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**AS PART OF ITS 50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION,
LINCOLN CENTER HOSTS STORYCORPS®, MAY 6-23, 2009**

**The National Oral History Project's Airstream Recording Trailer
Comes to Manhattan for the First Time to
Capture Personal Lincoln Center Stories**

April 7, 2009 - NEW YORK, NY – StoryCorps®, the national initiative to document everyday history and the unique stories of Americans, will bring its traveling MobileBooth to Manhattan for the first time from May 6-23, 2009 to celebrate the stories of Lincoln Center as part of its 50th Anniversary celebrations. StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit project in partnership with NPR and the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

The StoryCorps MobileBooth, an Airstream trailer outfitted with a recording studio that travels across the country, will be parked on the Lincoln Center campus for 17 days, enabling the general public as well as artists, students, and employees of Lincoln Center to share memories and stories of their lives, illuminating the personal significance of Lincoln Center and its history. The booth will be open everyday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and StoryCorps plans to collect approximately 140 interviews from the general public during its visit.

A first round of interview slots will open for reservations on April 15 at 10 a.m., and a second round on May 7 at 10 a.m. Reservations are free and open to the public. Individuals can visit www.storycorps.org or call 800-850-4406 to make interview reservations, listen to stories, and learn how they can support StoryCorps' mission to honor and celebrate one another's lives through listening.

Voices from community members, artists, and civic leaders who have been a part of Lincoln Center's history will be captured through this partnership. These stories will be archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in D.C., as well as other Lincoln Center archives. Selected segments may also be broadcast on NPR and available online at www.storycorps.org.

StoryCorps was created by award-winning documentary producer and MacArthur "Genius" Grant recipient Dave Isay. This unprecedented project has traveled to every corner of America, instructing and inspiring individuals to record their stories in sound. The largest multi-year oral history project ever undertaken, StoryCorps has collected interviews in all 50 states—over 25,000 stories in all—since its launch in October 2003, and often partners with organizations to commemorate significant occasions.

At the MobileBooth, interviews are conducted between two people who know each other, with a trained facilitator guiding the participants through the interview process and handling the technical aspects of the recording. At the end of a 40-minute session, the participants walk away with a CD of their interview, and with their permission, a second copy becomes part of an archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress for future generations to hear.

"We believe that listening is an act of love," said Dave Isay. "StoryCorps engages communities, teaches participants to become better listeners, fosters intergenerational communication, and helps Americans appreciate the strength in the stories of everyday people they find all around them."

StoryCorps' recording booth in Foley Square in Lower Manhattan will be closed during this time and all interviews will take place at the Lincoln Center location.

About StoryCorps

StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit project whose mission is to honor and celebrate one another's lives through listening. Since 2003, tens of thousands of everyday people have interviewed family and friends through StoryCorps. Each conversation is recorded on a free CD to take home and share, and is archived for generations to come at the Library of Congress. Millions listen to the award-winning broadcasts on public radio and the Internet. Select stories have also been published in the New York Times bestselling book, *Listening Is an Act of Love* (Penguin Press). StoryCorps is one of the largest oral history projects of its kind, creating a growing portrait of who we really are as Americans. Major funding is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). Visit www.storycorps.org for more information.

About Lincoln Center's 50th Anniversary

Fifty years ago, Lincoln Center pioneered the concept of a performing arts campus as a catalyst for urban renewal and played a significant role in reviving its Upper West Side neighborhood. Now a model for performing arts centers around the world, Lincoln Center is home to twelve world class resident organizations representing the highest standards of excellence in opera, symphonic and chamber music, theater, jazz, dance, film, and arts education.

About Lincoln Center

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA) serves three primary roles: presenter of superb artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and community relations, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. As a presenter of over 400 events annually, LCPA's programs include *American Songbook*, *Great Performers*, *Lincoln Center Festival*, *Lincoln Center Out of Doors*, *Midsummer Night Swing*, the *Mostly Mozart Festival*, and *Live From Lincoln Center*. In addition, LCPA is leading a series of major capital projects on behalf of the resident organizations across the campus.

Lincoln Center is committed to providing and improving accessibility for people with disabilities. For information, call the Department of Programs and Services for People with Disabilities at (212) 875-5375.

This 50th Anniversary project is made possible in part by Norma W. Hess, Ruth W. Houghton, June Noble Larkin, William F. May, Mrs. Frederick P. Rose, Roberta and Irwin Schneiderman, Edith L. and Martin E. Segal, Elaine and Stephen Stamas, and one anonymous.

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