



BRAZOS VALLEY
Symphony Society

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRAZOS VALLEY SYMPHONY PREPARES TO ENTERTAIN AND EDUCATE 4000+ AT ANNUAL CHILDREN’S CONCERTS NEXT WEEK

College Station, TX—January 4, 2011—

The Brazos Valley Symphony’s twenty-ninth season includes a unique experience for 4th and 5th grade students in the Brazos Valley. This program is now an award winning presentation as recognized this year by the Texas Association of Symphony Orchestras for excellence in Education. In two performances to packed Rudder Auditorium audiences, the symphony will introduce live symphonic performance to over 4000 area children. Children travel many miles to see this concert from places like Gause ISD, Huntsville ISD, and almost all other public and privates schools in the seven county Brazos Valley area. On Monday, January 10, 2011, Music Director and Conductor Marcelo Bussiki and the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra musicians present the Annual Children’s Concerts.

What: Annual Children’s Concerts

When: Monday, January 10, 2011 at 9:30AM and 11:00AM

Where: Rudder Auditorium in College Station on Texas A&M campus

Program:

Mindaugas Piečaitis	<i>Catcerto</i> Nora the Cat, piano
Jean-Baptiste Accolay	<i>Concerto in A Minor</i> Thomas Yum, violin
Peter I. Tchaikovsky	<i>“March” (from <u>The Nutcracker</u>)</i> Student Conductor
George Kleinsinger	<i>Tubby the Tuba</i> Larry Campbell, Tuba Greg Wise, Narrator

The symphony has an educational component as an important part of its mission, the Children’s Concerts are just one way the organization seeks to fulfill this goal. Symphony Board President-Elect and Concert Chairperson Christine Larsen said, “Much research has been done on the benefits of music and how valuable that experience can be in enhancing a child’s skills in all areas of education and other life experiences.” Larsen added, “What a wonderful gift the Brazos Valley Symphony is able provide the children of the Brazos Valley through the opportunity to attend the Children’s Concert. For many children, this is their first exposure to a live musical performance and it is truly a magical moment in their lives.”

Coordinated by FASO (Friends Association of the Symphony Orchestra), this project provides preparation materials for teachers and students, support during the live performance to musicians and students, and follow-up activities.

“The annual BVSO Children's Concerts represent a major project of the Friends of the Symphony Orchestra. FASO volunteers work with Maestro Bussiki to determine an exciting program that will introduce area 4th and 5th grade students to the joys of live orchestral music,” said Children’s Concert past Chair Jane Van Valkenburg. “These concerts provide a wonderful opportunity for FASO members to get involved with the children of our community and to pass on their love of music to future generations,” added Van Valkenburg.

The extensive educational packet allows teachers to plan lessons about symphonic music and orchestras into their curriculum, fully preparing students for the experience. View packet on-line at: <http://bvso.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/10/Childrens-Concert-Preparation-Packet.pdf>. After the concert, students can then continue the engagement with the experience by entering art and essay contests. Winners receive recognition and complimentary tickets for the child and his/her family to an upcoming symphony performance where they will be presented to the audience for their accomplishment.

This program is funded in part by generous contributions from Blue Bell Creameries and Target. This annual educational outreach would not be possible without the assistance of our own Symphony Belles, and many dedicated FASO volunteers.

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About the Brazos Valley Symphony: The Brazos Valley Symphony is a non-profit performing arts organization with the mission to maintain a symphony of high artistic standards, and to promote the musical arts for cultural and education purposes in the Brazos Valley. For more information about the Symphony’s 2010--2011 Season, please visit the Brazos Valley Symphony Web site at www.bvso.org.

The Brazos Valley Symphony Society wishes to recognize and thank our programming sponsors, grant funding providers, and charitable trust contributors:

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