

Press Release
Midwest Young Artists
878 Lyster Road
Highwood, IL. 60040

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
CONTACT: Sarah Barnes, SarahBarnes@mya.org
Wk:(847) 926-9898 ext. 306
Cell: (847) 721-3680

Midwest Young Artists Celebrates *Stars of Tomorrow* with ABC 7's Harry Porterfield and the Winners of the Walgreens National Concerto Competition

FORT SHERIDAN, IL, - Midwest Young Artists (MYA 878 Lyster Road, Highwood, 847-926-9898) is proud to present the *Stars of Tomorrow* concerts at 3:00 and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 26, 2005, at the newly renovated Genesee Theatre (203 N. Genesee Street, Waukegan, 847-782-2366). The concert will mark the first time a youth orchestra has performed in the theater since its renovation. Concert tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students/seniors. Tickets are available at www.mya.org.

The 3:00 p.m. concert, hosted by 102.3 FM Jon Hemmer, will feature a stunning performance of Nielsen's *Flute Concerto* performed by Gurnee resident 13-year-old flutist Matthew Wright, winner of the Walgreens' National Concerto Competition MYA Junior Division. The concert includes a performance of Haydn's *Symphony 104*, by the MYA Concert Orchestra, and the MYA Choristers, Reading, Cadet, and Prep Orchestras.

Don't miss the 7:30 p.m. concert as the MYA Symphony Orchestra performs Stravinsky's breathtaking *Firebird*. Hosted by ABC 7's Reporter Harry Porterfield and with a special introduction by Mayor Hyde of Waukegan, the concert includes special guest, singer and actress Joan Hammel. The concert will feature the overall winner of the Walgreens' National Concerto Competition Open Division 16-year-old violist Vicki Powell from Madison, Wisconsin. Vicki will perform Bartok's *Concerto for Viola* with MYA Symphony Orchestra. The concert will also include the overall winner of the Walgreens' National Concerto Competition MYA Division Palatine resident 16-year-old pianist Samuel Cormier-Iijima in a performance of Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2* with the MYA Symphony Orchestra. The Waukegan Concert Choir, 1st Corinthians Church Choir in Waukegan, and North Chicago Community High School Choirs will join the MYA Chorale in a beautiful performance of Robert Ray's *Gospel Mass*.

In conjunction with the concerts at Genesee Theatre is MYA's "Music in the Schools Day," held on Friday, February 18, 2005. Over 200 young musicians from MYA will travel to Waukegan elementary schools to present unforgettable musical outreaches to schoolchildren. Students from the participating schools will receive 2-for-1 student tickets for the *Stars of Tomorrow* concerts, 3:00 and 7:30 p.m., on Saturday, February 26, 2005, at the Genesee Theatre in Waukegan.

Midwest Young Artists (878 Lyster Road, Highwood, 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. MYA has five youth orchestras, more than 50 chamber music ensembles, three vocal ensembles, an all-inclusive jazz program, and 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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