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**THE BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS'
INTENSIVE COMMUNITY PROGRAM PERFORMS
FREE ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT IN COLLABORATION WITH
ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON DEC. 9**

(BOSTON) The Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras' Intensive Community Program (ICP) performs its annual holiday concert on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 6 pm at the Media Arts Center at Roxbury Community College (RCC). A list of the members of ICP along with their hometowns and neighborhoods can be found at the end of this release. General admission tickets are FREE. For more information about BYSO, call (617) 353-3348 or visit www.BYSOWEB.org.

The concert will be a festive, family program geared toward families and appropriate for young children. The ICP members will share the stage with the Boston Children's Chorus to perform memorable Christmas carols and other holiday pieces that represent the spirit of season. The program includes Leroy Anderson's *Sleigh Ride*, selections from *Messiah* and *The Nutcracker*, and a traditional carol sing-along.

The BYSO has presented this annual Holiday Concert since the inception of ICP nine years ago to bring families and communities together to celebrate children and the holiday season. This will be the fifth year the concert is produced in partnership with RCC, and additionally ICP students attend their weekly rehearsals at RCC throughout the season. Said Marshall Hughes, RCC's Director of Visual, Performing, and Media Arts, "ICP is an amazing program that provides opportunities for students of diverse backgrounds to experience music. RCC is proud to collaborate with the BYSO in its remarkable efforts to prepare these students for a future in music."

ICP began in 1999 as a way to address a lack of music training resources available to some children. A lack of high-quality string instrument training, the result of affordability issues coupled with a paucity of classical instrumental music training in schools, led to a shortage of students

who could successfully audition for BYSO's orchestras. Under the direction of Bonnie Black, ICP accepts students ages 6-8, who show exceptional interest in studying stringed instruments. The program provides them with financial aid assistance for weekly music lessons, ensemble classes and instrument rental. The purpose of ICP is to bring fine music training to students who may not otherwise have access to it, enabling them to pass auditions for one of BYSO's four orchestras. Once admitted into a BYSO orchestra, ICP students receive support in the form of tuition subsidy, weekly lessons and use of an instrument until they graduate from high school.

There are a total of 70 students in the ICP, the oldest in 12th grade and the youngest in first grade. The total enrollment in the entire program of BYSO, which is competitive and done by audition, is 440, so ICP represents 16.1% of all BYSO programs. Thirty-four ICP children have been accepted by audition in BYSO orchestras: seven in BYS, five in Repertory Orchestra, nine in Junior Repertory Orchestra, and 13 in the Young People's String Orchestra.

About Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras

The Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, under the artistic leadership of Music Director Federico Cortese, continues a 50th anniversary season that celebrates a rich tradition of offering young musicians the opportunity to pursue excellence in classical music. A highlight of the ambitious season will be a special performance by world-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma as part of the 50th Anniversary Gala Event. For information about this event, or a complete schedule of all BYSO orchestras, please visit www.BYSOWEB.org.

The BYSO receives generous support from JPMorgan Chase Foundation, its 50th Anniversary Season sponsor. BYSO also receives support from Boston University's College of Fine Arts, individual donors and Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC). According to the selection criteria used in MCC's three-year granting cycle, the BYSO was ranked first among all orchestras in the Commonwealth for its quality, community outreach and fiscal and administrative management. Babson Capital LCC is a proud sponsor of the BYSO's Intensive Community Program, which also receives generous in-kind support from Roxbury Community College.

Since its inception in 1958 at Boston University, the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras (formerly the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras or GBYSO) continues to achieve the highest artistic standards, and remains committed to musical excellence. Today, the BYSO is widely regarded as one of the country's finest youth orchestras and is recognized nationally as a model music and arts education organization.

About Boston Children's Chorus

The Boston Children's Chorus (BCC) is a multi-racial, multi-cultural arts education organization that uses music as a powerful tool for social change by purposefully uniting a diverse group of children to sing, perform and serve as ambassadors of harmony for the city of Boston at local events as well as on tour nationally and internationally. The BCC began just over four years ago as a pilot program with 20 singers. Today, under the direction of Artistic Director Anthony Trecek-King, it is comprised of nearly 300 singers ages 7-18 in nine choirs in four Boston locations. To learn more about the Boston Children's Chorus, please visit www.bostonchildrenschorus.org or call 617-778-2242.

JPMorgan Chase

The BYSO 50th Anniversary Season is made possible in part by JP Morgan Chase Foundation. JPMorgan Chase Foundation's legacy of supporting education, the arts and diversity inspired the sponsorship of BYSO's 50th Anniversary season. JPMorgan Chase shares a common mission of a commitment to excellence, access to the arts and investing in and inspiring youth.

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Intensive Community Program Roster

Name, Instrument, Hometown, School, Grade

Alexandra Morgan-Welch, Viola, Andover, Andover High School, 10
Natalia Jean McDermott, Cello, Billerica, Dutile Elementary School, 5
Sarah Elizabeth McDermott, Violin, Billerica, Dutile Elementary School, 2
Samantha Velasquez, Violin, Boston, Boston Latin Academy, 10
Dante Velasquez, Cello, Boston, Boston Latin School, 8
Berleine Gedeon, Bass, Brockton, Hancock Public School, 5
Adam Gourabou, Viola, Cambridge, Graham and Parks School, 8
Sammy Gourabou, Cello, Cambridge, Graham and Parks School, 6
Patrick J. Samonte, Cello, Dedham, Edward W. Brooke Charter School, 6
Raven Whyles, Cello, Dorchester, Advent School, 2
Cyan Jean, Cello, Dorchester, Edward W. Brooke Charter School, 1
Kermelle Billy, Viola, Dorchester, Mother Caroline Academy, 6
Isaiah Charles, Cello, Dorchester, Sacred Heart School
Alexandra Maund, Viola, Dorchester, Southfield School, 6
Bergelin Jean, Violin, Dorchester, St. Angela's School
Damon Levin, Bass, Dorchester, William E. Russell, 5
Edwin Nathan Jones, Bass, Dorchester, Neighborhood House Charter School, 2
Alexa Dumont, Bass, Foxboro, Ahern Middle School, 6
Raina Jacques, Viola, Hyde Park, Beaver Country Day School, 11
Gesnerson Jean Charles, Bass, Hyde Park, Beethoven Elementary School
Gloria Ojimba, Bass, Hyde Park, Boston Latin School, 10
Angela Ojimba, Bass, Hyde Park, James J. Chittick School, 4
Chiamaka Chukwujama, Bass, Hyde Park, Thayer Academy, 9
Ifeyanyi Chukwujama, Bass, Hyde Park, Thayer Academy, 9
Chad Kaplan Polk, Cello, Hyde Park, The Learning Project Elementary School, 3

Conor McCoy, Bass, Hyde Park, Woodland School, 2
Ifenna Chukwujama, Viola, Hyde Park, 5
Samantha Nam-Krane, Bass, Jamaica Plain, Boston Latin School, 9
Lenora Davis, Cello, Jamaica Plain, Curley Elementary School, 2
Sebastian D'Amico, Cello, Jamaica Plain, The Neighborhood School, 6
Alexandra D'Amico, Viola, Jamaica Plain, The Neighborhood School, 5
Ashley Francois, Viola, Malden, 4
David Auguste, Viola, Mattapan, Neighborhood House Charter School, 5
Pierre-Philippe Auguste, Violin, Mattapan, Noble & Greenough, 7
Genevieve Lefevre, Viola, Mattapan, Southfield School, 5
Maeva Veillard, Viola, Mattapan, 5
Christian Ernest, Bass, Milton, Brimmer & May School, 6
Benjamin Ernest, Violin, Milton, Brimmer & May School, 1
Abigail Jean-Baptiste, Viola, Milton, Glover Elementary School, 3
Nathaniel Jean-Baptiste, Cello, Milton, Glover Elementary School, 1
Allan Jean-Baptiste, Viola, Milton, Milton Academy, 12
Kethlaine Michaud, Bass, Milton, Milton High School, 11
Ernsley Michaud, Bass, Milton, Milton High School, 12
Tatiana Michaud, Cello, Milton, Pierce Middle School, 8
Christine Bourdeau, Bass, Milton, Tucker School, 3
Allysa-Lara Lujares, Viola, Newton, Bigelow Middle School, 7
Jeanay Pierre, Violin, Randolph, St. Angela's School, 3
Yan Brian Prophete, Bass, Randolph, St. Angela's School, 4
Charlie Klowden, Viola, Roslindale, 6
Angelica Samonte, Violin, Rosendale, St. Theresa, 3
Amanda Lewis, Viola, Roslindale, Boston Arts Academy, 10
Alexa Sanchez, Cello, Roslindale, 6
Francis Adams, Cello, Roxbury, Tenacre Country Day School, 3
Kristen Adams, Violin, Roxbury, Tenacre Country Day School
Chase Balayo, Viola, Roxbury, The Village School, 6
Ashanté Jefferson, Viola, Roxbury, Walnut Hill School, 10
Taylor Payne, Violin, Roxbury, 5
Gerald Pierre, Bass, Roxbury
Montanna Riggs, Cello, Roxbury, Shady Hill School, 1
Alisha Magnus-Louis, Cello, Sharon, Milton Academy, 11
Gazuella Jean, Viola, Sharon, Sharon High School, 10
Marina Phillips, Bass, South Boston, 5
Sebastien Ridore, Viola, Stoneham, Buckingham, Browne & Nichols-Lower School, 5
Farrah Ridore, Bass, Stoneham, International School of Boston, 8
Stephanie Mascary, Viola, Taunton, Oliver Ames High School, 10
Patrick G. Samonte, Viola, West Roxbury, Boston Latin School, 7
Jean Pierre Samonte, Violin, West Roxbury, St. Mary Elementary School, 4
Jasmine Rose, Viola, West Roxbury, The Winsor School, 8
Peter Firmin, Bass, Westwood, Downey School, 4
Elizabeth Shaye Firmin, Bass, Westwood, Downey School, 5