

SOUTHERN ARIZONA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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MUSIC STUDENTS INVITED TO ENTER YOUTH CONCERTO COMPETITION

TUCSON, AZ – Student musicians are invited to apply for the second annual Youth Concerto Competition co-sponsored by The Symphony Women's Association and the Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra. The competition is open to high school students who play any orchestral instrument including piano. The application deadline is Jan. 28. The competition will be held Feb. 26 and 27.

The students compete for prizes of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250. In addition, the judges may select one of the winners to receive the Performance Award and solo with the orchestra on April 2 and 3.

To enter, students age 13 to 18 should complete the application form and prepare one movement from a standard concerto repertoire for solo instrument and orchestra. Music should be memorized. Students under age 13 may apply if their teacher recommends them. To request an application form, send an email to info@sasomusic.org or call TSWA at 882-6653. Mail completed applications to: SASO/TSWA Youth Competition, P.O. Box 42654, Tucson, AZ 85733.

The 2010 competition included students ranging in age from 8 to 18 performing on a variety of instruments including violin, viola, cello, piano, flute, piccolo, trombone and marimba. Cellist Nicholas Mariscal, a University High School senior, won first prize and was invited to perform with SASO. Second prize went to Ludek Wojtkowski, violin, and third prize to Elizabeth Pae, violin.

SASO presents five concerts each season in two locations, plus special events including a fundraising gala on Jan. 29 and a special concert commemorating the 300th anniversary of Padre Kino's death with the Catalinas Community Chorus and Tucson Masterworks Chorale on March 12 and 13. For more information, call 323-7166 or visit www.sasomusic.org.

Founded in 1979, SASO has grown into a vital community resource that unites performers and audiences through a mutual love of music. The orchestra presents a wide range of compositions including world premiers, little known treasures that are seldom performed and the popular classics. SASO brings together student, amateur and professional musicians with exceptional soloists, composers and conductors. Under the baton of Music Director Linus Lerner, this local community orchestra was invited to tour China last winter, giving six performances five cities, including Beijing.

Since 1952, The Symphony Women's Association's has been dedicated to "keeping music alive in the desert." TSWA's nationally recognized music education program currently provides instruments, music books and weekly instruction for 175 underserved students, selected based on need and merit. It also supports local music organizations through awarded grants. In 2002 the all-volunteer organization opened a Music Education Center in one of its downtown buildings and presents music workshops throughout the year. TSWA raises funds by operating an antique shop and thrift store – The Treasure Shop and Second Fiddle, both in downtown Tucson. For more information about TSWA, call 882-6653.