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**RENO PHILHARMONIC COMMISSIONS NEW MULTI-MEDIA  
TRIBUTE TO "THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER"  
*200th anniversary celebration of National Anthem  
includes educational experience with accompanying materials***

**RENO, Nev. (Feb. 27, 2013)** — The Reno Philharmonic's dynamic conductor and music director Laura Jackson has a vision that celebrates America's most recognizable piece of music - "*The Star-Spangled Banner*" - 200 years after it became the rallying cry of the nation.

Composer Michael Gandolfi and visual artist Anne Patterson have teamed up with Jackson for a commissioned piece that has culminated in a compelling new composition. The multi-media work accompanied by a full orchestra and chorus celebrates both the song's bicentennial and the power of music in American life. Under the direction of Jackson and backed by the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus, the original piece pays homage to the anthem by depicting the story of its creation through the performance. The work premieres as part of the Classix Five performances Sunday, March 17, 2013, 4 p.m. and Tuesday, March 19, 2013, 7:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts in Reno, Nev.

An educational concert based on Gandolfi's composition and accompanying educational materials will be presented by the Reno Philharmonic in October 2013. The completed works will also be made available to orchestras across the nation for the 2014-15 season to pay tribute to the *Star-Spangled Banner's* bicentennial.

To purchase tickets, visit [RenoPhil.com](http://RenoPhil.com) or call the Pioneer Center Box Office at (775) 686-6600.

**About the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra**

The Reno Philharmonic Association is the largest performing arts organization in the region, with over 60 professional musicians under the leadership of Music Director Laura Jackson. They perform in Reno, Carson Valley and the Lake Tahoe region in various outdoor and indoor venues. Reaching over 70,000 people each year, the orchestra presents more than 25 concert performances throughout the year, some free for the community.

Jackson met Michael Gandolfi while she worked as Assistant Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony. She assisted during the recording and preparation of Gandolfi's work, *The Garden of Cosmic Speculation*, which received a Grammy nomination for Best Contemporary Classical composition in 2009. She found Gandolfi's music to be extremely accessible and subsequently thought of him when "*The Star-Spangled Banner*" commission was first conceived. [www.renophil.com](http://www.renophil.com)

**About Michael Gandolfi, Composer**

Michael Gandolfi's earliest musical involvement was in rock and jazz improvisation beginning at age eight as a self-taught guitarist. As his improvisational skills developed, he became increasingly interested in music composition and began formal study in his early teens. He received B.M. and M.M. degrees in composition from the New England Conservatory of Music, as well as fellowships for study at the Yale Summer School of Music and Art, the Composers Conference, and the Tanglewood Music Center. [www.michaelgandolfi.com](http://www.michaelgandolfi.com)

**About Anne Patterson, Visual Designer**

Anne Patterson has worked in set and costume design for the past 27 years. She has designed 14 operas including one world premiere and three U.S. premieres for the Aspen Music Festival. Her stage solutions have pioneered set design for symphony orchestras while revolutionizing the concert experience. Her work has appeared at both Avery Fisher and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, as well as other New York spaces, while her paintings and sculptures have been exhibited internationally. [www.annepatterson.com](http://www.annepatterson.com) ###