



Contact: Alexandra Zsoldos, Director of Individual and Community Engagement
704-714-5116
alexandraz@charlottesymphony.org

For Immediate Release

**US Airways Sponsorship Brings World-Class Artists to Charlotte
US Airways' support as the Official Airline of the Charlotte Symphony
promotes Charlotte's cultural vibrancy**

June 28, 2012- US Airways has served as a corporate sponsor of the Charlotte Symphony since 1997 and as the Official Airline of the Orchestra since 2009. The US Airways sponsorship underwrites the airfare of guest artists and conductors throughout the Symphony's concert season, but more significantly, it promotes the performing arts and music education in Charlotte.

US Airways is also a proud sponsor of the Summer Pops Series, the Symphony's most widely visible program, which draws 20,000 to 70,000 audience members annually. Established in 1983, the Summer Pops Series is a longstanding Charlotte tradition that builds community and brings together families and friends to enjoy outdoor orchestral concerts in June and July. Two concerts remain for the 2012 Summer Pop Series – *Three Great American Composers: Gershwin, Bernstein and Rodgers* on July 1, and *Celebrate America*, one of the region's most iconic 4th of July festivities honoring Charlotte's veterans and service men and women with a lively program of American music and fireworks display on July 3. For the Symphony's 2011-12 season, US Airways has provided more than 120 domestic and international flights to artists and conductors who have entertained and educated tens of thousands of music-lovers, seniors and students in Charlotte.

"We greatly appreciate the longstanding commitment of US Airways to the Charlotte Symphony," said President and Executive Director Jonathan Martin. "For me, the only thing that compares to the excitement of watching our conductors, musicians and guest artists onstage in the concert hall is watching them interact with Charlotte community members before and after performances and visiting with school children who are part

of our immersive education programs. US Airways' support literally delivers emerging and recognizable talents from all over the country and the world to benefit the Charlotte community."

US Airways' Director of Community Relations Kelly Balthazor said, "We understand the Arts are not only an economic driver but provide educational and entertainment opportunities for our communities. We are honored to partner with the Symphony to enrich the cultural lives of children and adults in Charlotte."

US Airways invests in nonprofit organizations that focus on sustainable change to result in healthy and culturally vibrant communities. Since 2011, US Airways has provided more than \$1,000,000 in contributions to major arts organizations that expand the horizons and help imagination take flight. US Airways currently serves as the Official Airline of the symphony orchestras in its three primary hubs – the Phoenix Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Charlotte Symphony.

Founded in 1932, the Charlotte Symphony aspires to serve the whole community through music that educates, entertains and enriches. The orchestra's \$40 million New American Orchestra Campaign will allow the Symphony to build a renewed and sustainable funding model. This model will enable the Charlotte Symphony to go beyond performance to provide solutions and service to Charlotte—to break down the conventional barriers that exist between a community and its orchestra.

US Airways, along with US Airways Shuttle and US Airways Express, operates more than 3,200 flights per day and serves more than 200 communities in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Europe, the Middle East, the Caribbean, Central and South America. The airline employs more than 32,000 aviation professionals worldwide, operates the world's largest fleet of Airbus aircraft and is a member of the Star Alliance network, which offers its customers more than 20,500 daily flights to 1,293 airports in 190 countries. Together with its US Airways Express partners, the airline serves approximately 80 million passengers each year and operates hubs in Charlotte, N.C., Philadelphia and Phoenix, and a focus city in Washington, D.C. at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Aviation Week and Overhaul & Maintenance magazine presented US Airways with the 2012 Aviation Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) of the Year Award for demonstrating outstanding achievement and innovation in the area of technical operations. Military Times Edge magazine named US Airways as a Best of Vets employer in 2011 and 2012. US Airways was the only airline included as one of the 50 best companies to work for in the U.S. by LATINA Style magazine's 50 Report for 2010 and 2011. The airline also earned a 100 percent rating on the Human Rights Campaign Corporate Equality index for six consecutive years. The Corporate Equality index is a leading indicator of companies' attitudes and policies toward lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees and customers. For more company information visit usairways.com, follow on Twitter @USAirways or at [Facebook.com/USAirways](https://www.facebook.com/USAirways).

###