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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: April 9, 2010

SR Symphony Youth Orchestra presents Spring Concert May 16

(SANTA ROSA, CA)—The Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra performs its Spring Concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 16, 2010 at the Jackson Theater, Sonoma Country Day School. Conductor Richard Loheyde will lead the young musicians in a challenging program consisting of Mussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain*, *Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture*, and Saint-Saëns' *Danse Bacchanale* as well as two other pieces that will provide solo opportunities for two orchestra members. 17-year-old Michael Murrin will solo in Vaughan Williams' Tuba Concerto, and 16-year-old Kirsten Skabelund will solo in Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. Both young musicians reside and go to school in Santa Rosa.

Concert tickets are \$12 general, \$10 students and seniors. Call 54-MUSIC (707-546-8742) or purchase online www.santarosasympphony.com.

Currently in its 51st season, the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra has 65 members ranging in age from 13 to 20. Several players from last season auditioned for, and have been accepted by, the San Francisco Symphony Youth orchestra, a testament to the excellence of these young musicians.

Bios of Soloists

Born and raised in Santa Rosa, **Michael Murrin** is a 17-year-old senior at Montgomery High School. He began playing music on the euphonium in 5th grade, and started the trombone soon afterward. In 7th grade, he began playing the tuba and continued playing trombone in jazz. He has been playing the tuba and trombone in Montgomery High School's Symphonic Band and Jazz Band since 2006. Michael has participated in the high school Northern California and All State Honor Bands in 2007, 2008 and 2009, earning second chair at All State in 2008 and 2009, and was the tubist of the CMEA/CODA All State Honor Orchestra in 2009. He has been a member of the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra since 2006. He studied tuba with Gary Meierhenry for 2 years, and also took lessons from Tony Clements and Jim Self. Michael enjoys arranging music as well as a bit of composing, and had one of his arrangements performed by the Youth Orchestra's brass ensemble in 2009. He sings in the Jubilate adult choir of St. Mark Lutheran Church, and plays tuba and trombone at church services. His other interests include hiking, backpacking, and being around friends.

A native of Santa Rosa, **Kirsten Skabelund** is sixteen years old and a junior at Santa Rosa High School. Currently concertmaster of Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra, she has been a part of the orchestra since 2006. A highlight of her Youth Orchestra experience was touring Czech Republic and Germany and playing in conjunction with the Potsdam Youth Orchestra in the summer of 2009.

Kirsten started violin at age six and currently studies with Kathryn Marshall. Previous teachers include Linda Ghidossi-DeLuca and Bronwynn Swigert. Kirsten has taken master classes with Dawn Dover, Cary Koh, Vadim Gluzman, Corey Cerovsek and Serban Rusu. In 2009 Kirsten won a first place award in the Santa Rosa Etude Competition – Senior Strings Division. She has played in the Santa Rosa High School String Orchestra since 2007 and is an advocate for music in the public schools. As a member of the Santa Rosa Symphony's Young People's Chamber Orchestra from 2006 to 2009, she was a soloist in their spring and summer concerts, and performed in the Junior Bach Festival. In fall 2007, she sat as concertmaster for Santa Rosa Junior College Orchestra, and enjoyed the opportunity to participate in Sonoma State Young Artists Chamber Ensembles. Kirsten is a member of the Lost Quartet and frequently plays for weddings, receptions and social events. Additionally, she plays violin for church services. Kirsten enjoys hiking, camping, rock climbing, astronomy, reading, good movies, and spending time with friends and family.

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What: Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra Spring Concert
Dr. Richard Loheyde, conductor

When: 3 p.m. Sunday, May 16, 2010

Where: Jackson Theater, Sonoma Country Day School, 4400 Day School Place, Santa Rosa

Program:

Mussorgsky: Night on *Bald Mountain*

Tchaikovsky: *1812 Overture*

Vaughan Williams: Tuba Concerto (Michael Murrin, soloist)

Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto (Kirsten Skabelund, soloist)

Saint-Saëns: *Danse Bacchanale*

Cost: \$12 general; \$10 students and seniors (over 65)

Tickets: Call 54-MUSIC (707-546-8742) or purchase online www.santarosasympphony.com.

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