



## *Press Release*

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### **Traveling the Silk Road: Destination China and Korea!**

*FORT SHERIDAN, IL.* – Following an impressive year of performances at venues throughout Chicago including the Harris Theater of Music and Dance, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, and the Civic Opera House, which brought in audiences of unprecedented proportions, **Midwest Young Artists (MYA)** students will now go abroad to perform on international stages. As ambassadors of the United States, members of Midwest Young Artists' Symphony Orchestra, Big Band, and Chorale, will depart on **July 24, 2007**, for a **nineteen day international tour to China and Korea**. The extraordinary trip will include performances in six major cities, including Beijing, Xi' an, Hangzhou, Suzhou, Shanghai and Seoul and performances in prestigious venues including the Seoul Arts Center, Peoples Auditorium of Xi'an, the opulent Shanghai Concert Hall, and the Zhong Shan Concert Hall in the Forbidden City. All six cities selected for the tour were chosen as the result of their strength, support and interest for musical activities as well as for their richness of heritage and cultural appeal. Not only will MYA students have an opportunity to perform throughout the country, but they will also have the opportunity to interact with Chinese musicians as they collaborate in a performance and stay for a night with youth orchestra students in Beijing. MYA's youth will have the cultural experience of visiting Asia, but they will also be drawing two cultures closer together through music, a must for a time when global thinking and understanding is increasingly necessary.

On **Sunday, July 22, 2007**, at **3:00 PM**, join Midwest Young Artists' Symphony, Big Band and Chorale, for a family friendly, Concert on the Lawn, as they unveil the repertoire for their upcoming international tour to China and Korea. Hear Tchaikovsky's fabulous *Symphony*

*No. 5*, heart-warming renditions of popular jazz standards, and the beautiful sounds of MYA's Chorale at the **MYA Center in Ft. Sheridan (878 Lyster Road, Highwood, IL)**. The concert is FREE and open to the public. Lawn chairs, picnic baskets and blankets are encouraged and concessions will be available on the premises. More information is available at [www.mya.org](http://www.mya.org) or by calling 847.926.9898. We hope you will join us for this festive occasion!

With a vision to create an exceptional environment for young musicians, Dr. Allan Dennis founded **Midwest Young Artists** (878 Lyster Road, Highwood, 847-926-9898) in 1993. Currently reaching over 600 students from 74 cities in the metropolitan Chicago area, with students ranging in age from 2<sup>nd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades, MYA strives to provide the highest quality music experience for young musicians nationwide. MYA expects the best out of its students and provides a supportive and nurturing environment. It is a place where students are able to grow with their peers in a competitive, yet friendly atmosphere. MYA has 5 youth orchestras, more than 60 chamber music ensembles, 3 choral groups, an all-inclusive jazz program, and classes in music theory and history. Students have the opportunity to travel abroad and to perform in major venues throughout Chicago and around the world. Leading the nation in chamber music instruction, MYA graduates are accepted at the most selective conservatories, universities and colleges in the country.

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