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## For Immediate Release

### American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras to Perform *Melodic Melange* Concert on March 21, 2010 Concert by the American Youth String Ensemble

**Annandale, VA, March 8, 2010:** The American Youth String Ensemble, conducted by Cheri Collins, will perform *Melodic Melange* on Sunday, March 21, 2010, 3:00pm at the Ernst Cultural Center of Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale. The concert will feature works by Beethoven, Leyden, Hofeldt, and Glinka. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors (62+), \$5 for students (including college with ID), and free for ages 5 and under. Tickets will be available at the door.

*For concert details visit [www.aypo.org](http://www.aypo.org). The next AYPO event will be "A Rite of Spring" Gala on Saturday, April 10, 2010, 7:00pm at Woo Lae Oak Korean restaurant of Tysons Corner (tickets required and can be purchased through [www.aypo.org](http://www.aypo.org); RSVP by March 31). The next AYPO concert will be Sunday, April 11, 2010, 3:00pm at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center of Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria. It will feature the American Youth Philharmonic led by Music Director Emeritus Luis Haza.*

**About the Music Director Search:** AYPO began the extensive search for a new Music Director in September 2008. The process of searching for Music Director Emeritus Luis Haza's successor has been a thrilling and enlightening process, with more than 95 applicants from throughout the United States and beyond. AYPO's Search Committee worked hard to narrow down the selection pool of candidates to two people who were best qualified and suited to continue and build the musical excellence of the AYPO program. Finalist Matthew Sidney Hazelwood conducted AYP on November 15<sup>th</sup> and Daniel Spalding conducted AYP on January 31<sup>st</sup>. The New Music Director will be announced at AYPO's annual gala, "A Rite of Spring", on Saturday, April 10, 2010 (reservations required; visit [www.aypo.org](http://www.aypo.org) for details). The official announcement of the New Music Director will be made at the April 11<sup>th</sup> concert conducted by Luis Haza. The New Music Director will conduct the final concert on June 6, 2010, 3:00pm at George Mason University Center for the Arts.

**About AYPO:** Recognized as one of the leading orchestral training programs in the nation, the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO) provides competitive world-class training and performance opportunities for young musicians ages 7 - 21. With nationally recognized conductors, a dedicated professional staff, and a host of volunteers, AYPO annually selects and trains over 400 of the most talented young musicians from throughout the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area. AYPO is the *Youth Orchestra in Residence* at George Mason University's Center for the Arts and was selected by the Catalogue for Philanthropy as "one of the best small nonprofits in the Greater Washington region."

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