

PRESS RELEASE

AMCHAM GERMANY TRANSATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP AWARD 2013

**AmCham Germany presents Transatlantic
Partnership Award to the Berliner Philharmoniker
and the New York Philharmonic**

**Award Ceremony in Berlin with Sir Simon Rattle
and Alan Gilbert**

**Opening Address by Federal President Joachim
Gauck and Laudation by Federal Minister of
Finance Wolfgang Schäuble**

Berlin/Frankfurt am Main, January 28, 2014 – The American Chamber of Commerce in Germany (“AmCham Germany”) will present the 27th Transatlantic Partnership Award to both the Berliner Philharmoniker and the New York Philharmonic on January 28, 2014 in the Jewish Museum in Berlin. The award ceremony will take place during a gala event. Principal conductors Sir Simon Rattle and Alan Gilbert will accept the award on behalf of both orchestras.

Federal President Joachim Gauck will give an opening address. The laudation will be held by Federal Minister of Finance Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble. Approximately 300 guests from business, politics, media, academia and the humanities are expected to attend the award ceremony.

The jury of AmCham Germany’s Transatlantic Partnership Award has chosen to recognize both orchestras for their outstanding international cultural achievements in and around the metropolitan areas of Berlin and New York. Through the universal language of music and their mutual efforts on both sides of the Atlantic, they build bridges and bring continents together.

AmCham Germany also bridges continents by advocating for a deeper partnership between Germany and the USA. The Chamber actively supports the current negotiations surrounding a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). Presenting the award at this point in time not only symbolizes the potential of music to bring people together, but also sets the tone to further support TTIP.

“I’m honored that the New York Philharmonic is being acknowledged in this way, as I fully embrace the belief that music does have a power to speak in a universal language which spans borders, languages, and cultures,” says Alan Gilbert, Music Director of the New York Philharmonic. There are a lot of ways in which cultural organizations can act as ambassadors to bring the world closer together. When the Philharmonic performs on tour – including during our many visits to cities in Germany – those of us on stage can feel a warmth, a friendship from the audience that perfectly embodies the international amity that this award reflects. On behalf of the musicians and everyone else at the New York Philharmonic, I thank AmCham for this honor.”

In an orchestra, it is crucial that all members work together. “This is what makes music such an ideal role model for business. Smooth and harmonious interaction between participants as well as competent leadership is necessary in order to make TTIP a reality. Much like members in an orchestra, we must always have our goal in sight and pursue it together. AmCham Germany has committed itself with the highest priority to a successful completion of the TTIP negotiations,” says Bernhard Mattes, President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Germany.

The event is significantly supported by leading members of the Chamber, namely Deutsche Bank, Adam Opel AG, KPMG, Siemens and Pfizer Germany.

In the same manner, Dr. Andreas Penk, Chairman of the Board of Management of Pfizer Germany, emphasizes the potential of German-American relations: “TTIP presents us with the chance to further unite the two strongest economic regions in the world and thereby create new possibilities. Such a development would benefit us all.”

“Supporting German-American cultural exchange is an issue close to my heart. Both award recipients are very involved in society and youth affairs, thereby investing in our future,” states Karl Braun, Head of Corporates and Markets at KPMG.

“For me, the Berliner Philharmoniker and the New York Philharmonic embody the transatlantic friendship par excellence. It is a terrific idea to recognize both orchestras with such a renowned award. I am delighted that we can support the transatlantic spirit together with AmCham Germany,” Joachim Koschnicke, Vice President of Adam Opel AG, says.

Dr. Clemens Börsig, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bank Stiftung, former Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Bank AG and long-time Board Member, states: “We would like to congratulate both orchestras on this award. Deutsche Bank is proud to be able to work together with both orchestras for many years now. Since 1989 we have had a close partnership with the Berliner Philharmoniker. It is important to us to be able to make brilliant musical experiences accessible to a wide audience. For this reason, Deutsche Bank has made the Digital Concert Hall possible, which broadcasts top-quality live concerts with the Berliner Philharmoniker via Internet. On June 14th and 15th, we will celebrate this twenty-five year partnership with a large event at the Cultural Forum in Berlin.”

THE AWARD CEREMONY

The Award Ceremony will take place during a special gala event on January 28, 2014 at the Jewish Museum in Berlin. Approximately 300 guests from business, politics, media, academia and the humanities are expected to attend. The laudation will be held by Federal Minister of Finance Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble.

THE AWARD RECIPIENTS

For the first time in the award's history, two orchestras will be recognized: the Berliner Philharmoniker and the New York Philharmonic. Principal conductors Sir Simon Rattle and Alan Gilbert will accept the award on behalf of both orchestras.

Award Recipients (2012-2008):

Dirk Nowitzki (2012), Bill Gates (2011), Prof. Hasso Plattner (2010), Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (2009), Dr. Jürgen Weber (2008).

THE AWARD

The AmCham Transatlantic Partnership Award pays tribute to the history of German-American friendship. It is awarded yearly during a Gala Dinner in Berlin to an individual or organization which has made a significant contribution to transatlantic relations. In 2014 two orchestras will receive the award for the first time. An international jury chaired by the President of the American Chamber of Commerce, Bernhard Mattes, determines award recipients. The award is non-monetary.

THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN GERMANY E.V.

With approximately 3,000 members, the American Chamber of Commerce in Germany (AmCham Germany) is the largest bilateral trade association in Europe. The Chamber serves as a bridge linking investors in the United States. Our mission is to promote German-American economic ties and further the competitiveness of Germany as a business location.

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