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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Stacey Ryan
StaceyVSA@gmail.com 970/250-2440

Valley Symphony Association
PO Box 3144
Montrose, CO 81402
ValleySymphony.net

**VSA Presents Christmas by Candlelight X
VOA is First Ever Concert Partner**

Montrose, CO – The Valley Symphony Association (VSA) presents, “Christmas By Candlelight X,” on Saturday, December 1 at 7:30pm (immediately following the Montrose Parade of Lights) and Sunday, December 2 at 3pm. Both concerts will be held at the Montrose Pavilion.

An all-volunteer arts organization in its 48th season, the VSA’s annual holiday concert celebrates the sounds of the season, as the orchestra and chorus come together to perform old favorites and create new holiday memories with the audience.

Over 100 musicians, ranging in age from 14 to 92, share the stage for the VSA's two Christmas concerts. "We especially invite people to join us after the Parade of Lights, which is why we push back our performance to 7:30pm for our only Saturday concert of the year," Orchestra Director Mike Kern said.

"Our concerts appeal to all ages, and we're comprised of your friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow citizens from throughout the Uncompahgre and North Fork Valleys, who volunteer their time and talent to produce concerts we are truly proud to present," Kern said. "It's so rare and special that we on the Western Slope have access to classical music through the VSA, and we look to the regional community for support through attendance and sponsorship to sustain us."

Board member Priscilla Fry said that Volunteers of America (VOA) is garnering headliner billing as the music organization's first ever "concert partner" sponsor and will help make this year's Christmas by Candlelight extra special.

"Music brings passion and joy to life, and we witness the amazing effects music has in the lives of those we serve in our various healthcare and housing programs," VOA Regional Marketing Director Erin Berge said. "The missions of VSA and VOA align in that we both seek to uplift and enrich lives. One of many ways we provide this is through the enjoyment of music. Music sparks memories and connects us to our happiest moments, especially around the holidays. We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to partner with the VSA in their Christmas by Candlelight concerts."

In Western Colorado, VOA operates under the healthcare division providing a network of services including The Homestead of Montrose assisted living; Valley Manor Care Center and Horizons Care Center,

both offering long term care, short-term rehabilitation and memory care; Home Health of Western Colorado with in-home nursing care; Senior CommUnity Care PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly); Senior CommUnity Meals with community dining sites and meals on wheels; and AdvantAge Health Resource Centers. The VOA Colorado affiliate in Denver manages several senior independent apartment complexes in the area.

For information, upcoming concerts, tickets, and the audition process, visit the VSA on Facebook @ValleySymphonyAssociation and at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets are also available in Delta at Clubb's, in Montrose at Montrose Music and the Montrose Pavilion, and at the door on event days.

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COURTESY PHOTO/GRAPHICS (Dropbox links)

Photo 1: Valley Symphony Association Orchestra and Chorus (2018-2019)

https://www.dropbox.com/s/r96j84653y1ok56/Season%2048%20Program%20Cover%20-%20group%20shot%20-%20DSC_1529-Vert.jpg?dl=0

Graphic 1: Christmas by Candlelight X poster/image

https://www.dropbox.com/s/luq0gb9crs5hrea/VSA_Posters_DEC2018%20copy.jpeg?dl=0

About the concert, "Christmas by Candlelight X"

Saturday, December 1, 7:30pm

Sunday, December 2, 3pm

Celebrate the sounds of the season! The orchestra and chorus come together to perform old favorites and create new holiday memories.

About the Valley Symphony Association

The power of music to bind generations.

Since 1970, the Valley Symphony Association orchestra and chorus has culturally enriched the community and its members by bringing together some of the best volunteer musicians from the North Fork and Uncompahgre Valleys to discover and present works of great composers, past and present. Performance styles range from classical orchestral to upbeat pop, from purely instrumental to a combination of orchestra and chorus.

About Volunteers of America (VOA)

Founded in 1896, VOA is a national, non-profit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need live healthy, safe and productive lives. Through hundreds of human service programs, including housing and health care, VOA touches the lives of more than 2 million people each year.

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