

Renaissance President and CEO Michael Miller spoke of the accomplishments Franz has made in the community through a recorded message as he was attending a conference at the Kennedy Center.

Miller's wife Deborah also presented Franz with a baton that had belonged to Leonard Bernstein. The Renaissance Performing Arts Association proudly selected Robert Franz for this honor because of his love and abiding passion for music and his impressive talents, which have left the north central Ohio community deeply enriched. He has worked to showcase the talents of the Mansfield Symphony Orchestra, taking the incredible musicians to even greater heights and providing audiences with a world-class symphonic experience. For the past seven seasons, Robert has engaged and enthralled so many with his love of music, with his charm and elegant rapport with an audience, and with the excitement and expressiveness of his conducting. The Renaissance acknowledges and celebrates his dream, "Operation Bridge Building". Robert Franz has helped the Renaissance create a path for the youth of our community that will allow them to appreciate and cherish symphonic music for years to come.