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***PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY RADIO 2011-2012 SEASON***  
**AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC RADIO INTERNATIONAL (PRI) STATIONS**  
**WITH SUPPORT FROM BAYER CORPORATION**

**PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania**—Thanks to the support of [Bayer Corporation](#), and the musicians of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the *Pittsburgh Symphony Radio* 2011-2012 broadcasts are available to PRI stations to air 52 weeks a year. The broadcasts feature performances by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and are recorded live at Heinz Hall in downtown Pittsburgh's Cultural District. *Pittsburgh Symphony Radio* consists of 26 two-hour programs hosted by Classical WQED-FM 89.3 Artistic Director Jim Cunningham. In his 24<sup>th</sup> year as executive producer and host of the 30-year old program, Cunningham's knowledge, voice and personality are the perfect complement to this classical program.

Some of the best artists in classical music are featured on this season's programs including violinist Itzhak Perlman, Yefim Bronfman, Garrick Ohlsson, H el ene Grimaud, Leila Josefowicz, Principal Guest Conductor Leonard Slatkin, Finnish conductor Susanna Malkki, Arild Remmereit, Gianandrea Noseda and Herbert Blomstedt.

Distributed by PRI, *Pittsburgh Symphony Radio* has been a mainstay on public radio for over 26 seasons. ***Pittsburgh Symphony Radio* can be heard on Classical WQED-FM 89.3 Sundays at 8 p.m.** and on over 100 classical stations around the country from Texas and Florida, to the Midwest, and Puerto Rico.

*Pittsburgh Symphony Radio* is underwritten by the Bayer Corporation. With a more than two-decade-long relationship with Classical WQED-FM 89.3, Bayer Corporation has been instrumental in funding this and other programs. Over the years Bayer's support has assisted with the construction of the WQED-FM 89.3 Bayer Broadcast Center for the Arts; digital

conversion of the station; *The Bayer Sunday Arts Magazine*; and *Symphony Weekend with Mariss Jansons*.

Classical WQED-FM 89.3 has had a long-term on-air relationship with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in regular series or specials since the television station went on the air in 1954 and the radio station went on the air in 1973.

Complete information for *Pittsburgh Symphony Radio*, including artist photos; blogs; and program listings can be found at [www.pittsburghsymphonyradio.org](http://www.pittsburghsymphonyradio.org).

**WQED Pittsburgh** has a proud history of honors, including 128 National and Mid-Atlantic Emmy® Awards, an Academy Award, and many, many others, including two Emmy® Awards for Station Excellence. WQED was founded in 1954 as the nation's first community-supported broadcaster. The people of WQED create, produce and distribute quality programs, products and services to engage, inform, educate and entertain the public within their community and around the world. WQED Pittsburgh is one of the first broadcasters in the country to be fully high-definition (HD) in its studio and field production capabilities. It is the parent company of WQED-TV (PBS); WQED: The Neighborhood Channel; WQED: The Create Channel; WQED Showcase; Classical WQED-FM 89.3/Pittsburgh; Classical WQED-FM 89.7/Johnstown; local and national television and radio productions; WQED Interactive ([www.wqed.org](http://www.wqed.org)) and The WQED Education Department.

The **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** has been a vital part of the City of Pittsburgh's heritage for more than 100 years. With its noble history of the finest conductors and musicians and its strong commitment to artistic quality and excellence, audiences around the world have claimed the PSO as their orchestra of choice. In September 2008, the PSO welcomed its ninth Music Director Manfred Honeck. Beginning in the early 1900s with frequent performances in Canada, the PSO confirmed its ranking as a world-class orchestra, earning critical acclaim for each tour abroad. Its 36 international tours include 19 European tours, nine trips to the Far East and two to South America. In January 2004, the PSO became the first American orchestra to perform at the Vatican for Pope John Paul II, as part of the Pontiff's Silver Jubilee celebration.

Founded in 1983, **Public Radio International** leads media by producing, acquiring and distributing innovative content that enables U.S. audiences to "hear a different voice," bringing new voices, global journalism and cultural perspectives to the American public. Through partnerships with BBC World Service and station-based and independent producers, the Minneapolis-based network provides over 400 hours of programming each week, content that is broadcast and streamed online by over 800 PRI affiliates nationwide, whose radio broadcasts reach over 29 million listeners each week. Podcasts of PRI programs consistently rank in the top U.S. 100. PRI owns Public Interactive LLC, public broadcasting's leading Web services company. PRI is also the managing partner of the satellite radio company American Public Radio LLC, established with Chicago Public Radio®, WGBH Radio Boston and WNYC®. PRI programming is available via XM Public Radio and Sirius Satellite Radio. For more information on PRI and its programs and services, visit [www.pri.org](http://www.pri.org).

**Bayer Corporation**, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa., is the U.S. subsidiary of Bayer AG, an international health care, nutrition and high-tech materials group based in Leverkusen, Germany.

The company's products and services are designed to benefit people and improve their quality of life. The Corporation is committed to the principles of sustainable development and to its role as a socially and ethically responsible corporate citizen. Economy, ecology and social responsibility are corporate policy objectives of equal rank. In North America, Bayer had 2010 net sales of EUR 8,228 million (\$10,861 million) and employed 16,400 at year-end. For more information, go to [www.bayerus.com](http://www.bayerus.com).

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