



Contact: Stacey Ryan  
[Development@ValleySymphony.net](mailto:Development@ValleySymphony.net)  
970-250-2440  
PO Box 3144, Montrose, CO 81402  
ValleySymphony.net

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Music You Love. Musicians You Know.  
VSA Orchestra and Chorus to Perform  
Winter Concerts at the Montrose Pavilion with  
“SING! Epics and Idols”**

Montrose, CO – The Valley Symphony Association (VSA) is excited to present beloved masterworks in monumental proportions at their winter concerts: “SING! Epics and Idols.” The concerts, featuring both the orchestra and chorus, will be held at the Montrose Pavilion on Saturday, February 22 at 7 PM, and Sunday, February 23 at 3 PM. Generous support for the entire season comes from Cimarron Wealth Management and the David Mize Family.

The performance with both ensembles will also feature Lyric Mezzo-Soprano Soloist Mandolyn Raper. Performing onstage since she was 3 years-old, she had her operatic debut at age 10 with the Crested Butte Music Festival. She’ll be performing universally recognizable pieces, including “Habenera” from the opera “Carmen”; the “Duetto (Flower Duet)” from the opera “Lakmé” with soprano Bethany Ward; and “Brindisi” from the opera “La Traviata” with tenor Nathan Howe.

The VSA is delighted to announce long-time supporters Montrose Regional Health as the February concert partner.

“We are proud to support the Valley Symphony Association,” said Montrose Regional Health CEO Jeff Mengershausen. “From excellent orchestra performances to advanced medical care, Montrose truly offers great experiences for our friends and family.”

Season 53, themed PLAY!, is the second year for Artistic Director and Orchestra Conductor Troy Raper, who is thrilled to present the February concert.

“Whether you’re a seasoned concertgoer who analyzes every note or someone who simply enjoys the beauty of the music, these masterworks have a way of speaking to each individual in a unique way,” he said. “From the first notes of the powerful opening movement of Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony –those famous four notes, ‘da-da-da-dum’—

listeners are instantly drawn into a world of intensity and drama. These notes, often referred to as 'Fate knocking at the door,' are perhaps the most famous in all of music."

"Our concerts offer something for all ages— not just classical enthusiasts—and this concert is going to be truly breathtaking," VSA Communications and Development Director Stacey Ryan said. "Along with our featured soloists, there will be over 125 regional volunteer musicians—from teenagers to 90-somethings—on stage together performing masterworks that reside in our collective consciousness. You are invited to support this exceedingly unique cultural asset and our generous and talented musician members."

Concert tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students.

Since its founding in 1970, VSA has fostered community through live musical experiences, uniting musicians and audiences from across the Uncompahgre, Grand, Gunnison, and North Fork Valleys. The all-volunteer organization is known for its diverse, passionate performers of all ages.

For more details, visit VSA on Facebook @valleysymphonyassociation or online at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets for the October-April series can be purchased online, or at local vendors: Clubb's in Delta (417 Main St.), or in Montrose at Cimarron Wealth Management (1731 E. Niagara Road) or Colorado Smiles (1801 E. Pavilion Pl.). For additional information, contact 970-765-8323 or info@ValleySymphony.net.

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

**Music you love. Musicians you know.** Bringing together some of the best volunteer musicians from the Uncompahgre, North Fork, Gunnison, and Grand Valleys since 1970, the Valley Symphony Association connects our communities through transformative, live, musical experiences for all generations of musicians and audiences.

#### **About Our Season Co-Partners**

**Cimarron Wealth Management** strives 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.

**The David Mize Family** has quietly and generously supported all types of Western Slope non-profit organizations for decades and is a longstanding donor to the VSA.

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

Montrose Regional Health ([www.MontroseHealth.com](http://www.MontroseHealth.com)) 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, Level III Trauma Center, Acute Rehabilitation Unit, Spine & Pain Center, advanced respiratory and pulmonary services, gastroenterology, 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 850 employees and 100 providers who represent 27 medical specialties. With a tagline that reads Caring for you like family, the health system is known for its warm patient care.