

Press Release

***Midwest Young Artists
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Midwest Young Artists Auction Goes Electronic

FORT SHERIDAN, IL, - Avoid holiday traffic this year at Midwest Young Artists' (MYA) E-Auction.

Starting Friday, November 19, and concluding on Friday, December 17, log on to www.mya.org to bid on exciting auction items from the comforts of your own home. Like eBay, MYA's auction site will showcase items with photos and descriptions. High bidders for each item will be automatically entered in a raffle to win 2 free American Airlines tickets to any continental, domestic destination.

This is the first year that Midwest Young Artists will use an internet auction site. Adrian Culver, co-chair of the E-Auction, comments, "This year, we're trying something different. In the past we've held our silent auctions at our winter concert, but this year we thought it might be fun and convenient to host an on-line auction." Popular items include: a one-of-a-kind autographed jacket worn by NASCAR driver Dale Jarrett, a five night stay in a beautiful condo in Beaver Creek, Colorado, and CUBS tickets. "We really have a variety of items this year," adds Adrian. "We have items for sport lovers, art lovers, and of course, music lovers."

The E-Auction, chaired by Mary Jo Biersteker, Adrian Culver, and Kay Olson, is MYA's largest fundraising event of the year. Proceeds from this event go towards scholarships and financial aid so that no student is denied entrance in to MYA's programs for financial reasons. Over 20% of students at MYA receive some kind of financial assistance.

In conjunction with the E-Auction, MYA presents a celebration of youth with its *All-American Kids Performing All-American Music* concerts with guest conductor Leonard Slatkin and MYA alum and pianist Chris Falzone. The concerts will be held on Sunday, December 12 at the Harris Theater, Millennium Park, Chicago with a matinee concert at 3:00 p.m. and an evening concert at 7:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, please visit www.madtchi.com.

Midwest Young Artists (878 Lyster Road, Highwood, IL, 847-926-9898), is the leading youth-music ensemble program in the Midwest. Founded in 1993 by Dr. Allan Dennis with one orchestra, MYA has grown into a full-curriculum music school with a distinguished faculty of 22. Presently, MYA has five youth orchestras, more than 50 chamber music ensembles, three vocal ensembles, an all-inclusive jazz program, as well as classes in music theory and history. The program is for serious young musicians and dedicated amateurs. MYA is housed in its own state-of-the-art facility in the town of Fort Sheridan, which provides its students with large rehearsal halls, classrooms, a recording studio, and music library. MYA graduates are accepted at the most selective conservatories in the country.

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