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For Immediate Release

AYPO Celebrates 20 Years of Maestro Carl J. Bianchi at Gala on April 3, 2011

Falls Church, VA, March 17, 2011: The American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO) celebrates twenty years of Maestro Carl (Jeff) Bianchi at its annual fundraiser, the *Generations of Music* Gala, on Sunday, April 3, 6:00pm at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna, Virginia. The gala will include exquisite food, live music provided by AYPO ensembles, and a celebration for Maestro Bianchi. All proceeds from this event provide critical support for AYPO programs and the Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$85 student/alumni, \$100 single, and \$950 table of ten. Tickets can be purchased online at www.aypo.org by Monday, March 21, 2011.



*Maestro Carl J. Bianchi, Conductor,
American Youth Symphonic Orchestra*

About Maestro Carl J. Bianchi: The 2010-2011 season marks Carl (Jeff) Bianchi's twentieth year as the conductor of the American Youth Symphonic Orchestra, and his thirteenth year as the director of Virginia's Ambassadors of Music to Europe. He is also a member of Phi Beta Mu, and is a current member, as well as a past Member-at-Large on the Board of the National Band Association (NBA). A noted clinician, adjudicator and conductor, Mr. Bianchi was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association (ABA) in 1987. He subsequently served on its board of directors, was elected Vice President, and in 2007 swerved as President of the ABA. In 1997, Mr. Bianchi retired as the Director of Bands at James Madison High School after serving Fairfax County for 29 years. Mr. Bianchi graduated from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he earned a Bachelor of Music and a Performer's Certificate in French Horn. From 1964-68, Mr. Bianchi was a member of the United States Marine Band, "The President's Own," in Washington, D.C. and he did his graduate work at Catholic University. He has also performed with the National Gallery Orchestra, the Washington Ballet Company Orchestra, the Washington Opera Society, and the National Ballet Company Orchestra as well as the Philharmonic Orchestras of St. Louis, Rochester and Buffalo. In 1971, he was a member of the original cast of the world premiere of Leonard Bernstein's "Mass", at the opening of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. *For complete biography visit www.aypo.org under the "About Us" section.*

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."

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