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For Immediate Release

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Pacific Harp Institute Announces Harpist Yolanda Kondonassis as 2008 Artist-in-Residence

Critically acclaimed harpist to give recital, masterclass March 21-22, 2008

REDMOND, WA: Pacific Harp Institute (PHI), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation for the harp, is pleased to welcome celebrated harpist **Yolanda Kondonassis** as artist-in-residence for 2008. Ms. Kondonassis will present a solo recital on Friday, March 21, 2008, at 7:30pm in Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall at Benaroya Hall (200 University Street in Seattle). The eclectic program includes works by Scarlatti, Handel, Debussy, Hovhaness, and Salzedo; and will feature a performance of the rarely heard *Sonata for Harp* by American composer Donald Erb.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors, and are available for purchase via Ticketmaster (206-292-ARTS) beginning February 1.

On Saturday, March 22nd, Pacific Harp Institute will host Ms. Kondonassis in an all-day masterclass for local harp students. It will take place from 10am to 6pm at the Austin Harp Studio (7300 139th Pl. NE in Redmond). Students interested in participating should reserve space as soon as possible by calling (425) 885-2785 or emailing Alison@pacificharpinstitute.org. The participation fee is \$50 for a half-hour slot. The general public is welcome to audit the class for \$10.

For more information, please visit www.pacificharpinstitute.org or call (425) 885-2785.

About the Artist

Hailed by the *New York Times* as a harpist with “powerful playing and musicianly energy,” Yolanda Kondonassis is recognized as one of the world’s foremost harpists, performing both as a concerto soloist and recitalist throughout the United States, Far East, and Europe. Since making her debut at age 18 with the New York Philharmonic and Zubin Mehta, she has appeared as soloist with numerous major orchestras such as the Cleveland Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, New York Chamber Symphony, Philadelphia Chamber

Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Orquesta Sinfonica de Puerto Rico, Phoenix Symphony, Buffalo Philharmonic, New World Symphony, Florida Orchestra, and Hong Kong Philharmonic, to name a few. Other solo appearances include engagements at Lincoln Center, the 92nd Street Y and Taiwan's National Concert Hall.

In addition to her active performing and recording schedule, Ms. Kondonassis heads the harp departments at the Cleveland Institute of Music and Oberlin College Conservatory and has presented masterclasses around the world. More information about Yolanda Kondonassis is available at www.ykharp.com.

About Pacific Harp Institute

Pacific Harp Institute (PHI) exists to provide young harpists with the resources, learning environment and support necessary to pursue excellence in performing the harp. Established in 2002 by Artistic Director Alison Austin, PHI is dedicated to increasing awareness and appreciation of the harp as a musical instrument. PHI addresses all aspects of harp playing and performance including proper technique, artistic expression, stylistic expression, musicianship, focus, discipline, and persistence. PHI programs and activities give students many opportunities throughout the year to further their understanding and mastery of the harp. More information about Pacific Harp Institute is available online at www.pacificharpinstitute.org.

Pacific Harp Institute presents Yolanda Kondonassis, harpist

- WHO** Pacific Harp Institute
- WHAT** Harpist Yolanda Kondonassis in solo recital and masterclass
- WHEN**
- Recital: Friday, March 21, 2008 at 7:30pm
 - Masterclass: Saturday, March 22, 2008 from 10am-6pm
- WHERE**
- Recital: Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall at Benaroya Hall – 200 University Ave., Seattle
 - Masterclass: Austin Harp Studio – 7300 139th Pl. NE, Redmond
- COST**
- Recital: \$20 adults / \$12 students and seniors
 - Masterclass: \$50 participation fee / \$10 auditor fee
- MORE INFORMATION** www.pacificharpinstitute.org or (425) 885-2785

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