Liona Boyd to Receive Lifetime Achievement Award from JoAnn Falletta Guitar Competition

Liona Boyd, “First Lady of the Guitar,” will be receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition on Saturday, June 9, at Kleinhans Music Hall in Buffalo, NY.

Boyd, an internationally renowned classical guitar player, has been given five Honorary Doctorates, The Order of Canada, The Order of Ontario, the Diamond Jubilee Medal, five Junos, and is five-time winner of the Guitar Player Magazine poll for best classical guitarist. On Saturday evening, her award list grows longer with the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award from the JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition.

The guitar competition includes two semi-finals at 7:30 pm Wednesday, June 6, and Thursday, June 7, at WNED-TV studios, 140 Lower Terrace, Buffalo, NY, and the finals at 7:30 pm June 9 at Kleinhans Music Hall, 3 Symphony Circle, Buffalo, NY. For more information about the competition and to buy tickets to the events, click here.

Boyd plays a romantic and unique brand of classical, folk, and world music that she has performed for dozens of world leaders, including the British Royal Family and the US president. Since 1975, when she made her Carnegie Recital Hall debut, Boyd has been called “The First Lady of the Guitar.” Through her concerts, television specials, and 28 recordings, many of which attained Gold and Platinum status, Boyd introduced millions of people around the world to her beloved instrument and her total online views are over six million.

Boyd has recorded with Sir Andrew Davis and the English Chamber Orchestra, Yo Yo Ma and Georges Zamfir, and breaking with classical tradition, she has toured with Gordon Lightfoot and Tracy Chapman as well as recorded with Chet Atkins, Eric Clapton, David Gilmour, Steve Morse, Roger Whittaker and Olivia Newton-John. Boyd has composed and arranged hundreds of pieces for the guitar and also written a best-selling autobiography, In My Own Key... My Life in Love and Music. Her new autobiography No Remedy for Love, was released in 2017 by Dundurn Press. For more information about Boyd, click here.

# # #
About WNED | WBFO

The WNED | WBFO family of stations broadcasts PBS, NPR and Classical music programming throughout the Western New York and Southern Ontario regions. These high-quality programs and community outreach services inform, enlighten, entertain and educate our local and regional communities. Our member-supported stations include WNED-TV (PBS), WBFO-FM 88.7 (NPR), Classical 94.5 WNED, JazzWorks, WNED thinkbright Create and PBS KIDS 24/7. WNED-TV is also a national producer of award-winning documentaries. Additional information about WNED | WBFO can be found at wned.org.