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**SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES NEW
ADDITIONS TO THE ORCHESTRA FOR THE 2009-10 SEASON**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (September 2, 2009) – Four new musicians join the San Francisco Symphony to begin the 2009-10 season.

Jonathan Vinocour will begin his first year as Principal Viola. Nicole Cash begins as Associate Principal Horn. Polina Sedukh and David Chernyavsky will begin in the Second Violin section.

Jonathan Vinocour, 30, has been appointed Principal Viola, beginning with the 2009-10 season. Prior to his appointment, Vinocour was Principal Viola of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, beginning in 2007.

Vinocour previously served as guest Principal Viola of the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig and the Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa in Japan. While principal of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, he performed as soloist with conductors Nicholas McGegan and Hans Graf. Vinocour is also an active solo performer, and recently received First Prize in the Holland America Music Society Competition. He recorded his first solo album recently, with the support of the Holland America Music Society.

In addition to his orchestral and solo pursuits, Vinocour is an avid and passionate chamber musician. He has been a regular participant at the Marlboro Music Festival and has toured extensively with Musicians from Marlboro. Other festival credits include the Steans Institute at the Ravinia Festival, Open Chamber Music at Prussia Cove, the Aspen Music Festival and the Tanglewood Music Center, where he was awarded the Henri Kohn Memorial Prize. He has been a guest of the Boston Chamber Music Societies and International Sejong Soloists and collaborated with artists such as Paula Robison, Gilbert Kalish, Miriam Fried, Kim Kashkashian, Jaime Laredo, and members of the Amadeus, Arditti, Cleveland, Guarneri, Juilliard, Jupiter, Mendelssohn, and Orion String Quartets.

Originally from Rochester, New York, Vinocour graduated from Princeton University in 2001 with a degree in chemistry and was awarded the university's Sudler Prize in the Arts. He completed his Master's degree at the New England Conservatory of Music in 2003, where he studied with Kim Kashkashian.

Nicole Cash, a native of Annandale, Virginia, joins the San Francisco Symphony this season as Associate Principal Horn. She served as 3rd Horn of the Dallas Symphony for the past eight years, and prior to that completed undergraduate and graduate degrees at Northwestern and Rice universities. She has served as Co-Principal Horn with the kwa-Zulu Natal Philharmonic (South Africa), performed with the orchestras of Honolulu, San Antonio and Houston, the Grand Tetons Music Festival Orchestra, the Sun Valley Summer Symphony, and as Guest Principal Horn with the Saint Louis Symphony. Cash is an active chamber musician, and has also appeared as a soloist with several orchestras, including the Dallas Symphony in 2004.

Polina Sedukh was born in 1980 to a family of musicians in St. Petersburg, Russia. She was introduced to violin by her father at the age of four. She holds degrees from the Rimsky-Korsakov State Conservatory and the Longy School of Music. Sedukh has appeared as a soloist with St. Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra and Newton Symphony Orchestra, among others, and she has been a prizewinner of numerous competitions, including the International Spohr

Violin Competition in Weimer. Before joining the San Francisco Symphony, Sedukh served as a member of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

David Chernyavsky joins the San Francisco Symphony from the Los Angeles Philharmonic, where he has played in the second violin section since 2007. Prior to that, he was Assistant Concertmaster in the Washington National Opera Orchestra from 2005 to 2007, and Second Violin of the St. Petersburg String Quartet from 2003 to 2005. He earned his master's degree in music performance (violin) at The Juilliard School, and his bachelor's of music in performance (violin) at the Indiana University School of Music. He has performed as concertmaster with the Spoleto USA Festival Orchestra. Chernyavsky won Indiana University's Kutner quartet scholarship, as well as the Indiana University School of Music Violin Concerto Competition.

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