

*Michigan  
SwissBizUSA  
- Ann Arbor, MI -  
Continuing to Energize  
America's Midwest*

The SwissBizUSA Stammtisch on December 3, 2007 -- the second event of its kind -- attracted local business and arts leaders. Participants networked, and also were inspired by guest speaker Gustav Meier, the international "guru of conductors." Meier serves as master teacher at the Orchestral Conducting Program at the Johns Hopkins University



**Gustav Meier (L.), the international "guru of conductors" and Ken Fischer, who leads the renowned University Musical Society (UMS) of the University of Michigan**

Peabody Institute. He talked about how much society has benefited from cooperation between the arts and business communities.

Meier immigrated from Switzerland to America in the late 1950s. He works worldwide, but his home for the last 31 years has been Ann Arbor. Meier, who



**A captive audience at the SwissBizUSA Stammtisch on December 3, 2007 in Ann Arbor/MI, the second event of its kind**

marked 35 years as music director for the Greater Bridgeport (Connecticut) Symphony in 2006, is completing a book on

conducting. Due out later this year, it will be published by Oxford University Press. Daniel Bangser, trade commissioner of Switzerland in Chicago, gave a presentation on Swiss-USA trade and investment, citing key facts and trends. According to Bangser, his government assists Swiss firms seeking entry

or growth in the USA. It also serves as a "one-stop-shop" for American entities expanding to Switzerland and Europe, and as liaison for diverse Swiss regions. Participants from Deloitte, ECO PHYSICS, INC., Holcim, University of Michigan, Philips Medical Systems and Speedshape, Inc. profiled their organizations and cultural integration issues.

Ken Fischer, who leads the renowned University Musical Society (UMS) of the University of Michigan, and Gustav Meier were reunited at the event. Fischer, UMS president for 20 years, worked together with Meier when he led the conducting program at the University of Michigan until 1995.

James Macsary, a Swiss-American expert in leadership,

relationship building and communication, created the SwissBizUSA group in 2006. His efforts have been supported by Karl Pfister, honorary consul of Switzerland, Detroit, event host Dan Denison of the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) in Lausanne, and Ron Pruette of UBS Financial Services (Bloomfield Hills, MI).

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**Karl Pfister, Honorary Swiss Consul**



**Gustav Meier (r.) talking to Lisa Welch, Denison Consulting and Marcel Neff, Capitol Bancorp**



**(left to right) Gustav Meier, Susan Bozell and Ken Fischer / University Musical Society (of the University of Michigan) and James Macsary**

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