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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 4, 2016

**CHARLOTTESVILLE SYMPHONY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
CELEBRATES THE ARRIVAL OF SPRING WITH "VARIATIONS FOR SPRING"**

CHARLOTTESVILLE – The Charlottesville Symphony at the University of Virginia continues its 2015-16 season on Saturday, April 2, 8:00pm, at Old Cabell Hall on UVA Grounds, and Sunday, April 3, 3:30pm, at Charlottesville High School's Martin Luther King, Jr. Performing Arts Center.

Conducted by Music Director Kate Tamarkin, the all-orchestral program balances music by British and American composers and gives a nod to the lushness of springtime. It opens with George Butterworth's pastoral "The Banks of Green Willow." Other works include the Virginia premiere of Christopher Theofanidis' "Dreamtime Ancestors," Ralph Vaughan Williams' Five Variants on "Dives and Lazarus" and the Suite from "Appalachian Spring" by Aaron Copland.

"Dreamtime Ancestors" was commissioned by a consortium of orchestras through New Music for America. Christopher Theofanidis is one of the more widely performed American composers of his generation. He regularly writes for a variety of musical genres, from orchestral and chamber music to opera and ballet. His large-scale piece, *The Here and Now*, for soloists, chorus and orchestra, based on poetry of Rumi, was nominated for a Grammy award in 2007. Mr. Theofanidis is currently on the faculty of Yale University and has taught at the Peabody Conservatory and the Juilliard School.

42 American orchestras will play "Dreamtime Ancestors" over a two-year period. The Charlottesville Symphony is giving the only Virginia performances.

Five Variants on "Dives and Lazarus" for strings and harp is reminiscent of an Irish folk tune, "The Star of County Down." Another set of variations is heard in Copland's Suite from "Appalachian Spring," taken from a larger score for a ballet of the same name composed for legendary dancer Martha Graham. It won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1945 and is best known for its inclusion of the Shaker tune "Simple Gifts."

The Saturday night concert is sponsored by the law firm of McGuireWoods LLP.

The orchestra's 2015-16 season, which celebrates Kate Tamarkin's 10th anniversary as Music Director, is made possible in part by major gifts from Frances Massey Dulaney and the Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation.

For those who want to "Know the Score," a pre-concert lecture will be presented 45 minutes prior to the Saturday night concert at nearby Minor Hall. Free of charge, this popular lecture by UVA Associate Professor of Music Richard Will, offers a lively and informative behind-the-scenes look at the program.

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In-depth program notes are posted on the orchestra's website, www.cvillesymphony.org two weeks prior to each masterworks concert.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Free parking is available in the UVA Central Grounds Parking Garage, located on Emmet Street, on Saturday nights and at Charlottesville High School on Sunday afternoons. The Charlottesville Free Trolley stops at McCormick Road near the UVA Amphitheater, in close proximity to Old Cabell Hall. Both venues are wheelchair accessible.

Single tickets for all concerts are priced at \$10-\$45 for adults, and \$10 for students. UVA students may request one complimentary ticket in advance. Single tickets may be purchased at The University of Virginia Arts Box Office, (434) 924-3376, 12:00-5:00pm. Monday through Friday in the lobby of the Drama Building at 109 Culbreth Road, or online at www.artsboxoffice.virginia.edu.

All University of Virginia employees (faculty and staff of all UVA departments and professional schools) are entitled to a 20% discount on tickets to individual performances. This offer does not apply to subscriptions or previously purchased tickets.

THE CHARLOTTESVILLE SYMPHONY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Kate Tamarkin, Music Director

Remaining 2015-16 concerts:

"Pictures"

Saturday, April 30, 8:00pm, Old Cabell Hall, UVA Grounds

Sunday, May 1, 3:30pm, Martin Luther King, Jr. Performing Arts Center at Charlottesville High School

OTTORINO RESPIGHI – Trittico Botticelliano (Three Botticelli Pictures)

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY – Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op. 33
Denise Djokic, *Cello*

MODEST MUSSORGSKY – Pictures at an Exhibition (arr. Ravel)

Sponsored by the Board of Directors of the Charlottesville Symphony Society in honor of Kate Tamarkin's 10th anniversary as Music Director with additional support from the Office of the Provost and the Vice Provost for the Arts at the University of Virginia

All artists, programs and venues are subject to change.

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