

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Guelph, ON

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River Run Centre receives a \$20,000 Anniversary Gift from Linamar Corporation to enhance *Linamar for the Performing Arts*

River Run Centre is pleased to announce that Linamar Corporation has generously increased its annual sponsorship of the *Linamar for the Performing Arts* program by \$20,000 to allow even more children in Guelph to attend River Run performances.

Since the fall of 2000 elementary school children in the city Guelph, Ontario, have benefited from a unique performing arts program designed to capture their imaginations, give them confidence and expose them to life's rich diversity. Over the past six years the number of children attending has grown from 11,000 to over 16,000 annually. The additional funding from Linamar Corporation will go a long way in helping River Run support a flourishing and expanding program.

Through *Linamar for the Performing Arts*, children from grades 1 through 8 come to River Run Centre to experience professional performances of music, dance or theatre, twice yearly. The performances are offered at no cost to the children, and by the time a child has reached grade 8, he or she will have experienced 16 performances.

"We've been a proud sponsor of this magnificent performing arts program for children since its inception and we are pleased to mark the 10th anniversary of the River Run Centre with this additional funding," said Linda Hasenfratz, CEO of Linamar Corporation. "Linamar has made this investment to reach out to even more children in the hopes that they will acquire a life-long appreciation of the arts."

To mark the occasion, Linda Hasenfratz attended the final performance of the 2006-2007 school season on May 1, a lively hip hop dance performance by Canadian Floor Masters, to receive a thank you gift of framed paintings and letters that children have sent over the past few years in response to their experiences at River Run.

"Linamar has been a great supporter of River Run Centre for several years and through its financial commitment helps us share the magic of performing arts with children in our community throughout their elementary education." said Colleen Clack, Theatre Manager of River Run Centre.

On the occasion of River Run Centre's 10th anniversary, it is indeed fitting to celebrate its crowning achievement of the past decade – an enriching performing arts experience for every child, every year.

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Linamar for the Performing Arts

Linamar for the Performing Arts is a long-term educational performing arts program of River Run Centre for all elementary school children in Guelph from Grades 1 through 8. During this period each child will experience a variety of professional performances in the disciplines of music, dance and theatre. Special attention is given to presenting a wide range of styles within each discipline so that children are exposed to a diversity of expression rooted in a variety of cultures. A small sampling of artists demonstrates the standard of artistic quality and content River Run strives to present: Erhu virtuoso George Gao; Japanese taiko drumming ensemble Fubuki Daiko; the Montreal Guitar Trio; jazz pianist Michael Kaeshammer; Quebec dance troupe Campagnie Sursaut; Borealis String Quartet and theatrical productions from various Canadian and international companies. Prior to each performance River Run Centre prepares and distributes background information about the artists and the art form to help teachers prepare the children in advance.

River Run Centre

Guelph's magnificent performing arts centre is set along the picturesque bank of the Speed River in the City's downtown core near the site where Guelph was founded. "The copper wall art installation (at the entrance to River Run) links us to Guelph's early days when John Galt, a novelist, dramatist and poet, gave us a cultural outlook from the beginning. He dwelt not only on the necessities of life but on elements that nourish and enrich the mind and heart. For 170 years the people of Guelph have acted on his principles and continue to do so." - Gloria Dent, Guelph. John Galt's vision lives on in such programs as *Linamar for the Performing Arts*.

Linamar Corporation

Linamar designs, develops and manufactures precision machined components, modules and systems for engine, transmission and chassis systems primarily for the North American and European automotive marketplace. The company's industrial division is a world leader in aerial lift platform products. The company has over 11,000 employees in 36 manufacturing locations, five research and development centers and nine sales offices in Canada, United States, Mexico, Germany, Hungary, China, Korea and Japan. Visit www.linamar.com for more information about Linamar Corporation and its industry-leading products and services.