

## MUSICA E MOLECOLE 5: TELETHON BENEFIT



Musica e Molecole 5 was a challenge shared by Telethon Ticino, the Cantonal Bank, the local television, the IRB and the Science et Cité Foundation. A full orchestra comprised of students at the Accademia Vivaldi played together with a group of young musicians afflicted with rare genetic ailments. The hall of the IRB

was absolutely packed with musicians and instruments including three pianos donated for the evening. A large public at the IRB was joined by the television audience of "Buona Sera" with Luca Invernizzi carrying out interviews between pieces of music. Directed by Michele Fedrigotti, the orchestra was joined by two IRB researchers, Thomas Pertel and Martha Neagu on the piano.



Fabio Grassi of the IRB and Monica Raimondi of the Civic Hospital of Lugano presented the scientific content of the evening.





**IRB Foundation Council Names new member**

Walter Schaffner, former Director of the Institute of Molecular Biology at the University of Zurich, has been elected to the IRB Foundation Board.

- Born 26.10.1944 in Aarau, Switzerland
- Diploma in Zoology with Ernst Hadorn, University of Zürich (1970)
- Certificate of Molecular Biology SKMB (1974)
- Ph.D. thesis in Molecular Biology with Charles Weissmann, Institute f. Molecular Biology I, U. Zürich; excellency award for thesis (1976)
- Group leader with Prof. Max L. Birnstiel, Inst. f. Molecular Biology II, U. Zürich
- Postdoctoral stay with Frederick Sanger, MRC Cambridge (1976)
- Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York (1977/78)
- Assistant Professor at Inst. f. Molecular Biology II (1979)
- Associate Professor (1983)
- Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS) Prize for Young Scientist (1984)
- Election to FEBS Lecturer (1985)
- Cloëtta Prize (1986)
- Full Professor and Director, Institute of Molecular Biology II (1987)
- Dr.h.c. of the Medical Faculty of the University of Uppsala, Sweden (1987)
- Louis Jeantet Prize of Medicine (1989) Fondation Louis-Jeantet
- Academia Europaea (1990)
- Director, Institute f. Molecular Biology (I & II) (1999 - 2007)
- Carus Medal of the German Society of Natural Sciences Leopoldina (1999) and Carus prize of the city of Schweinfurt (2000)
- Elected Member of the Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation (2002)
- Member of "Faculty of 1000" Biology (2007)

## Choral Christmas Concert



The Gospel and Spiritual Group theHarmonics, featuring the IRB's Tom Brooks, provided an informal concert in the atrium of Via Vela 6. Joining the regular members of the choir were three middle school students of maestro Matteo Piricò who added background with Guitar, Piano, and Drums. [www.theharmonics.ch](http://www.theharmonics.ch)

