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**Aretha Franklin and Condoleezza Rice Benefit Evening
with Philadelphia Orchestra Raises \$582,000**

PHILADELPHIA (July 28, 2010) – The Mann Center for the Performing Arts today announced that last night's 75th anniversary gala and benefit evening featuring Aretha Franklin, Condoleezza Rice and The Philadelphia Orchestra raised \$582,000.

"The money raised during last night's concert will enable The Mann Center's Educational and Community Engagement Programming to continue to be an invaluable source of performing arts education for Philadelphia's youth," said Catherine M. Cahill, President and CEO of The Mann Center for the Performing Arts. "We are extremely thankful to Ms. Franklin and Dr. Rice for their commitment to music education in Philadelphia," said Cahill.

The Mann Center's Education and Community Engagement Programs serve the mission of offering young people the opportunity to be inspired and enlightened by the performing arts; allowing and encouraging them – often for the first time – to experience the sights and sounds, and richness of live performances. This season, The Mann Center's educational and community engagement programs will reach more than 47,000 young people from the Philadelphia area and greater tri-state region. The Mann's programs include its Young People's Concert Series, Greenfield Performance Treasures, Connecting Arts-N-Schools, Connecting Arts @ The Center, Arts Teach @ The Mann and Community Engagement Festivals.

"In a city where schools often do not have the funding to support continuing programs and where families may not have the resources to attend cultural performances, we are pleased that The Mann Center can continue to be an accessible and positive place for music education and appreciation," said Cahill.

For more information on The Mann's Education and Community Outreach Programming, visit www.manncenter.org.

ABOUT THE MANN CENTER

Accessible, attractive, festive and fun, The Mann Center for the Performing Arts presents diverse, world class entertainment in a casually elegant and relaxing setting at affordable prices. The venue underwent extensive renovations in 2007, enhancing the uniquely wonderful Mann Center experience for its 173,000 visitors annually.

The summer home of the Philadelphia Orchestra since the 1930's (known from 1935-1976 as The Robin Hood Dell Orchestra), The Mann Center for the Performing Arts, located in Philadelphia's beautiful Fairmount Park, continues its rich tradition as Delaware Valley's premiere outdoor cultural arts center. Concerts and programs encompass all musical genres from pop, jazz, r & b, rock and contemporary, to dance theater, opera and classical. Dine under the stars at Stephen Starr's Crescendo, our tented restaurant overlooking the spectacular Philadelphia skyline, or spread out a picnic blanket on the lush lawn of the Mann. There are several bars and concession stands for food and beverages as well as an Encore booth for concert keepsakes.

To make reservations at Crescendo, please call 267.886.1475.

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