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Minnesota Youth Symphonies Announces 40th Anniversary Season

The 2011-12 season marks the 40th Anniversary for the Minnesota Youth Symphonies (MYS). Established in 1972, and led by co-artistic directors Claudette and Manny Laureano since 1988, MYS provides orchestral training for serious young musicians.

MYS holds three concerts annually at Orchestras Hall, Minneapolis, featuring all four MYS orchestras. In celebration of the 40th Anniversary Season, MYS is proud to announce special guest artists **Nachito Herrera**, piano, and **Doc Severinsen**, trumpet, performing with the MYS Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of **Manny Laureano**.

Nachito Herrera will perform Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2* at the MYS Fall Concert, taking place at Orchestra Hall on Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 6:30pm.

The MYS Winter Concert, taking place at Orchestra Hall on Sunday February 12, 2012, at 6:30pm, will feature the winner of the annual **Symphony Solo Competition**, a competition open to all students in the MYS Symphony Orchestra. The winner of the competition will be selected at the Symphony Solo Competition finals, taking place at Sundin Music Hall, Hamline University on Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 4:00pm. The competition finals are free and open to the public.

Doc Severinsen will perform a selection of pieces for trumpet as well as a duet with fellow trumpeter **Manny Laureano**, at the MYS Spring Concert at Orchestra Hall on Sunday, April 22, 2012 at 2:00pm.

About Minnesota Youth Symphonies

MYS, a nationally recognized program, has been training musicians from Minnesota and western Wisconsin since 1972. The MYS orchestral training program is comprised of three full orchestras (strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion) and a string orchestra. Students audition annually and rehearse weekly at Highland Park Senior & Junior High Schools in St. Paul from September through April. Students also participate in a weekend retreat at Camp Pepin in Wisconsin, weekly music classes, community concerts, and sectional rehearsals led by professional musicians from the Minnesota Orchestra. MYS also sponsors violin and viola lessons at Andersen United School in Minneapolis.

Claudette Laureano conducts the MYS Repertory Orchestra and is the String Director of the Breck School. **Manny Laureano** conducts the MYS Symphony Orchestra and is principal trumpet of the Minnesota Orchestra. **Patricia Kelly** conducts the MYS String Orchestra and is the string instructor at the Ramsey International Fine Arts Center. **James Bartsch** conducts the MYS Philharmonic Orchestra and is the Director of Education for the Minnesota Orchestra.

Tickets for all three MYS concerts are on sale now through the Orchestra Hall box office. Tickets may be ordered by phone at 612-371-5656, or online at www.minnesotaorchestra.org.

More information about MYS staff, programs and concerts may be found at the MYS website: www.mnyouthsymphonies.org.

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