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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VSA's 49th Season Opens on Sunday, October 27
Orchestra Presents "Spanish Fiesta!"**

Montrose, CO – The Valley Symphony Association (VSA) presents "Spanish Fiesta!" on Sunday, October 27, 3 pm at the Montrose Pavilion.

The VSA is an all-volunteer, regional community performing arts organization in its 49th season. Its orchestra's fall concert features the beguiling, alluring, and captivating rhythms of Spain, interpreted by Spanish composers as well as Frenchman Georges Bizet, Italian Giacomo Rossini, and Russian Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov.

The music of Spain has a long history of being sassy and classy, evoking images of sensual Flamenco dancers and fiery matadors. Spain's geographical position and history allowed for its culture to absorb musical influences from Arab, Gypsy, Jewish, African and Greek populations. As a result, "Spanish classical music lives in its own, different world apart from the bulk of traditional European classical music like Bach, Mozart, Brahms, and Beethoven," orchestra director Mike Kern said.

Spanish music has strongly informed the development of Western music, and has greatly influenced Latin American music. Spanish music is often associated with traditional styles such as flamenco and classical guitar, yet there are many different

traditional musical and dance styles across the regions. Consequently, dance strongly informs these musical genres, infusing them with rhythm. “Spanish rhythms and tonal colors are all so different from that of traditional classical music, and while it’s fun to play, it’s also challenging,” Kern said.

The group is grateful to Montrose Memorial Hospital for stepping up to be the concert partner for the first concert of their 49th season. “Montrose Memorial Hospital believes in the power of music to bring joy and even help aid in healing,” says James Kiser, CEO of Montrose Memorial Hospital. “Our music therapy program touches many patients’ lives. We know our community will be lifted up by a great show from the VSA.”

If you have yet to attend a concert, VSA board member Priscilla Fry encourages concert-goers to set aside the stereotype that going to a symphony performance is formal and stuffy. “It’s a true mix of people. Some take advantage of the opportunity to dress up; others opt for comfortable clothes,” she said. “Some enjoy the meditative aspect of a live music performance, and others see it as an opportunity to bond with multi-generations of family, meet like-minded music lovers, or take advantage of the opportunity to round out a Sunday afternoon lunch or night out at a local restaurant.”

VSA concerts have sold out for the last year and half. “Buying tickets in advance guarantees a seat, and you can save by purchasing season tickets,” Fry said. “It’s a great way to plan for five entertaining events during the September-April time frame, or to purchase as gifts or employee incentives.”

The five concerts in season 49 are designed to offer a wide range of themes that appeal to all ages. “Having a regional all-volunteer performing arts organization like ours is a rare and special thing for a community,” Fry said. “We truly appreciate our season ticket holders and sponsors who help keep us in the music making business.”

For information, upcoming concerts, the audition process, and tickets, visit the VSA on Facebook @valleysymphonyassociation and at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets are also available in Delta at Clubb’s and in Montrose at the Pavilion and Maggie’s Books on Main Street.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Please credit photo: Marc Bergman Photography

Valley Symphony Association Orchestra (Season 49 - 2019-2020)

Dropbox link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/eo1bampn75buf49/VSA%20Season%2049%20-%20orchestra.jpg?dl=0>

About the concert, "Spanish Fiesta!"

Sunday, October 27, 2019 @3pm

Montrose Pavilion Event Center Montrose, CO

Sassy and classy, Spain invokes images of sensual Flamenco dancers, fiery matadors, and exotic cultural influences from North Africa. This concert features the beguiling, alluring, and captivating rhythms of Spain, interpreted by Spanish composers as well as Frenchman Georges Bizet, Italian Giacomo Rossini, and Russian Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov.

With thanks to our concert partner, Montrose Memorial Hospital.

About the Valley Symphony Association

Since 1970, the Valley Symphony Association, your all-volunteer orchestra and chorus, has culturally enriched the regional 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.

Musicians range in age from 15-93 and hail from throughout the region, including Montrose, Ouray, Hotchkiss, Eckert, Fruita, Olathe, Palisade, Paonia, Delta, Ridgway, Whitewater, Austin, Cedaredge, Telluride and Grand Junction. We play our regular subscription of concerts October-April at the Montrose Pavilion Event Center, a beautiful venue bordered by the Montrose Botanical Gardens, overlooking the San Juan Mountains.