whose combined national expertise guide consortium members throughout the duration of the program. Each participating orchestra contributes to the commissioning fund and, in turn, performs the new work during the two-year program cycle.

For up-to-date information on Ford Made in America performances and activities across the country, visit **www.FordMadeinAmerica.org**.

Key Messages

For Use in Talking About Ford Made in America

The power of a commissioning consortium

Uniting 58 ensembles in 50 states, **Ford Made in America** is the largest commissioning consortium of symphony orchestras ever assembled. The consortium has the power to accomplish together what no single participant could do on its own: commission a new work from a composer of national renown.

A grass-roots initiative among peers

Ford Made in America grew out of an initiative at the grass-roots level. With limited budgets but a clear vision, the leaders of a group of smaller-budget orchestras sought out their peer orchestras as collaborators on the project.

National expertise, local adaptability

This entrepreneurial effort is managed by two national service organizations, the League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer. Their organizational skills and expertise help each participating orchestra adapt the general outlines of the program to fit the needs of its own individual community.

Joseph Schwantner, a major composer

Joseph Schwantner is one of America's most accomplished and treasured composers, known and admired for his dramatic and colorful music. His music has been described as "gorgeous...luminous, bewitching...for sheer beauty of sound it's unsurpassed." (*American Record Guide*)

A multi-year project

Ford Made in America is a multi-year project, with performances of Joseph Schwantner's *Chasing Light*... extending from the premiere on September 20, 2008, by the Reno Chamber Orchestra, through the next two concert seasons.

A living composer is a vital part of the music ecology

Interaction with a living composer and his or her work has the power to invigorate and transform musicians and audiences alike.

Educating tomorrow's audience, today

The educational content of the tool kit provided by the League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer invites each orchestra to tailor educational activities to fit the needs of its own constituency. In this way, the project enables teachers and students across the country to engage with both new music and symphony orchestras in fresh and exciting ways.

Orchestras are vital

This project is just one illustration of the ingenuity and resourcefulness alive in the orchestra field today.

A catalyst for growth

Ford Made in America will create a lasting legacy. It will inspire participating communities to forge ever deeper ties with the creators in their midsts. And it will serve as a catalyst for institutional growth within each participating orchestra.

Ford Motor Company Fund, building bridges between diverse communities

The grass-roots collaboration of the many orchestras participating in this project mirrors Ford Motor Company Fund's commitment to uniting diverse audiences and helping people better understand themselves and their neighbors. Ford Motor Company Fund believes that the arts have the ability to transform, educate, and inspire. Ford supports **Ford Made in America** as a way to bring music to many communities across the country, crossing geographic, socioeconomic, and cultural boundaries.

A broad theme

Ford Made in America is a celebration of American creativity.

List of Participating Orchestras – By State

AL - Huntsville Symphony Orchestra	NV - Reno Chamber Orchestra
AK - Fairbanks Symphony	NH - Nashua Symphony Orchestra
AK - Juneau Symphony	NJ - Bay Atlantic Symphony
AZ - Civic Orchestra of Tucson	NM - Las Cruces Symphony
AR - Pine Bluff Symphony Orchestra	NY - Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra
CA - Sacramento Philharmonic	NY - Greenwich Village Symphony Orchestra
CA - Santa Barbara Symphony	NC - Salisbury Symphony Orchestra
CO - Grand Junction Symphony	ND - Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra
CT - New Britain Symphony	OH - Stow Symphony Orchestra
DE - University of Delaware Symphony Orchestra	OH - Central Ohio Symphony
FL - Miami Symphony Orchestra	OK - Oklahoma Youth Orchestra
GA - Augusta Symphony Orchestra	OR - Portland State University
HI - Honolulu Symphony	PA - Williamsport Symphony Orchestra
ID - Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra	PA - York Symphony Orchestra
IL - Evanston Symphony Orchestra	RI - Brown University Orchestra
IN - Carmel Symphony Orchestra	SC - Florence Symphony
IA - Clinton Symphony Orchestra	SD - Black Hills Symphony Orchestra
KS - Youth Symphony of Kansas City	TN - Orchestra Nashville
KY - Louisville Youth Orchestra	TX - San Angelo Symphony
KY - Paducah Symphony Orchestra	TX - Irving Symphony
LA - Baton Rouge Symphony	UT - Southwest Symphony Orchestra
ME - Portland Symphony Orchestra	VT - Vermont Symphony Orchestra
MD - Peabody Institute	VA - McLean Orchestra
MA - New Philharmonia Orchestra	WA - Whatcom Symphony Orchestra
MI - Plymouth Symphony Orchestra	WV - Huntington Symphony Orchestra
MN - Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra	WI - Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra
MS - Tupelo Symphony Orchestra	WI - Waukesha Symphony Orchestra
MO - Saint Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra	WY - University of Wyoming Symphony Orchestra
MT - Billings Symphony Orchestra	
NE - Omaha Area Youth Orchestras	

Tip: For an up-to-date listing of performances including dates, as well as an interactive map of all the Ford Made in America orchestras, visit www.FordMadeinAmerica.org.

Ford Made in America Contacts

Joseph Schwantner interview availability and other press questions

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For Immediate Release

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**LEAGUE OF AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS AND MEET THE COMPOSER
ANNOUNCE THE SECOND ROUND OF
FORD MADE IN AMERICA,
THE LARGEST ORCHESTRAL CO-COMMISSIONING PROGRAM IN U.S. HISTORY,
FEATURING A CONSORTIUM OF 58 AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS**

**FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND SUPPORTS
FORD MADE IN AMERICA,
WHICH BRINGS NEW MUSIC TO 58 COMMUNITIES IN ALL 50 STATES**

**Joseph Schwantner is the Composer for Round Two of Ford Made in America;
World Premiere of His New Work *Chasing Light...* is Scheduled for September 20 and 21
by the Reno Chamber Orchestra (Nevada), Followed by Performances in Communities
Nationwide Throughout the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Seasons**

New York, NY, June 12, 2008 - The League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer are proud to announce the second round of the **Ford Made in America** commissioning project, made possible by a generous grant from Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company.

Fifty-eight orchestras, including at least one in each of the 50 United States, have jointly commissioned a new work by Pulitzer Prize-winning American composer Joseph Schwantner. The composer's new work, *Chasing Light...*, will be given its world premiere performances by the Reno Chamber Orchestra (Nevada) on September 20 and 21, 2008. *Chasing Light...* will then be heard by audiences nationwide when orchestras in all 50 states perform the work during the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 concert seasons. The **Ford Made in America** program offers an unparalleled opportunity for ensembles in smaller communities to premiere a new work by an established American composer of national repute, and brings music by a living composer to audiences nationwide. Major support for the program is also provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional funding from The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Francis Goelet Charitable Lead Trusts, and The Amphion Foundation.

Launched in 2005, **Ford Made in America** is the largest orchestral commissioning consortium in the country's history. The program's inaugural composition, Joan Tower's *Made in America*, received rave reviews from critics and was performed over 80 times throughout the 50 states during the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 seasons. Widely acclaimed, *Made in America* went on to win three prestigious Grammy Awards: the piece was recognized as Best Classical Composition, and the Nashville Symphony won Grammy Awards for its recording of *Made in America*, led by Music Advisor Leonard Slatkin, in the categories of Best Classical Album and Best Orchestral Performance.

The Consortium

For orchestras with smaller budgets, commissioning and presenting a major new work by a nationally recognized composer can be difficult, due to budget constraints and limited staff resources. The collaborative nature of **Ford Made in America** provides the participating orchestras the opportunity to pool resources in a vital national network, to achieve together what no one of them could afford to do individually in their own community.

The initial idea for **Ford Made in America** was conceived in 2001 by a steering committee of smaller-budget orchestra leaders: Robert Rosoff, executive director, Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra (New York); Anthony LaGruth, music director, Garden State Philharmonic (New Jersey); and Ryan Fleur, former executive director, Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra (Massachusetts) (now executive director of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra).

The Partnership

As the grassroots project grew, the League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer became involved to provide infrastructure and administrative support.

League of American Orchestras President and CEO **Henry Fogel** stated, “The success of Ford Made in America validates what the orchestral field and its many supporters have long believed – orchestras are an integral and invaluable part of each and every community. By forming this consortium, the participating orchestras have connected not only the people in their own cities and towns, but in 58 communities across the country. Through the extraordinary support of Ford Motor Company Fund, the National Endowment of the Arts and many other supporters, Ford Made in America has demonstrated the power orchestras have to bring people together and transform lives through the creativity vested in composers like Joseph Schwantner.”

Meet The Composer President **Ed Harsh** added, “Ford Made in America brilliantly demonstrates one of Meet The Composer’s core beliefs: that the presence of a living composer can galvanize an audience’s experience of new music. We are sincerely grateful to the Ford Motor Company Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, and other funders for making it possible to engage Joseph Schwantner’s powerful music with audiences across the country. We are confident that this experience will energize the participating orchestras and communities to forge ever deeper connections with the creators in their midst.”

“Ford Motor Company Fund is proud to continue our partnership with orchestras across the country through Ford Made in America,” said **Jim Vella**, President of Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services. “This project will further Ford’s commitment to bringing diverse audiences together as participants in all 50 states listen to Joseph Schwantner’s composition.”

The Composer

Born in Chicago in 1943, Joseph Schwantner received his musical and academic training at the Chicago Conservatory and Northwestern University. He also served on the faculties of The Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, and the Yale School of Music.

Schwantner’s compositional career has been marked by numerous distinctions and awards. His early accolades include three BMI Student Composer Awards, the Bearns Prize, a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, and many other awards, grants and fellowships. In 1979 his orchestral composition *Aftertones of Infinity* won the Pulitzer Prize. In 1985 his life and music were the focus of a television documentary entitled *Soundings*, produced by WGBH in Boston for national broadcast. That same year his work, *Magabunda “Four Poems of Agueda Pizarro,”* recorded on Nonesuch Records by the Saint Louis Symphony, was nominated for a 1985 Grammy Award in the category “Best New Classical Composition,” and his *A Sudden Rainbow*, also recorded on Nonesuch by the Saint Louis Symphony, received a 1987 Grammy nomination for “Best Classical Composition.” Schwantner is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Schwantner’s Percussion Concerto, among the most often performed of contemporary concert works, was commissioned for the 150th anniversary season of the New York Philharmonic. He has also been commissioned by numerous other leading orchestras and organizations including the National Symphony Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, and Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, among many others.

His Percussion Concerto has garnered over one hundred performances since its 1995 premiere and is one of the most performed concert works of the past decade. His music is noted for its deft implementation of luminous color and fluctuating rhythms in a dramatic and unique style, heard in such signature works as the Percussion Concerto, *New Morning for the World*, and *Magabunda*, among others. Schwantner's recent work, *Morning's Embrace*, was commissioned by the National Symphony Orchestra and premiered at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC on February 23, 2006.

Other recent projects for the composer include the world premiere by Eighth Blackbird in October 2006 of *Rhiannon's Blackbirds*, which the group commissioned and included on their nine-month United States tour during the 2006-2007 season. Schwantner composed a new flute quartet for the 25th anniversary season of Flute Force in 2007, and, further on, he will write a new concerto for three percussionists and orchestra as well as a concerto for oboe, flute, bassoon, and string orchestra.

The Work

Chasing Light... is based on and inspired by a poem written by Joseph Schwantner. Explaining his sources, Schwantner comments:

"Chasing Light... draws its spirit, energy and inspiration from the celebration of vibrant colors and light that penetrate the morning mist as it wafts through the trees in the high New England hills. Like a delicate dance, those images intersected with a brief original poem that helped fire my musical imagination".

The Performances

The world premiere of *Chasing Light...* will be performed by the Reno Chamber Orchestra with Theodore Kuchar, music director, on September 20, 2008 at 8:00 pm and September 21, 2008 at 2:00 pm at the Nightingale Concert Hall in Reno, Nevada.

The subsequent performances will take place throughout the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 concert seasons. (A complete list of participating orchestras is attached.)

Tool Kit and Website

Ford Made in America is more than just a performance of one piece. Each participating orchestra is also equipped with a collection of resources and multimedia tools—a "tool kit"—which provides them with information and strategies for successful education and community engagement, promotion, and performance-related activities. For example, the education section, which is aligned with national music education standards, centers around two units of study: "Build Your Own Instrument," which will involve identifying found and recycled materials to construct homemade musical instruments, and "Using Poetry as Inspiration," which uses Joseph Schwantner's poem as a platform for learners to create music specifically tied to the four movements of *Chasing Light...*

In addition, the program features a highly interactive website, www.fordmadeinamerica.org, which offers an overview of the program and other comprehensive resources and information designed so that the general public can understand and engage with the program.

League of American Orchestras

Founded in 1942, and chartered by Congress in 1962, the League of American Orchestras leads, encourages, and supports America's orchestras while communicating to the public the value and importance of orchestras and the music they perform. Its vision is to be a transformative and unifying force for the orchestra field—a catalyst for understanding and innovation, a place for conversations that matter, and a champion for orchestras. The League provides a wealth of services, meaningful information, learning and leadership opportunities, and grass-roots advocacy to its diverse membership, which encompasses nearly 1,000 member

symphony, chamber, youth, and collegiate orchestras of all sizes, and links a national network of thousands of instrumentalists, conductors, managers, board members, volunteers, staff members, and business partners. Visit www.americanorchestras.org to learn more.

Meet The Composer

Meet The Composer, founded in 1974, is a national organization serving composers of every kind of music. Its mission is to increase opportunities for composers by fostering the creation, performance, dissemination and appreciation of their music. Support from Meet The Composer has resulted in the creation of more than 1,400 new works, representing the full spectrum of contemporary American culture. Through a range of commissioning, residency, education, and audience interaction programs, Meet The Composer has revolutionized the environment for composers in this country, bringing live audiences totaling over 45 million individuals more closely in contact with the creators in their midst. Find out more at www.meetthecomposer.org.

Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services

Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services is committed to creating opportunities that promote corporate citizenship, philanthropy, volunteerism and cultural diversity for those who live in the communities where Ford does business. Established in 1949 and made possible by Ford Motor Company, Ford Motor Company Fund supports initiatives and institutions that foster innovative education, auto-related safety, and American heritage and legacy. National programs include Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies, which provides high school students with academically rigorous 21st century learning experiences, and Driving Skills for Life, a teen-focused auto safety initiative. The Ford Volunteer Corps, established in 2005, continues Ford's legacy of caring worldwide. Through the Volunteer Corps, salaried employees, union members, retirees and their families participate in a wide range of volunteer projects in their communities. For more information on programs made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services, visit www.ford.com.

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Ford Made in America

Ford Made in America, a partnership program of the League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer, is the largest-ever orchestral consortium commission program. It involves nearly 60 orchestras—at least one from each of the 50 states. Joseph Schwantner, the consortium's second composer, has written *Chasing Light...*, which will receive its world premiere on September 20-21, 2008, with the Reno Chamber Orchestra, Theodore Kuchar, music director. Subsequent consortium performances occur throughout the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons.

Originally conceived by a group of small-budget orchestra leaders, the program grew out of a desire to leverage their combined resources to commission a new work by a nationally renowned composer. Consortium members will offer a range of education and community engagement activities in connection with their performances of *Chasing Light...*, fulfilling one of Ford Motor Company Fund's missions of reaching school children.

Participating Orchestras

Augusta Symphony Orchestra (GA)	Nashua Symphony Orchestra (NH)
Baton Rouge Symphony (LA)	New Britain Symphony Orchestra (CT)
Bay-Atlantic Symphony (NJ)	New Philharmonia Orchestra (MA)
Billings Symphony Orchestra (MT)	Oklahoma Youth Orchestra (OK)
Black Hills Symphony Orchestra (SD)	Omaha Area Youth Orchestras (NE)
Brown University Orchestra (RI)	Orchestra Nashville (TN)
Carmel Symphony Orchestra (IN)	Paducah Symphony Orchestra (KY)
Central Ohio Symphony (OH)	Peabody Institute (MD)
Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra (WI)	Pine Bluff Symphony Orchestra (AR)
Civic Orchestra of Tucson (AZ)	Plymouth Symphony Orchestra (MI)
Clinton Symphony Orchestra (IA)	Portland State University (OR)
Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra (ID)	Portland Symphony Orchestra (ME)
Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra (MN)	Reno Chamber Orchestra (NV)
Evanston Symphony Orchestra (IL)	Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra (CA)
Fairbanks Symphony (AK)	Saint Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra (MO)
Florence Symphony Orchestra (SC)	Salisbury Symphony Orchestra (NC)
Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra (NY)	San Angelo Symphony (TX)
Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra (CO)	Santa Barbara Symphony Orchestra (CA)
Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra (ND)	Southwest Symphony Orchestra (UT)
Greenwich Village Orchestra (NY)	Stow Symphony Orchestra (OH)
Honolulu Symphony Orchestra (HI)	Tupelo Symphony Orchestra (MS)
Huntington Symphony Orchestra (WV)	University of Delaware Symphony Orchestra (DE)
Huntsville Symphony Orchestra (AL)	University of Wyoming Symphony Orchestra (WY)
Irving Symphony (TX)	Vermont Symphony Orchestra (VT)
Juneau Symphony (AK)	Waukesha Symphony Orchestra (WI)
Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra (NM)	Whatcom Symphony Orchestra (WA)
Louisville Youth Orchestra (KY)	Williamsport Symphony Orchestra (PA)
McLean Orchestra (VA)	York Symphony Orchestra (PA)
Miami Symphony Orchestra (FL)	Youth Symphony of Kansas City (KS)

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Sample press release template

For Immediate Release

Contact: [[NAME OF YOUR PRIMARY PRESS CONTACT HERE]]
[[PHONE NUMBER]]
[[E-MAIL ADDRESS]]

**[[NAME OF YOUR ORCHESTRA]]
PERFORMS *CHASING LIGHT... ON* [[DATE]] AT [[LOCATION]]
IN [[CITY? STATE? PREMIERE?]]**

**LEAGUE OF AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS AND MEET THE COMPOSER
ANNOUNCE THE LARGEST CO-COMMISSION EVER PLANNED BY
A CONSORTIUM OF AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS**

**FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND SUPPORTS FORD MADE IN AMERICA:
A PROJECT REACHING 58 COMMUNITIES IN ALL 50 STATES**

Joseph Schwantner is Selected as Composer for Round Two

[[Name of your City, State & Date]] – The [[name of your orchestra]] is proud to announce their participation in the second round of **Ford Made in America**—the largest orchestral commissioning consortium in the country’s history. Fifty-eight orchestras, including at least one in each of the 50 United States, have jointly commissioned a new work entitled *Chasing Light...* by Pulitzer Prize-winning American composer Joseph Schwantner. The **Ford Made in America** program, which is spearheaded by the League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer, offers an unparalleled opportunity for ensembles in smaller communities to premiere a new work by an established American composer of national repute, and brings music by a living composer to audiences nationwide.

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The Consortium

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The Partnership

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[[Quote from your executive director goes here.]]

League of American Orchestras President and CEO **Henry Fogel** stated, “The success of Ford Made in America validates what the orchestral field and its many supporters have long believed – orchestras are an integral and invaluable part of each and every community. By forming this consortium, the participating orchestras have connected not only the people in their own cities and towns, but in 58 communities across the country. Through the extraordinary support of Ford Motor Company Fund, the National Endowment of the Arts, and many other supporters, Ford Made in America has demonstrated the power orchestras have to bring people together and transform lives through the creativity vested in composers like Joseph Schwantner.”

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The Composer

Born in Chicago in 1943, Joseph Schwantner received his musical and academic training at the Chicago Conservatory and Northwestern University. He also served on the faculties of The Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music and the Yale School of Music.

Schwantner’s compositional career has been marked by numerous distinctions and awards. His early accolades include three BMI Student Composer Awards, the Beams Prize, a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, and many other awards, grants and fellowships. In 1979 his orchestral composition *Aftertones of Infinity* won the Pulitzer Prize. In 1985 his life and music were the focus of a television documentary entitled *Soundings*, produced by WGBH in Boston for national broadcast. That same year his work, *Magabunda “Four Poems of Agueda Pizarro,”* recorded on Nonesuch Records by the Saint Louis Symphony, was nominated for a 1985 Grammy Award in the category “Best New Classical Composition,” and his *A Sudden Rainbow*, also recorded on Nonesuch by the Saint Louis Symphony, received a 1987 Grammy nomination for “Best Classical Composition.” Schwantner is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

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The subsequent performances will take place through the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 concert seasons. (A complete list of participating orchestras is attached.)

The [[name of your orchestra here]] performance will take place on [[date]] at [[location]]. Also on the program are [[your information here]]. Tickets are available at [[ticket information here]].

Tool Kit and Website

Ford Made in America is more than just a performance of one piece. Each participating orchestra is also equipped with a collection of resources and multimedia tools—a "tool kit"—which provides them with information and strategies for successful education and community engagement, promotion, and performance-related activities. For example, the education section, which is aligned with national music education standards, centers around two units of study: "Build Your Own Instrument," which will involve identifying found and recycled materials to construct homemade musical instruments, and "Using Poetry as Inspiration," which uses Joseph Schwantner's poem as a platform for learners to create music specifically tied to the four movements of *Chasing Light...*

In addition, the program features a highly interactive website, www.fordmadeinamerica.org which offers an overview of the program and other comprehensive resources and information designed so that the general public can understand and engage with the program.

League of American Orchestras

Founded in 1942, and chartered by Congress in 1962, the League of American Orchestras leads, encourages, and supports America's orchestras while communicating to the public the value and importance of orchestras and the music they perform. Its vision is to be a transformative and unifying force for the orchestra field—a catalyst for understanding and innovation, a place for conversations that matter, and a champion for orchestras. The League provides a wealth of services, meaningful information, learning and leadership opportunities, and grass-roots advocacy to its diverse membership, which encompasses nearly 1,000 member symphony, chamber, youth, and collegiate orchestras of all sizes, and links a national network of thousands of instrumentalists, conductors, managers, board members, volunteers, staff members, and business partners. Visit www.americanorchestras.org to learn more.

Meet The Composer

Meet The Composer, founded in 1974, is a national organization serving composers of every kind of music. Its mission is to increase opportunities for composers by fostering the creation, performance, dissemination and appreciation of their music. Support from Meet The Composer has resulted in the creation of more than 1,400 new works, representing the full spectrum of contemporary American culture. Through a range of commissioning, residency, education, and audience interaction programs, Meet The Composer has revolutionized the environment for composers in this country, bringing live audiences totaling over 45 million individuals more closely in contact with the creators in their midst. Find out more at www.meetthecomposer.org.

Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services

Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services is committed to creating opportunities that promote corporate citizenship, philanthropy, volunteerism and cultural diversity for those who live in the communities where Ford does business. Established in 1949 and made possible by Ford Motor Company, Ford Motor Company Fund supports initiatives and institutions that foster innovative education, auto-related safety, and American heritage and legacy. National programs include Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies, which provides high school students with academically rigorous 21st century learning experiences, and Driving Skills for Life, a teen-focused auto safety initiative. The Ford Volunteer Corps, established in 2005, continues Ford's legacy of caring worldwide. Through the Volunteer Corps, salaried employees, union members, retirees and their families participate in a wide range of volunteer projects in their communities. For more information on programs made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services, visit www.ford.com.

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Ford Made in America

Ford Made in America, a partnership program of the League of American Orchestras and Meet The Composer, is the largest-ever orchestral consortium commission program. It involves nearly 60 orchestras—at least one from each of the 50 states. Joseph Schwantner, the consortium's second composer, has written *Chasing Light...*, which receives its world premiere on September 20-21, 2008 with the Reno Chamber Orchestra, Theodore Kuchar Music Director. Subsequent consortium performances occur throughout the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons.

Originally conceived by a group of small-budget orchestra leaders, the program grew out of a desire to leverage their combined resources to commission a new work by a nationally renowned composer. Consortium members will offer a range of education and community engagement activities in connection with their performances of *Chasing Light...*, fulfilling one of Ford Motor Company Fund's missions of reaching school children.

Participating Orchestras

Augusta Symphony Orchestra (GA)	Nashua Symphony Orchestra (NH)
Baton Rouge Symphony (LA)	New Britain Symphony Orchestra (CT)
Bay-Atlantic Symphony (NJ)	New Philharmonia Orchestra (MA)
Billings Symphony Orchestra (MT)	Oklahoma Youth Orchestra (OK)
Black Hills Symphony Orchestra (SD)	Omaha Area Youth Orchestras (NE)
Brown University Orchestra (RI)	Orchestra Nashville (TN)
Carmel Symphony Orchestra (IN)	Paducah Symphony Orchestra (KY)
Central Ohio Symphony (OH)	Peabody Institute (MD)
Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra (WI)	Pine Bluff Symphony Orchestra (AR)
Civic Orchestra of Tucson (AZ)	Plymouth Symphony Orchestra (MI)
Clinton Symphony Orchestra (IA)	Portland State University (OR)
Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra (ID)	Portland Symphony Orchestra (ME)
Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra (MN)	Reno Chamber Orchestra (NV)
Evanston Symphony Orchestra (IL)	Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra (CA)
Fairbanks Symphony (AK)	Saint Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra (MO)
Florence Symphony Orchestra (SC)	Salisbury Symphony Orchestra (NC)
Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra (NY)	San Angelo Symphony (TX)
Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra (CO)	Santa Barbara Symphony Orchestra (CA)
Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra (ND)	Southwest Symphony Orchestra (UT)
Greenwich Village Orchestra (NY)	Stow Symphony Orchestra (OH)
Honolulu Symphony Orchestra (HI)	Tupelo Symphony Orchestra (MS)
Huntington Symphony Orchestra (WV)	University of Delaware Symphony Orchestra (DE)
Huntsville Symphony Orchestra (AL)	University of Wyoming Symphony Orchestra (WY)
Irving Symphony (TX)	Vermont Symphony Orchestra (VT)
Juneau Symphony (AK)	Waukesha Symphony Orchestra (WI)
Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra (NM)	Whatcom Symphony Orchestra (WA)
Louisville Youth Orchestra (KY)	Williamsport Symphony Orchestra (PA)
McLean Orchestra (VA)	York Symphony Orchestra (PA)
Miami Symphony Orchestra (FL)	Youth Symphony of Kansas City (KS)

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