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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bringing Classical Music to Life: Spring Chorus Concert Sets the Stage for “Heaven & Bluegrass”

Montrose, CO – The Valley Symphony Association (VSA) presents, “Heaven & Bluegrass: Singing the Sacred,” on Saturday, March 30 at 6:30pm, and Sunday, March 31, at 3pm, at the Montrose Pavilion. Presenting a mix of ethereal choral music and bluegrass, this concert is full of feel-good music that explores and combines these two expressions and forms of spirituality. Concerts are presented in partnership with season co-partners Cimarron Wealth Management and the David Mize Family along with concert partner Budget Blinds.

The VSA is a regional all-volunteer performing arts organization in its 52nd season. From high schoolers to retirees, musicians from all ages and walks of life hail from throughout the Uncompahgre, Grand, Gunnison, and North Fork Valleys and come together to bring classical music to life on the Western Slope.

The concert theme, Heaven & Bluegrass, was originally conceived by former VSA Chorus Conductor Allyson Cotham for the March 2020 performance; however, the concert was a casualty of COVID and was canceled. “I am so grateful to have inherited this creative and beautiful theme,” said VSA Chorus Conductor Katy Kristoffersen. “Our vision honors and celebrates Allyson’s original intention, and that this concert takes place on Easter weekend feels exactly right, considering the nature of the music: we offer settings of deeply spiritual texts that explore human suffering, mortality, joy, devotion, reverence, and the human desire for meaning.”

Pieces will include selections from the 2000 film, “O Brother, Where Art Thou?” and will include local Montrose bluegrass band, The Black Canyon Boys, and VSA Orchestra violinist Li Gomez. “Partnering with local musicians is of great importance to our musical community, and it is extra special for this concert, as it truly embodies the inherently collaborative nature of bluegrass,” Kristoffersen said. “You’ll see the musical fruits of our country’s ancestral roots, as professionals and amateurs stand side-by-side on stage. This is a live, modern example of how the best music education works: by playing side-by-side

with experts and teachers. It's a living metaphor of the core value of the VSA: there is a place for everyone in the arts."

"We are proud to support the Valley Symphony Association," Budget Blinds Owner and VSA Board Member Cheryl Zahniser said. "I am excited for the opportunity to expand and support the vision of the VSA."

"Our concerts appeal to all ages, and our musician members are your friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow citizens from throughout the region, who volunteer their time and talent to produce concerts we are truly proud to present," VSA Board President Hartland H. Clubb, Jr., said. "It's so rare and special that we on the Western Slope have access to experience the joy of live classical and choral music through the VSA. Please join us to see and hear what we're all about!"

For information, visit the VSA on Facebook @valleysymphonyassociation or at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets for all season 52 concerts at the Montrose Pavilion are also available online; in Delta at Clubb's (417 Main St); and in Montrose at season co-partner Cimarron Wealth Management (1731 E Niagara Rd) and Colorado Smiles (601 S 3rd St). Other inquiries may be directed to 970-765-8323 or info@ValleySymphony.net. Help support the VSA's new YouTube channel, "Valley Symphony Association - Montrose, Colorado," by subscribing.

About the Valley Symphony Association

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

Our goal is to ensure that future generations will enjoy the legacy of live orchestral and choral music that so magnificently celebrates the human spirit.

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.

"In a world that is increasingly digital and distant, there is something extraordinarily special about bringing community together for a common purpose, and for over 52 years, the VSA has been at the center of this effort," Michael Murphy, wealth advisor with CWM, said. "The VSA enriches the community with live music; they give a diverse group of musicians an outlet for creating art and beauty; and they remain dedicated to passing on musical traditions to future generations. We will be cheering them on at each concert this year, and we hope you will, too."

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 Budget Blinds

Discover the perfect fusion of style and affordability at Budget Blinds of Montrose-Telluride. Our locally owned business has been operating for nearly 15 years and is run by residents who have been a part of our Valley's community for over 50 years. We bring exceptional window treatment solutions to the

picturesque landscapes of the Western Slope. From classic wood blinds to modern smart home automation options and our vast collection of custom soft treatments such as draperies, our diverse range ensures a tailored approach to every home or business. Our expert design consultants, rooted in the community, provide personalized guidance to turn your vision into reality. Elevate your space with Budget Blinds of Montrose-Telluride.