



PO Box 7846, Colorado Springs, CO 80933 •

csysa1@aol.com • 719.633.3901

www.csysa.com

Press Announcement: for immediate release

For the press: if additional information is needed please contact the Youth Symphony Office at 633-3901; ask for Debi Krause-Reinsch although any staff member will be glad to assist you.

Fanfare and Fire: *Fanfare et Feu* Pikes Peak Center Sunday May 4, 3:00 PM



The Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association presents their annual spring concert with special guests **Colorado's Classical Youth Ballet** and featuring the *2008 Young Artist Solo Competition Winner*. The Youth Symphony will also recognize the inaugural *Outstanding Music Educator of the Year*.

Concert music will include *Fanfare for the Common Man* by a brass ensemble, selections from the operas *Samson and Delilah* and *Carmen*, a Tichelli jazz piece, a Sousa march, a Mozart concerto featuring flute and the grand finale Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* with full orchestra and ballet.

“It's easy enough to believe that performance by youth is going to be second rate,” says Gary Nicholson, founder and Music Director of the Youth Symphony. “Well prepare yourself! The quality of this performance and in particular the Youth Symphony and Youth Ballet's offering of *Firebird Suite* need make no apologies. The orchestra performance and the ballet will be stunning.”

Those from the Youth Symphony Association performing include the *Colorado Springs Youth Symphony, Pikes Peak Wind Ensemble, Encore Youth Orchestra, Pikes Peak Concert Band, Brass Ensemble* and 2008 Young Artist Solo Competition winner Maria Mandico.

“We are delighted with this year's Young Artist Solo Competition first place winner,” says Pamela Street of the **Colorado Springs Symphonic Guild**. “Maria is a rare musician to be able to produce such beautiful sounds on the flute. Pure music comes right from her heart. We are excited for the community to hear her perform and privileged to award her our first place scholarship.” Also receiving awards are musicians Thomas Park and Sophie Verhaeghe. **-MORE-**

The Outstanding Music Educator of the Year is chosen from nominations that come in from the over 300 students in the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony. This is the first ever award and the winner will be announced at the concert in recognition of this special teacher and as an exhibition of the tremendous impact music teachers have on youth.

Even with all this other excitement, this concert presents the first time collaboration between the Youth Symphony and the Youth Ballet. It is destined to be the most memorable presentation of the afternoon. “Gary (Nicholson) made contact with us and thought that this would be a perfect artistic match,” said Patricia Hoffman, Founder and Co-Artistic Director of **Ballet Society of Colorado Springs** and the Youth Ballet. “Although an extremely challenging project, what I had seen from both groups made me certain that we could produce a superb performance. This is going to be one of the Pikes Peak region’s finest productions in this or any year.”

The Ballet Society of Colorado Springs is in its 11th season of operations. It was founded with the mission of training young dancers with the specific goal of balancing dance, health and excellence. Ballet Society offers extensive training in classical ballet, as well as programs in jazz, lyrical, hip hop, and worship dance for children and adults.

-MORE-

Colorado's Classical Youth Ballet Company was launched in September of 2003 in response to the high level of achievement that co-directors Hoffman and Holly Marble were finding in their studio. Studio and Company information is available by calling (719) 272-7078 or by email at info@danceinthesprings.com

The Colorado Springs Youth Symphony provides for the artistic and educational development of young people within the Pikes Peak region by offering high quality and diverse musical experiences. "The Youth Symphony is in the top echelon of fine youth orchestras in the country," says Conductor Steven Amundson, St. Olaf College Orchestra. Over 300 young musicians are members and live the mission of enriching the cultural environment of the community. Audition and additional information is available by calling 633-3901 or at csysa.com.

Tickets for Fanfare and Fire are \$14 for students, senior citizens and balcony and \$16 for all others and are available at the Pikes Peak Center, by calling 520-SHOW, or on-line at TicketsWest.com. For additional information contact the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony office at 633-3901.

-MORE-

30 second PSA

Fanfare and Fire! is the annual spring concert from the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony with special guests Colorado's Classical Youth Ballet on May 4th at 3 pm in Pikes Peak Center. This concert will feature Stravinsky's Firebird Suite with full orchestra and ballet. Five different ensembles will perform. Tickets are available by calling 520-SHOW or on line at TicketsWest.com.

All photographs, including the image at the top of this release, are by Dan Park and are available in hi-res upon request



-MORE-



#####