

# LEROY ANDERSON

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## F O U N D A T I O N

### LEROY ANDERSON CENTENARY The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Swedish American Composer

October 21, 2008

Kristianstads Musikskolan  
Östra Boulevarden 13  
29153 Kristianstad, Sverige

Dear Friends,

Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to everyone at the Kristianstads Musikskolan for the enormously successful Leroy Anderson music festival in Kristianstad, Skåne, April 26, 2008.

I was very fortunate to be able to travel to Kristianstad with other members of the Leroy Anderson family for this amazing celebration. While we have heard our father's music performed by professional orchestras many times, it was a very special experience to see and hear the students of the Kristianstads Musikskolan perform arrangements of Leroy Anderson's music in so many different ensembles. The arrangements were inventive and uniquely suited to each group of musicians, their ages and abilities. The students performed perfectly under the direction of their dedicated and talented teachers. We loved every moment of each performance. It was an incredibly moving and memorable event for us that we shall never forget. It was clear that the audience enjoyed the concert as much as we did.

Hundreds of concerts in cities throughout the USA, Canada, South America, Europe and Asia celebrated the Leroy Anderson Centenary in 2008. While some concerts in large cities matched the size of the audience in Kristianstad, no other celebration anywhere in the world included so many musicians nor generated as much community spirit as you achieved in Kristianstad. That Leroy Anderson's father was born nearby in Övarp, Norra Strö was not known in Kristianstad until just a few years before. However on April 26, 2008 the people of Kristianstad played, sang, danced and clapped to the music of Leroy Anderson as though the composer himself had come from Skåne.

On behalf of the Leroy Anderson Centenary Committee, please accept our deepest gratitude to the musicians, singers, dancers, faculty and administration of the Leroy Anderson music festival in Kristianstad, Skåne for your fantastic contribution to the worldwide celebration of the Swedish American composer, Leroy Anderson. As the mother of one student musician said to me "Leroy Anderson is a part of us now." And that is how we feel about Kristianstads Musikskolan. We look forward to creating future musical exchanges with Kristianstads Musikskolan and the USA.

Sincerely,

Rolf Anderson  
(Leroy Andersons son)

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