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BOSTON EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KATHLEEN FAY TO BE HONORED BY EARLY MUSIC AMERICA

Cambridge, MA – May 31, 2011 – Early Music America, the national service organization for the field of early music, will honor the **Boston Early Music Festival** and Executive Director **Kathleen Fay** with the **Howard Mayer Brown Award** for lifetime achievement in the field of early music at the EMA Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony at the Boston Early Music Festival on June 18, 2011 at 4:30 pm (*Award Ceremony at 5pm*) in the Exeter Room of the Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart Street, Boston, MA. The Awards Ceremony takes place during the 16th international Boston Early Music Festival and Exhibition, June 12–19, 2011 which features the North American premiere of Steffani’s *Niobe, Regina di Tebe*, 15 concerts showcasing the finest artists in the field today, and the world-famous Exhibition.

Founded in 1985, Early Music America serves and strengthens the early music community in North America and raises public awareness of early music. EMA provides its 3,000 members with publications, advocacy, and technical support and publishes the quarterly magazine *Early Music America*. Given annually since 1998, the Howard Mayer Brown Award is named in memory of the renowned and beloved musicologist from the University of Chicago, Howard Mayer Brown. Past recipients include Stanley Ritchie and Benjamin Bagby, among many others.

Recognized as the preeminent early music presenting organization in North America, the **Boston Early Music Festival** has been credited with securing Boston’s reputation as “America’s early music capital” (*The Boston Globe*). Founded in 1981, the Boston Early Music Festival offers diverse programs and activities, including an annual concert series that brings early music’s brightest stars to the Boston and New York concert stages, a biennial week-long Festival and Exhibition recognized as the “world’s leading festival of early music” (*The Times*, London), and three Grammy-nominated opera recordings.

Kathleen Fay has served as Executive Director of the Boston Early Music Festival & Exhibition since 1989, and as General Manager since 1987 and is responsible for all administrative, development, financial, and artistic departments of the organization. She is a founding Trustee of the Catalogue for Philanthropy and serves on the boards of the Cambridge Society for Early Music and Exsultemus. In November 2001, Ms. Fay was named *Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* by the French Minister of Culture as a result of her significant contribution to furthering the arts in France and throughout the world. In June 2003 she received the distinguished Arion Award from the Cambridge Society for Early Music for her “outstanding contributions to musical culture.” She is a widely respected impresario and promoter of early music in the Boston area and throughout the United States. Ms. Fay holds graduate degrees in Piano Performance and Music Teaching from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music.

For more information, images, press tickets, or to schedule an interview, please contact Brian Stuart at 617-661-1812 or email brian@bemf.org.

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