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Press Release/for immediate release

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**Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Fund of the Sacramento Region
Supports Access to Art, Inc.**

Cape May Court House. The Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Fund of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation has awarded Access to Art, Inc., a N.J. not for profit, a \$5000. Grant towards their 12th Annual Sam Maitin Summer Chamber Music Festival. The award honors Aurelia Mika Chang, artistic director of the festival, founder of the Mondrian Ensemble, and Artistic Director for Access to Art, Inc.

Access will present its 12th annual summer chamber music series this year opening with its first concert June 27th at Our Lady of the Angel's R.C. Church in Cape May Court House at 8 p.m. The church is located off the Garden State Parkway, on Mechanic St., below exit 10 in Cape May Court House. It will feature Steinway artist and Juilliard MM Aurelia Mika Chang, piano, and Philadelphia Orchestra violist, Anna Marie Ahn Petersen. Both women perform on three continents

“Mika” came down here at 19, when she was still an undergraduate at Juilliard, and performed for the Cape May County Art League's 60th Celebration. Sam Maitin, renowned Philadelphia artist, brought her since he wanted to begin some serious art programming in Cape May County creating here “An Aspen of the East.” He wanted wonderful chamber music, dance, art, writers, and he wanted an opportunity for artists to be able to associate with other artists, and with the community. He said: “Artists put on their pants, one leg at a time. They are people like you and me, a little unusual in their dedication and their talent, but otherwise normal.” Now Mika is in her 40's, with a husband, and two sons, three and eight, who study violin, and she performs all over the world. She has performed down here since 1987, but now she performs for the Onassis Foundation, in NY, in Toyko, Vienna, Germany, China, and has performed in the northeast from Lincoln Center to the Kimmel Center, with a continued stop in Cape May county for Access to Art. She served as a member of the California Arts Council.

She has been featured in a television news-magazine broadcast in Hong Kong and China. Ms. Chang has performed at the Henry Mancini Institute at UCLA, at Bunkakaikan in Tokyo, and the Fukushima Arts Center, Japan. She made her New York debut at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center. She has also performed at the Bosendorfersaal in Vienna,

and at the South Orange Performing Arts Center with the Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company, which work was premiered and commissioned by Access to Art, Inc.

Born in Los Angeles, and raised in New York, Ms. Chang began piano studies at age six, making her debut with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at 16. She is a Steinway artist, and has made solo, orchestral and chamber appearances in the United States, China, Poland, Japan, UK, Austria and Germany.

Twelve years ago, Aurelia Mika Chang founded the Mondrian Ensemble, with Philadelphia orchestra associate concert master Michael Ludwig, cellist, John Koen, Anna Marie Ahn Petersen, violist, and herself as pianist. The first year they brought their friends to guest with them, including the principal harp of the Philadelphia Orchestra, the concertmaster of St. Paul's Chamber Orchestra (NPR), the concertmaster of Chicago Symphony. In Sept., the Mondrian will perform their concert as a full ensemble. They are the core group, around which the festival was formed. Sam Maitin created the art work for Access to Art's Music Festival, and following his death, in 2004, Access named the festival for him. The concert series is held in various churches in the Southern part of Cape May County.

Anna Marie Ahn Petersen's father, Professor Ahn, who taught at Peabody and taught 11 virtuosos who are in major orchestras across the world, taught for Access to Art, Inc., the first year. Anna Marie was the youngest musician to be accepted from Curtis to the Orchestra.

Access to Art will also present Aquila Theatre Company this year, on November 14th, a company founded in England and in residence at New York University Ancient Studies Department. It is composed of both American and British actors. They are dedicated to classic theatre, but produce it in a modernly hip manner. As You Like It will be presented at Lower Cape May Regional. Lower Cape May Regional will also be the site for a preliminary introduction to "As You Like It," on October 15th created by Equity actors, and a few regional ones. They are preparing it for additional presentation at a Renaissance Festival which hopefully will occur in 2010 at the Delaware River & Bay Authority grounds in May.

The student presentation will also be seen at Atlantic Cape Community College at a date to be decided.

For information on Access to Art, Inc., call (609) 465-3963. See our website at www.accesstoart.org.