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For Immediate Release,

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**COMPOSER STACEY FOX SELECTED FOR MACY, Neb.,
CONTINENTAL HARMONY PROJECT
Artist Will Collaborate With The Omaha Tribe to
Celebrate their Musical Traditions**

St. PAUL, Minn., February 10, 2003— The American Composers Forum announced today the next phase of Omaha Nation School's participation as Nebraska's representative in the Forum's nationwide *Continental Harmony* program. The tribe put together a coalition of community groups, including the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, to carry out the residency and have the music performed. Representatives from each of these organizations formed a committee that selected Stacey Fox to write a piece to be performed by current and past members of the Omaha Nation School as a celebration of the Omaha Tribe's musical tradition and hopes for the future of its people, the Pow-wow Bicentennial, and as part of its participation in the Lewis and Clark bicentennial. The performance of Macy's music will be August 2004.

Continental Harmony has been launched by the American Composers Forum in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts as a way of bringing composers and communities across the country together for the creation of original musical works reflecting the unique history, culture and spirit of each community. Fox will begin her residency in Macy by getting to know people, researching local history and culture, working with students, and making presentations to community groups of all sorts.

Stacey Fox, of Saratoga Springs, NY, brings a strong background in composition and community engagement to Macy's Continental Harmony project. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and a Master of Music in Solo Performance, both from the Crane School of Music, S.U.N.Y. Potsdam, with Doctoral Studies in Solo Percussion Performance at Arizona State University. An international artist, she has performed in Japan, South America, North America and Europe. Her recordings on the

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Reynardine Productions label include: DRUMS, Echoes of Flight, Un-metered and Alternative Scores. Her sound scores and films have been experienced at the Tang Museum, National Museum of Dance, Dance on Film Exhibit, Jusdon Church and St. Marks Church (New York City), American Dance Festival, Herdberger Theatre and Nelson Fine Arts Center (Arizona), and Dancespace (Washington, D.C.).

Fox produced the film and sound score “Children of the Wakarusa,” a documentary film on the early years of the Haskell Institute, a Native American boarding school, as well as film and sound score Cultivating Stillness, inspired by the Taoist text of the same name. Collaborative productions include The St. Kentigern Project with artist Maria Anthony and two new movement based films with choreographer Debra Fernandez for the Tang Museum and the movement ballet Genji based on Lady Murasaki's Novel. Fox is a member of the faculty at Emma Willard School in NY. In her spare time she studies Wudan sword form and Chi Kung with Master Bin Hong Liu and enjoys hiking in the Sonoran Desert and Adirondack Mountains.

Continental Harmony has been recognized as a model of local community artistic initiative. Each host site identifies a theme, an occasion, and local performers for a musical work that will be meaningful to its citizens. With the assistance of American Composers Forum, the community group then selects the composer best able to write the music and carry out the residency.

During the inaugural round of the program in the year 2000, American Composers Forum discovered that *Continental Harmony* projects bring people together, heighten community feeling and sense of place, and encourage the formation of collaborations among groups. At the same time the artistic resources of the area are often strengthened and validated. As a result of this inaugural round, Twin Cities Public Television created an award-winning documentary and website.

Continental Harmony is a leadership initiative of the American Composers Forum and the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional funding provided by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, and Marshall Field's Project Imagine with support from the Target Foundation.

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