MEDIA ADVISORY—For immediate release

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60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HISTORIC ALBERT SCHWEITZER VISIT

ASPEN CELEBRATES SCHWEITZER LEGACY
Aspen Chapel Hosts World Theatrical Premiere of
Albert Schweitzer: Memoirs From Africa, and an Organ Concert Featuring
Albert Schweitzer Portrait

In 1949, Nobel Peace Prize-winning physician, musician, and humanitarian Albert Schweitzer made his only visit to the U.S. While on our shores, Schweitzer traveled to the then-obscure mining town of Aspen to speak at a festival celebrating the work of Goethe. Schweitzer’s talk drew an unprecedented 2,000 people—and planted the seed for what would become the Aspen Ideas Festival.

Now, 60 years after that historic Aspen visit, The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship® (ASF), The Longwood Symphony Orchestra (LSO), the Aspen Chapel, and The Tennessee Players are launching a two-part celebration of Schweitzer’s legacy, taking place at the Aspen Chapel:

- **Monday, July 6, 7:30 p.m.: World Premiere of Albert Schweitzer: Memoirs from Africa**, a one-man play by Tennessee Players President Thurston Moore featuring actor Tom Dolan; and
- **Saturday, July 11, 5 p.m.: Organ Concert Featuring Albert Schweitzer Portrait**, a new work commissioned by ASF and LSO (Performed by Susan Nicholson, Words by Albert Schweitzer, Music by Gene Scheer, Adapted and Arranged by Jonathan McPhee, Orchestrated by Gary Fry, Original Concept by Thurston Moore)

*Albert Schweitzer: Memoirs from Africa* is a one-man play based on Schweitzer’s transformative experiences at the hospital he founded in Lambaréné, Gabon. The play’s overarching message is one of love, understanding, and “reverence for life” (Schweitzer’s guiding ethic). An interactive on-stage Q&A with Thurston Moore, Tom Dolan, and ASF President Lachlan Forrow, MD will follow the play’s premiere, as will a reception. Tickets are $20 per person at the door.

*Albert Schweitzer Portrait*, performed here by acclaimed organist Susan Nicholson, parallels Aaron Copland’s *Lincoln Portrait* and sets Schweitzer’s words to music.
“Albert Schweitzer Portrait is not merely an exciting artistic endeavor; it’s an illustration of how music can be a central part of inspiring and supporting citizens to serve their communities—and how Schweitzer’s legacy continues to inspire new generations of leaders in service,” says Lachlan Forrow, MD. Concert tickets are free.

Both shows will take place at the Aspen Chapel (0077 Meadowood Drive, Aspen, CO 81611, 970-925-7184, http://www.aspenchapel.org).

ABOUT THE ALBERT SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP

Since 1991, The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship has provided more than 400,000 hours of service to the communities it serves. Carrying on Schweitzer’s legacy of translating idealism into action, Schweitzer Fellows are committed to meeting the health needs of the underserved throughout their careers. They are chosen through a competitive selection process from the nation’s top professional schools. In their initial Fellowship year, they work with local community agencies in Baltimore, Bay Area, Boston, Chicago, Greater Philadelphia, Houston/Galveston, Los Angeles, New Hampshire/Vermont, New Orleans, North Carolina, and Pittsburgh to implement sustainable projects that make a lasting, on-the-ground difference in the health of local communities. Fellows also serve at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Lambarene, Gabon.

Once Fellows have completed their initial year of service, they join a network of over 2,000 Schweitzer “Fellows for Life” across the United States and abroad. Virtually all continue their commitment to lives of service in cities and towns around the country and around the world. Because the work of the Fellows is donated without charge to the communities served, each city’s program is supported entirely through charitable gifts. For more information or to receive a copy of our informational DVD featuring Dr. Timothy Johnson and Yo-Yo Ma, visit www.schweitzerfellowship.org or contact Patrice Taddonio at ptaddon@bidmc.harvard.edu or 617.667.5628.

ABOUT ALBERT SCHWEITZER

Albert Schweitzer was born on January 14, 1875 in a small village in Germany. As a young man, Schweitzer was a renowned philosopher, theologian, Bach scholar, organist, author, and pastor. At the age of 30, however, he decided to become a medical doctor, translating his idealism into action by dedicating his life to the direct service of people in Africa.

In 1913, Schweitzer and his wife founded the Schweitzer Hospital at Lambaréné, Gabon, then a province of French Equatorial Africa. It was there that he developed his credo of Reverence for Life, the idea that all life is as worthy of reverence as our own. In 1953, at the age of 78, Schweitzer was honored for his humanitarian work with the Nobel Peace Prize.

In September 1965, having powerfully advocated against nuclear proliferation, Schweitzer died at the age of 90 in Lambaréné. His legacy lives on through ASF.

For more information about ASF, visit www.schweitzerfellowship.org or http://schweitzerfellowship.wordpress.com