FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University of Minnesota School of Music Announces New Faculty, Professors Laura Sindberg and Maja Radovanlija

Minneapolis, MN (8/4/2011)—The University of Minnesota School of Music is pleased to announce new additions to our faculty: Laura Sindberg and Maja Radovanlija. Professor Sindberg will take on the role of Assistant Professor of Instrumental Music Education and Maja Radovanlija will assume the title of Teaching Specialist in Guitar this fall.

Laura Sindberg teaches courses in music education, including Instrumental Methods and Introduction to Music Education. Prior to her appointment at the University of Minnesota, Sindberg was on the faculty at Lawrence University and DePaul University, where she taught undergraduate and graduate courses (DePaul) in music education and oversaw the music education programs. While at Lawrence, Sindberg conducted the Wind Ensemble of the Lawrence Academy of Music. In 2009/2010, Sindberg launched the Young Band Project of Lawrence Academy—an after-school instrumental music instruction program serving economically disadvantaged fifth grade students. Sindberg's work in higher education follows a successful career in the public schools.

Research interests include teacher education and identity, conducting, community engagement and collaboration, and professional development. Her research goals are to bridge research and practice in music teaching and learning. She received a B.F.A. and a M.M. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

Maja Radovanlija was born in Belgrade, Serbia and has been playing guitar since the age of nine. She also plays several traditional Balkan instruments and arranges and composes music for guitar. Radovanlija completed her bachelor’s degree at the University of Belgrade and received her master’s and doctor of music at Indiana University. During her studies, she won several prizes at international guitar competitions in Serbia and Bulgaria. Since then, she has performed frequently as a solo and chamber musician. Radovanlija’s interests include musical genres beyond classical, and she performs traditional Balkan music, jazz, bossa nova, experimental, and improvised music.

As graduate student at Indiana University, Radovanlija won second prize at a Latin-American music competition and was included on two compilation CDs produced by the Latin-American Music Center. She has performed new music written for guitar by D. Freund and A. Travors with guitarist Guido Sanchez. She is especially interested in performing chamber music and is also a founder and artistic director of Balkan ensemble, “Kermes.”
Photographs available upon request. Email requests for photographs to marsh396@umn.edu.

Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 50 artists, scholars and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.music.umn.edu or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.

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