

## For Immediate Release

# American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras Appoints Daniel Spalding as New Music Director

**Annandale, VA, April 16, 2010:** After a two year search process, the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO) appointed Daniel Spalding as the new Music Director of the organization on April 11, 2010. "I am very pleased to welcome Daniel Spalding as the new AYPO Music Director. He works so well with our musicians, both as conductor and educator, and will be a wonderful asset to the AYPO program," said Margaret Adams, President of the AYPO Board of Directors. Spalding's inaugural concert as conductor of the American Youth Philharmonic will take place on Sunday, June 6, 2010, 3:00pm at George Mason University Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$14 adult, \$10 senior (62+), \$10 student (including college with ID), and free for ages five and under. Tickets can be purchased online ([www.aypo.org](http://www.aypo.org)) or at the door. Members of the press should contact Michelle Wallace to reserve media passes: [mwallace@aypo.org](mailto:mwallace@aypo.org), (703) 642-8051, x.22. Visit [www.aypo.org](http://www.aypo.org) to read more about Daniel Spalding and the search for AYPO's new Music Director.



Photo by Mark Henderson

*AYPO would like to thank all members of the AYPO family for their input during the search process. A special thank you to Music Director Emeritus, Luis Haza, for his help in the search for a new Music Director and for his 25 years of dedication and service to AYPO.*

**About Daniel Spalding:** Daniel Spalding brings to the podium a versatile and complex musical profile. With emphasis in percussion and composition, he earned B.M.E. and M.M. degrees from Northwestern University and held teaching positions at several universities, becoming nationally known for his work as a percussionist, composer, and pedagogue. Always interested in conducting, he continued his studies with Dr. Harry Begian at the University of Illinois, with Ferdinand Leitner in Austria at the Salzburg "Mozarteum," in Romania with Mircea Cristescu of the Bucharest Philharmonic, and in Philadelphia with Max Rudolf. In 1985 he made his European debut with the Romanian State Philharmonic in Cluj-Napoca and was shortly afterwards appointed principal guest conductor, a post he held for seven years. He also appeared with most other state philharmonic orchestras throughout Romania, including a national broadcast on state television of the Mahler *First Symphony* with the Ploiesti Philharmonic. These many successes helped bring him to the attention of the eminent conductor Sergiu Comissiona, who invited him to be his assistant with the Houston Symphony Orchestra. In 1991, Spalding founded the Philadelphia Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra (PVCO) and quickly secured international acclaim. Born in Wichita, Kansas, Daniel Spalding is a member of the Wyandotte Indian Tribe of Oklahoma. He currently resides in New Jersey with his wife, the Romanian born concert pianist Gabriela Imreh, who often performs with her husband and the PVCO on their many tours. (Visit <http://www.aypo.org/about-us/daniel-spalding.php> for the complete biography).

**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 newly appointed 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."