

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LANSING SYMPHONY TO HOST YOUTH COMPETITION FOR STUDENT INSTRUMENTALISTS

February 14, 2011 – Lansing, MI – The **Lansing Symphony Orchestra** seeks applicants for its annual **Symphony Youth Competition**, to be held **Saturday, May 7, 2011** at Dart Auditorium on the campus of Lansing Community College. The Symphony Youth Competition, sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and Marshall Music Co., has been a tradition in the Lansing area for over 60 years, with many of its past winners going on to pursue professional performance careers.

Two past winners are highlighted in the Lansing Symphony's 2010/2011 season: Cellist Tanya Ell, an Okemos native and now the youngest cellist in the Cleveland Orchestra, performed September 10th with her Trio Terzetto; and Lansing native Melissa White, winner of the Sphinx Competition and violinist in the acclaimed Harlem String Quartet, will perform Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto with the orchestra on March 26th.

Area instrumentalists in grades 6 through 12 are eligible to participate in the competition. They must perform a selection from a piece available for orchestra and solo instrument. In addition to a cash prize, the first place winner will receive a traveling trophy and an invitation to perform with the Lansing Symphony at the Young People's Concerts in its 2011/2012 Season. Cash prizes will also be awarded to second and third place winners. Each participant will have the opportunity to receive feedback on their performance from LSO musicians serving as competition judges.

Interested applicants should download the full rules and registration form at the Education page of www.LansingSymphony.org. All applications must be postmarked by Saturday, April 23, 2011. Students can also call (517) 487-5001 for more information or to request application materials.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra was established in 1929. More than 20,000 people attend Lansing Symphony concerts each year, and more than 250,000 listeners are able to hear broadcasts of the orchestra's performances by NPR affiliate WKAR-FM Radio. The Symphony's education programs reach students in kindergarten through 12th grades. For more information, visit www.LansingSymphony.org or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

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