

For Immediate Release

American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras Presents Free Concerts for Ages 18 & Under

Falls Church, VA, March 17, 2011: The American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO) offers free tickets to ages 18 & under to attend the *Symphonic Poetry* concerts as part of the annual **Comps for Kids** program, generously sponsored by Target. The concerts take place Sunday, March 27, 3:00pm at George Mason University Center for the Arts in Fairfax, Virginia and Monday, March 28, 7:00pm at The Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda, Maryland. The flagship orchestra, American Youth Philharmonic, led by Music Director Daniel Spalding, will be joined by AYPO Director of Percussion Ensemble Doug Wallace and guest artist Jonathan Rance performing Philip Glass' *Concerto Fantasy for Two Timpanists and Orchestra*. Other repertoire includes *Scheherazade* by Rimsky-Korsakov. **Tickets** for both concerts are \$14 adults, \$10 seniors (65+), \$10 college students (with I.D.), **free for ages**



Doug Wallace, Director of Percussion Ensemble

18 and under, and free for all music teachers. Tickets will be available at the door approximately 45 minutes prior to the concert time. *For concert details or more information about the orchestras and conductors visit www.aypo.org.*

About the Guest Artist, Doug Wallace: Doug Wallace is a vibrant and energetic performer, composer, and educator with diverse experience in all areas of percussion performance and pedagogy. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music and The Juilliard School, Mr. Wallace has performed with a variety of acclaimed ensembles including the National Symphony Orchestra, the Washington National Opera, The Metropolitan Opera, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Theater Chamber Players, the Battery Four Percussion

Group, Eclipse Chamber Orchestra, Post Classical Ensemble, Washington Symphonic Brass, and the Amadeus Orchestra. He has also participated in several honors ensembles and festival orchestras including Tanglewood Music Center, the National Repertory Orchestra, the National Orchestral Institute, Music Academy of the West, and the International Symphony Orchestra. With these groups and others, Mr. Wallace has worked under the baton of Lorin Maazel, Valery Gergiev, Pierre Boulez, James Levine, John Williams, Seiji Ozawa, Kurt Masur, Leonard Slatkin, and Placido Domingo. Mr. Wallace is in high demand as a music educator and clinician. In addition to his position as Director of Percussion for the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras, he is the Professor of Percussion Studies and Assistant Director of Athletic Bands at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia. Mr. Wallace has been an active clinician, percussion director, and sectional instructor at several nationally recognized Fairfax County Public Schools, and his private students have been accepted to The Juilliard School, the Curtis Institute of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music, the New England Conservatory, Boston University, the Peabody Conservatory, the Eastman School of Music, the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, the University of Miami, and DePaul University. His teaching techniques are highlighted in his method book, *Percussion with Class*, published by FJH Music, and his compositions and arrangements have been performed at The Juilliard School, the Eastman School of Music, New York University, George Mason University, the Music Academy of the West, the Aspen Music Festival, Temple University, the Noncert Chamber Series, the Bands of America National Percussion Festival, the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, and Nationals Park.

About the Guest Artist, Jonathan Rance: Originally hailing from New Zealand, Jonathan has been involved in musical pursuits of one form or other since the age of four. While attending the University of Auckland where he completed studies for a Bachelors of Music (Hons) degree, Jonathan was a regular performer with the Auckland Philharmonia, as well as a number of other groups and ensembles throughout the region, including several new

music ensembles. The recipient of a number of scholarships to aid in study abroad, Jonathan moved to the United States in 1998 to commence studies with Tom Freer at Cleveland State University. During his studies towards a Masters of Music degree, Jonathan performed regularly with many orchestras throughout the region. Jonathan has been the Principal Timpanist of the Washington National Opera Orchestra and the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra since 2000.

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 led by Music Director Daniel Spalding, 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."

Photo credit: Steve Barrett

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