

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 2006

PRESS CONTACT: Tonya Woody

PHONE: (410) 780-6914 or

E-MAIL: twoody@gbyo.com



The **Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra Association** presents, “**An American Century,**” its twenty-ninth season grand finale concert at **The Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall**.

Baltimore County, Md. - “An American Century,” GBYOA’s final concert of the 2005-2006 season, will take place on **Sunday, May 28, 2006 at The Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, a world-class concert hall and home of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, beginning at 4:00** in the afternoon.

“**An American Century**” will conclude *American Voices*, a season-long exploration of some of today’s most well-known and up-to-the-minute American composers. **Under the direction of Jason Love, the Youth Orchestra** will play the evocative finale of *Harmonielehre* by **Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, John Adams**. **MaryAnn Poling** will lead the Concert Strings in **Philip Glass’s** melancholy *Company*. Earlier American works by **Duke Ellington and Aaron Copland** round out the program alongside **Dvorak’s Rondo Capriccioso** and music by **Mozart and Beethoven**.

The winners of the 2006 GBYOA Concerto Competition will be the featured soloists on this exciting program. Violinist **Ryan Lee, winner of the 2006 GBYOA Concerto Competition,** brings his talent center-stage as soloist with the Youth Orchestra, playing **Saint-Saens’s** virtuosic *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso*. A sophomore at **Gilman School in Baltimore**, Ryan is now in his eighth year playing with the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra Association. He has studied violin for nine years and is currently a student of **Irina Briskin**. He is also the concertmaster in the youth orchestra at his church and a member of Gilman’s String Ensemble and Glee Club. Ryan was a prizewinner at the FMMC’s Johansen High School Strings Competition in November 2005 and at the U.S. Army Orchestra’s Young Artist Competition this March. He was also a concertmaster candidate in the Senior All-State Orchestra this year. He will be attending the **Boston University Tanglewood Institute** this summer.

Kate Bateman, who was awarded second place in the Concerto Competition, will play **Kent Kennan’s** enchanting work for flute and string orchestra, *Night Soliloquy*. Kate is a sophomore at **Hammond High School in Howard County** and is in her first year with the GBYO. A student of **Elaine Newhall**, she has studied the flute for six years. Kate is active in her school’s music program as a member of the symphonic and marching bands and full orchestra. This year, she was a member of the Maryland Senior All-State Orchestra. In previous years, she was also a member of the Howard County Gifted and Talented Middle School Band and Maryland Junior All-State Band. Kate fills her free time playing, listening to and composing music, playing lacrosse and spending time with friends.

A pre-concert discussion, moderated by lecturer, entertainer and musicologist **Bill Scanlan Murphy** will take place in the **Meyerhoff Lounge, beginning at 3:00**. While revealing little-known facts about the lives and music of those composers whose music is featured on this program, Murphy is sure enlighten those in attendance with his candor and wit.

The Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra Association
CCBC Essex, Music Department • 7201 Rossville Boulevard • Baltimore, Maryland 21237
Tel: 410.780.6914 • Fax: 410.780.6546 • www.gbyo.com

All **concert ticket prices** are as follows: **Adults: \$15 Advance/\$20 Door, Seniors: \$15 Advance/\$18 Door, Students: \$5 Advance/\$10 Door.** Tickets are available in advance through **TicketLeap** at **www.gbyo.com** or by calling **410-780-6914**.

Since its founding in 1977, the mission of the **Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra Association** has remained to provide **high-quality orchestral training and performance opportunities** for talented young musicians, to create an environment in which **students learn from music professionals and from one another**, and to **foster a greater appreciation for classical music in the students and their audience**. The mission is carried out through the participation of **more than 130 students** in one of **three GBYOA ensembles – the Youth Orchestra, Concert Strings, and Sinfonia**. Students work with professional coaches, perform in chamber groups, and present concerts of symphonic literature to diverse audiences in the Greater Baltimore area. The GBYOA has a distinguished history of serving as cultural ambassadors through tours and cultural exchanges. **For more information about the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra Association, its concerts and educational programs, visit www.gbyo.com.**

###