AWARD-WINNING BROADWAY ORCHESTRATOR, MUSIC SUPERVISOR
MARY-MITCHELL CAMPBELL TO BE INAUGURAL HOLDER OF
REV. J. DONALD MONAN, SJ, CHAIR IN THEATER ARTS

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (May 2008) -- Mary-Mitchell Campbell, an award-winning Broadway orchestrator and music supervisor, has been named the inaugural holder of the Rev. J. Donald Monan, SJ, Professorship in Theater Arts at Boston College for the 2008-09 academic year.

As the Monan Professor in Theater Arts, Campbell will lecture, conduct workshops and direct a May 2009 production of "Songs for a New World."

"Having Ms. Campbell work with our students will give them a chance to receive training from one of the most gifted talents in contemporary New York theater," said Theater Department Chairman Associate Professor John Houchin.

Mary-Mitchell Campbell with award-winning actor Paul Newman

A 2006-07 recipient of a Drama Desk Award for her orchestrations in the revival "Company" - for which she also served as music director - Campbell has been associated with such notable productions as "Sweeney Todd," "Beauty and the Beast," "The Scarlet Pimpernel," "The Prince and the Pauper," "Our Town," "The Screams of Kitty Genovese" and "Sweet Charity."

Named for University Chancellor and former Boston College President J. Donald Monan, SJ, the professorship enables nationally and internationally recognized theater artists to work and teach at the University. In addition to honoring Fr. Monan's dedicated service to Boston College, the professorship was established in memory of late Trustee E. Paul Robsham, M.Ed.'83 - benefactor of the campus theater arts facility named for his son - and in celebration of the longstanding relationship between the Robsham family and the BC Theater Department.

In addition to her award-winning professional work, Mary-Mitchell Campbell is equally recognized as the founder of Artists Striving to End Poverty (ASTEP), an arts-based non-profit that aims to combat childhood poverty. Campbell's inspiration for ASTEP originated from her volunteer work at Mother Teresa's missionary in India. The group seeks to empower young people through self-expression and decision-making, renew communities' commitment to the arts while strengthening relationships between adults and children, and encourage artists to use the power of the arts to transform society.

Current ASTEP initiatives include arts camps for disadvantaged youths in New York City, Florida and South Africa, and a volunteer program through which artists teach children in India. ASTEP will be the beneficiary of the May 2009 performance of "Songs for a New World."
The North Carolina native is the music director of the annual Broadway Care-Equity Fights AIDS concerts, and has toured with the Boston Pops Orchestra and with Tony award-winning actress Kristin Chenoweth. She has performed at the White House, Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall, and holds the distinction of being one of the youngest individuals to serve on the faculty at The Juilliard School.

Campbell earned degrees from the North Carolina School of the Arts and Furman University.

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