

To: Music Teachers, Elementary School Principals, and Parent Coordinators
*Charlottesville City Schools; Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Nelson,
Madison, Greene, Orange County Schools; Area Private Schools;
Area Home-School Groups*

From: Elizabeth Roberts, Director of Youth Education, Charlottesville Symphony

Date: August 17, 2017

Re: INVITATION TO ANNUAL YOUTH CONCERT

I Hear America Singing

Welcome back to school!
The Charlottesville Symphony invites
fourth and fifth graders to its annual Youth Concerts.

Thursday, October 19, 2017
Location: Old Cabell Hall at UVA
10:00AM and 11:30AM
Narrator: John Mason
Soloist: Pamela Beasley

Please join the Charlottesville Symphony, its new Music Director Benjamin Rous, narrator John Mason, and soprano Pamela Beasley for a rousing concert featuring traditional American songs: *I Bought Me a Cat*, *Shenandoah*, *Simple Gifts*, and *Ching-a-Ring Chaw*. Meet the families of the orchestra and explore the historical context of several American Masterworks as you listen to John Philip Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever*, William Grant Still's *Afro-American Symphony*, Leonard Bernstein's *Overture to Candide*, and Aaron Copland's *Lincoln Portrait*.

Once again, the Charlottesville Symphony Youth Concerts are FREE. Funding is provided by the Charlottesville Symphony Society, the McIntire Department of Music at the University of Virginia and the Mr. and Mrs. James L. Brown Endowment Fund, whose support is gratefully acknowledged.

Program (excerpts from the following works):

Leonard Bernstein Overture to "Candide"
Traditional, arranged by *Jack Bullock* "Shenandoah"
Aaron Copland Old American Songs
"I Bought Me a Cat"
"Ching a Ring Chaw"
"Simple Gifts"
Pamela Beasley, *Soprano*

Aaron Copland Variations on a Shaker Tune (Simple Gifts)
William Grant Still Afro-American Symphony, movement III. Animato
Aaron Copland Lincoln Portrait
John Mason, *Narrator*

John Philip Sousa Stars and Stripes Forever

Who is eligible to attend:

Fifth graders from the Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Nelson, Madison, Greene, and Orange County Schools, and fourth graders from the Charlottesville City Schools are invited to attend. Additionally, we are pleased to welcome fourth and fifth grade students from private schools or who are home-schooled in the Charlottesville area. **Due to space limitations, we ask each school to limit to one grade level only.** Grade-combined classes, please contact us for special instructions. For home-schooled families, siblings are welcome, however no one under age five will be admitted. All students must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

The Charlottesville Symphony's Youth Concerts are designed to aid recruitment for local band and orchestra programs by targeting students the year before they begin studying band and orchestra instruments at school. By inviting students to our concerts in the academic year just before they start a school instrumental music program, we help them make more informed decisions about which instrument they will choose to play.

Reservations Procedure and Deadline:

We will offer two performances on **Thursday, October 19, 2017**, at **10:00AM** and at **11:30AM**. Advance reservations are required and will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis through Thursday, September 21, 2017. To reserve seats, please email jk3xa@virginia.edu with all of the following information. **Incomplete reservations will not be accepted.**

- ❖ your name
- ❖ your school's name or home-school group's name
- ❖ the total number of students who will attend from your school
- ❖ the total number of chaperones who will attend from your school (chaperone number should be separate from the above-requested student number)
- ❖ the grade level of the students attending (please see who is eligible to attend as described above)
- ❖ your contact information, including your daytime phone number and email address
- ❖ your preferred concert time and whether or not your school can attend the other concert
- ❖ how you will travel to the concert (car or bus)
- ❖ if you will travel by bus, how many buses will bring your students to the concert

SPECIAL NOTE: Reservations for the Charlottesville City Schools have already been made through Arts Coordinator Aaron Eichorst. All Charlottesville City School students will attend the 10:00AM performance on Thursday, October 19th.

IMPORTANT: We generally have a waiting list of over 300 people each year. Any group that reserves a large number of seats that go unused during 2017 will receive lower priority when making reservations in 2018.

Preparatory Materials and Activities:

We will supply the music teacher at each school (or parent coordinator for home-schooled groups) with an age-appropriate study guide for each student. A pdf copy of the program booklet will also be posted on our website. The guides offer information about the orchestra and the music that will be performed in the concert. We have also posted on our website some YouTube links for each piece that will be performed. Please visit our website, open the document containing the links and enjoy listening. A list of suggested activities to help you fulfill a number of the Virginia state-mandated SOLs will be posted on the orchestra's website:

<http://cvilleSymphony.org/education-community/youth-concerts/>. Please use all of these materials to prepare your students in advance of the performance.

Logistical Information:

Logistical information, including seating charts, directions, maps, bus drop-off, and parking information will be posted on the orchestra's website:

<http://cvilleSymphony.org/education-community/youth-concerts/>

Please read this information carefully as it has changed from years past due to policy changes at the University. Important rules to follow:

- 1) The University of Virginia does not permit picnics on the Lawn following the Youth Concerts.**
- 2) Lunches cannot be brought into Old Cabell Hall by order of the Fire Marshall.**
- 3) Please follow the required traffic pattern posted in documents on our website.** Buses must drop off along McCormick Road along the EAST side of the road; buses may NOT drop off along the opposite side of the street. Any buses traveling the wrong direction on McCormick will be required to turn around before unloading.
- 4) Buses must leave Grounds during each performance.** Buses may NOT wait along McCormick Road or anywhere else on-Grounds during either performance.

Questions:

Please direct questions to Elizabeth Roberts, Director of Youth Education, at education@cvilleSymphony.org.

Thank you. We hope to see you on Thursday, October 19th!