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For Immediate Release

Catalogue for Philanthropy of Greater Washington Selects American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras to Join Network of Worthy Non-Profits and Caring Individuals

Decision to Add American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras to 2011–2012 Catalogue Based on In-Depth Review

ANNANDALE, VA, NOVEMBER 1, 2011: This year's Catalogue for Philanthropy (CFP) of Greater Washington will contain a new, worthy non-profit organization— American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO), whose mission is to provide the highest quality musical experience that allow students to grow as musicians and individuals, who then contribute to the nation's cultural landscape, as they become future artistic and community leaders.

After a rigorous review process, CFP selected AYPO to join its network, which brings together donors, volunteers, employers, and worthy local non-profits to strengthen our communities.

Since its inaugural edition nine years ago, the Catalogue has raised more than \$15 million from caring individuals for featured non-profits with annual budgets of \$3 million or less. AYPO is one of 70 non-profits making an appearance in this year's Catalogue.

Philanthropic support helps provide outstanding training for AYPO musicians, many of whom attend the leading universities, colleges, and conservatories in the nation. Contributions from the community help support AYPO's outreach activities such as the Music Buddies Mentorship program, which motivates disadvantaged students to study a musical instrument and provides them insights into classical music. These outreach activities inspire and encourage young students by bringing them together with their peers who have attained a high artistic level. Support also helps AYPO continue its Scholarship Program, which annually awards thousands of dollars to talented young musicians demonstrating financial need, giving these students the opportunity to participate in our highly competitive program.

"At the Catalogue, we like to say that each non-profit we include is 'one of the best,' and that applies to American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras. We make this statement based on a rigorous financial evaluation for effectiveness and transparency, at least one site visit, and input from more than 100 independent community reviewers. Donors know they can trust the Catalogue to help them make smart decisions about local non-profits where their contributions can really make a difference," says Barbara Harman, CFP President and Editor.

The Catalogue's website (www.catalogueforphilanthropy-dc.org) allows donors to search by field, view all non-profits in a list, or search using key words. The "How to Give" section includes a Gift Registry, Gift Cards, a section Especially for Kids, and more.

"Throughout the years ahead, even the most worthwhile non-profits will be starved for resources," says Harman, "and will be left to scramble for limited public and private funds — particularly the small, local non-profits that are so essential to the health of our communities. That's why this year's featured Catalogue charities and our entire network of over 300 vetted non-profits, is so important."

This year's Catalogue is dedicated to the memory of businessman and philanthropist Sidney Harman, who was a founder and enthusiastic supporter of the Catalogue.

About AYPO: The mission of the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO) is to provide the highest quality musical experience that allows our students to grow as musicians and individuals, who then contribute to our nation's cultural landscape, as they become future artistic and community leaders. Recognized as one of the leading orchestral training

programs in the nation, AYPO provides competitive world-class training and performance opportunities for young musicians up to 21 years of age. With a nationally recognized artistic staff 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. For 47 years, AYPO has delivered programs of the highest caliber to young musicians and audiences throughout the Washington metropolitan region, earning an unrivaled reputation for excellence and distinction. AYPO is the *Youth Orchestra in Residence* at George Mason University's Center for the Arts and was selected by the 2011-2012 Catalogue for Philanthropy as "one of the best small nonprofits in the Greater Washington region."

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