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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Music You Love. Musicians You Know.**  
**The VSA Orchestra and Chorus kicks off a season of PLAY!**  
**with four regional CELEBRATE! Sounds of Summer concerts**

Montrose, CO – The Valley Symphony Association (VSA) Orchestra and Chorus kicked off its 53rd season over the first two weekends in September with four free performances that spanned the region, from Cedaredge to Montrose to Ridgway. All four shows were sponsored by concert partners Budget Blinds. Season partners are Cimarron Wealth Management and the David Mize Family.

The theme of the all-volunteer performing arts group's entire 53<sup>rd</sup> season is *PLAY!*

"The Celebrate! concert series was a perfect end to the summer season, and our Budget Blinds team was thrilled to support and share in bringing music to the communities we serve," said Budget Blinds Owner Cheryl Zahniser. "It was exciting to be a part of the introduction of the 'Phil' the Cello Campaign, the brainchild of VSA Artistic Director and Orchestra Conductor Troy Raper, a clever fundraiser to support the VSA. We eagerly anticipate the rest of Season 53 of Play! at the Montrose Pavilion."

"Our CELEBRATE! Sounds of Summer orchestra performances on September 7 in Cedaredge and September 8 in Montrose featured a vibrant mix of concert classics, including Sousa marches, a tip of the hat to jazz classics, the William Tell Overture, and offered a sneak peek into our upcoming concert series shows," Raper said. "We are excited to get this playful party started with another season with the VSA!"

"The VSA Chorus delighted audiences with selection that capture the wonder of summer, exploring the musings of our summer minds," VSA Chorus Conductor Katy Kristoffersen said. Their performances in Montrose on September 14 and Ridgway on September 15 included Simon and Garfunkel favorites and Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World."

Since 1970, the VSA has been connecting Western Slope communities through transformative, live, musical experiences for all generations of musicians and audiences. The VSA is a regional all-volunteer performing arts organization in its 53rd season. From teens to 90-somethings, musicians from all walks of life hail from over a dozen different communities throughout the Uncompahgre, Grand, Gunnison, and North Fork Valleys.

“It’s music you love by musicians you know,” VSA Communications and Development Director Stacey Ryan said. “All of our shows feature music for all tastes—not just classical. These are really fun concerts designed for the whole family.”

This year, the VSA has introduced incentivized pricing options to make their performances even more accessible to all ages. The season pass offers a “Buy Four, Get One Free” option, with prices set at \$80 for adults, \$20 for students and a family package at \$200 (two adults and two students). Single concert tickets are priced at \$20 for adults and \$5 for students, making it easier than ever to enjoy high-quality live music.

For information about donating, concerts and tickets, volunteering, or becoming a VSA musician, visit the VSA on Facebook @valleysymphonyassociation or at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets for the upcoming October-April concert series at the Montrose Pavilion are also available online; in Delta at Clubb’s (417 Main St.); and in Montrose at Cimarron Wealth Management (1731 E. Niagara Road) and Colorado Smiles (1801 E. Pavilion Pl.). Other inquiries may be directed to 970-765-8323 or info@ValleySymphony.net.

#### **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 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.