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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Bringing Classical Music to Life:  
Young Composers: Be Inspired!  
Young Audience Member Will Compose Live on Stage**

Montrose, CO – The Valley Symphony Association presents, “Young Composers: Be Inspired!,” on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 5 at 3 p.m.

Presented with season partner Cimarron Wealth Management and concert partner Montrose Regional Health, performances celebrating the young composer’s journey, past and present, will be held at the Montrose Pavilion and feature both the orchestra and chorus.

The orchestra will treat audiences to a creative presentation of movements from the first symphonies of five classical masters, while the chorus will highlight an arc of three contemporary Western Slope composers.

To help young people in the audience get a taste for the young composer’s passion, there will be an interactive element included at the performance.

“As an added feature to this unique and inspiring concert, we will invite a willing, young audience member to the stage to interactively create and build a composition with members of the orchestra and chorus—live!” VSA Chorus Conductor Katy Kristoffersen said.

“Think of it as a musical choose-your-own-adventure!” She explained, “This young person will stand on the conductor's podium and build a composition with the biggest, live musical toolkit possible. It’s an incredible opportunity to glimpse into the composer’s experience and use the sounds of our fabulous ensemble as paint on a very large musical canvas.”

Over 100 musicians ranging in age from teens to octogenarians comprise the VSA, a regional, all-volunteer performing arts organization. The 51-year-old nonprofit is looking to capture the attention of all families, students, and music lovers to attend their winter concerts.

“On February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, we look to inspire everyone and hope to see lots of young people in the audience,” Kristoffersen said. “It’ll be a musical experience unlike any the Western Slope has ever seen!”

For information, upcoming concerts, tickets, and the audition process, visit the VSA on Facebook @ValleySymphonyAssociation and online at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets are also available in Delta at Clubb’s (502 Main St), in Montrose at Colorado Smiles (601 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St) and at season partner Cimarron Wealth Management (1731 E Niagara Rd), and at the door on event days. Other inquiries may be directed to 970-765-8323 or info@ValleySymphony.net.

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Photo 1:

PHOTO CREDIT: Katie Griffith/Bubbles Photography  
Valley Symphony Association Orchestra & Chorus (2022-2023 –  
Season 51)

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ctkm1o4zxiujw6w/Season%2051%20-%20VSA%20Orchestra%20%26%20Chorus%20-%20Official%20Group%20Photo.jpg?dl=0>

Photo 2:

Courtesy Photo: VSA Chorus Conductor Katy Kristoffersen at the podium

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/h7kl8sgs182szxj/Katy%2012-2022.jpg?dl=0>

Photo 3:

Courtesy Photo: VSA Chorus Conductor Katy Kristoffersen - headshot

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/n2m3kt2ivus26mi/Katy%20Kristoffersen%20-%20headshot.pdf?dl=0>

Graphic 1:

Young Composers: Be Inspired! poster/image

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/gwqvxbw60hrkk4t/2023%20Young%20Composers%20Poster%282%29.jpg?dl=0>

Graphic 2:

Season 51 Logo

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/gfu3wekc5x4k9ve/Season%2051%20logo%208-24-22.jpg?dl=0>

### ***About the Valley Symphony Association***

Bringing classical music to life since 1970, the Valley Symphony Association has culturally enriched the community and its members by bringing together some of the best volunteer musicians of all ages from the North Fork, Grand, and Uncompahgre Valleys and throughout the Western Slope to discover and perform works of great composers, past and present. Concerts range from classical orchestral to upbeat pops, from purely instrumental to purely choral, to a combination of both.

### ***About Season Partner Cimarron Wealth Management***

We strive to simplify your financial life and give you confidence about your future so you can focus on your passions. It starts with the foundation of investment, estate and tax planning discussions, but our passion is honest conversations about purpose, legacy and generosity.

***About Concert Partner Montrose Regional Health***

Montrose Regional Health is a 501(c)3 nonprofit healthcare system serving Montrose, San Miguel, Ouray, Gunnison, Delta, Hinsdale and San Juan counties. The hospital is licensed for 75-beds and offers an extensive range of inpatient & outpatient health care services, including cardiology, oncology, minimally invasive surgery, laboratory, medical imaging/radiology, Mountain View Therapy, Acute Rehabilitation Unit, advanced respiratory & pulmonary services, and the family birthing center. The health system has a reputation for acquiring the latest technologies in healthcare, from robotic assisted surgical services to UVC-disinfection technology. Montrose Regional Health is the second-largest employer in Montrose County, with more than 700 employees and 100 providers who represent 23 medical specialties. With a tagline that reads Caring for you like family, the health system is known for its warm patient care.