



*Dear Participants, Distinguished Listeners!*

*I would like to express my appreciation to all those who contributed to the organization of the current edition of the Lutosławski International Cello Competition.*

*The Competition's spiritual patron, Witold Lutosławski, has once said: „Thanks to music the listener finds himself in an ideal world, the world of our dreams and desires, the world of our ideas of perfection, the world unknown from everyday life, free from problems created by the real world.” During the rehearsals and the final concert we will, no doubt, experience this joy and harmony which accompanies every Art. Extensive music program, encompassing the most important cello compositions, beautifully performed by our young musicians, will lead us to this better world. For this opportunity - many thanks.*

*I would also like to express an appreciation to the teachers who, with dedication, take care of not only the technical mastery but also of spiritual and artistic development of their students.*

*I would like to congratulate all Participants and future Laureates of the Competition and wish them many future artistic successes, unrelenting belief in the power of music, and satisfaction of being an artist.*

*Kazimierz Michał Ujazdowski*

*Minister of Culture and National Heritage*

Warsaw, February 2007