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Contact information:

Ava Spece

DC Youth Orchestra Program

202-723-1612

www.dcyop.org

PO Box 56198

Washington, DC 20011

DC Youth Orchestra Program Chosen for New 2008-09 Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington

Washington-DC-based DC Youth Orchestra Program has been selected to be featured in the 2008-09 Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington. This is the Catalogue's sixth year in the Washington, DC region. Supported by local foundations (Harman, Meyer, Cafritz, Freddie Mac, Marriott and Fowler) and local corporations (CGI, Chevy Chase, Landon Butler & Co) as a service to the community, the Catalogue profiles environmental, cultural, educational, human services, and international organizations with budgets below \$3 million. Sixty-eight nonprofits were chosen this year from a field of approximately 235 candidates. A committee of sixty experienced grantmakers from area foundations, corporate giving programs, family foundations, nonprofit organizations, and the DC government participated in the review process.

The DC Youth Orchestra Program has been providing music education to young people of the DC area since 1960. The program serves students ranging in age from 4 ½ to 19 and provides class instruction and orchestral/ensemble training to all students.

This year's Catalogue includes 30 nonprofits that were first featured in the '03-'04, and '04-'05 Catalogues; they were chosen both for their intrinsic excellence and because they help to illustrate the impact that the Catalogue has had on area nonprofits.

After an inaugural year in the District of Columbia, the Catalogue expanded to the Greater Washington region—adding nonprofits in Northern Virginia and nearby Maryland counties. 30,000 individuals and hundreds of foundations will receive copies of the Catalogue in mid-November. To date, the Catalogue has helped to raise over \$5.4 Million in donations for local nonprofits.

According to Barbara Harman, Executive Director of the Harman Family Foundation and President of the Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington, "The Catalogue is designed to be a showcase for DC-region philanthropy and an inviting way for individuals and families to participate in charitable giving." The Catalogue is an annual invitation to read and learn about smaller organizations making a big difference in the lives of people throughout our community.

"Charities were selected for excellence, innovation, cost-effectiveness, and financial transparency--and for what they can teach us about the extraordinary ways that philanthropy works," Harman said. "These are certainly among the best small charities in the Washington, DC region."

To "request a catalogue" ahead of time go to the home page of the Catalogue website (www.cfp-dc.org: look for the "request a catalogue" link). For more information about the DC Youth Orchestra Program, please visit www.dcyop.org or call the offices at 202-723-1612.