

The Miami Music Project Partners with Miami-Dade Public Schools

May 1st – The Miami Music Project today announces its plan to partner with Miami-Dade Public Schools to bring classical music programming to middle schools of Miami-Dade County. **James Judd**, who serves as **Artistic Director** for the program, and **Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools**, have announced 10 middle schools chosen by the Miami-Dade County Public School System as participants for the Miami Music Project's inaugural year, which begins in September, 2009.

The Miami Music Project is a pioneering, classical music education and outreach program. During this year-long program, 2,000 students will witness classical music performances from the dynamic Miami Music Project Ensemble, comprised of 10 of the nation's best and brightest young instrumentalists.

Alberto M. Carvalho, Super-intendent, Miami-Dade County Public Schools said,
"Like many arts programs, music education provides students with a rich and well-rounded educational experience that helps develop strong communication, cognitive and coordination skills as well as individual capabilities. Through the discipline and study of music, students learn critical skills that often translate into success in the classroom. Music education helps young minds bloom and gives students a meaningful way of self-expression that is appreciated by others."

Vice President of the board of the Miami Music Project **Jack Firestone** commented,
"I am delighted that James Judd, a world-class conductor, and his unique ensemble are sharing their incredible expertise with the school children of Miami-Dade. Judd's vision for the Miami Music Project will have a lasting impact on the lives of these children and in turn, better our community. We are also tremendously grateful to the Knight Foundation for their confidence in James."

The Miami Music Project was awarded a one million dollar grant in January 2009 by the John S. & James L. Knight Foundation as part of the Knight Arts Challenge Program. The project has also received a major 10 year commitment from Audre and Donald Carlin, in addition to grants from the Firestone Family Foundation and other private donors. The Miami Music Project operates as a partner with the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County where its offices are currently housed.