

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** August 13, 2007

**CONTACT:** Joyce Linehan (617) 282-2510, joyce@ashmontmedia.com

## **BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS ANNOUNCES** **50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON**

**Highlights include Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, a performance by Yo-Yo Ma, Celebrity Series Boston Marquee performance and Mozart's *Cosí fan tutte* semi-staged**

(BOSTON) The Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras (BYSO), under the artistic leadership of Music Director Federico Cortese, announces a 50th anniversary season that celebrates a rich tradition of offering young musicians the opportunity to pursue excellence in classical music. Highlights of the ambitious season include Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 at Symphony Hall, an invitation to be a part of the Celebrity Series' prestigious Boston Marquee series, and a special performance by world-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma as part of the 50th Anniversary Gala Event.

The BYSO is comprised of four different orchestras, each of which serves a particular level of a young musician's development. The most advanced of these is the Boston Youth Symphony (BYS), a group of over 100 outstanding players that performs a wide range of demanding orchestral repertoire, conducted by Mr. Cortese. This season, the BYS will be featured in five Boston performances before concluding its season in June with a concert at Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Germany, one of the finest concert halls in the world.

### **BYS concerts in 2007-08 50th Anniversary Season:**

**Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007, 3 pm Symphony Hall, Boston**

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9  
Soloists TBA  
Chorus pro Musica  
Jeffrey Rink, Music Director

This concert will also feature performances by two other BYSO orchestras – Repertory Orchestra and Junior Repertory Orchestra

**Sunday, January 20, 2008, 3 pm Sanders Theatre at Harvard University, Cambridge**

MOZART *Cosí fan tutte*  
opera buffa in two acts, K. 588  
Soloists TBA

Semi-staged.

**Sunday, March 9, 2008 3 pm, Symphony Hall, Boston**

BERNSTEIN/Foss Prelude, Fugue and Riffs  
BERNSTEIN/Bennett West Side—Variants  
MAHLER Symphony No. 1  
Richard Stoltzman, Clarinet

**Sunday, May 18, 2008 3 pm, Symphony Hall, Boston**

DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 8  
DVOŘÁK Cello Concerto  
Yo-Yo Ma, Cello

This Gala concert event will also feature performances by BYSO's Young People's String Orchestra (YPSO) and the Intensive Community Program (ICP)

**Sunday, June 15, 2008 3 pm, Sanders Theatre at Harvard University, Cambridge**

ROBERT BEASER BYSO Commission (world premiere)  
TBA Concerto Competition Winner

Robert Beaser has been commissioned by the BYSO to create a piece for the 50th anniversary season. Beaser is Professor and Chairman of Composition of the Juilliard School and a BYSO alumnus. The Repertory Orchestra and Junior Repertory Orchestra will also perform.

For ticket prices and further information call 617-353-3359 or go to [www.BYSOweb.org](http://www.BYSOweb.org)

The other three BYSO Orchestras - Repertory Orchestra, Junior Repertory Orchestra, and Young People's String Orchestra, will also perform several additional concerts during the anniversary season, and their schedules are as follows.

**Repertory Orchestra**

January 27, 2008, 3 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University

May 4, 2008, 3 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with the Preparatory Wind Ensemble)

**Junior Repertory Orchestra**

Nov. 18, 2007, 1 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University

February 17, 2008, 3 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with Preparatory Wind Ensemble)

April 27, 2008, 1 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University

**Young People's String Orchestra**

Nov. 18, 2007, 1 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with Preparatory Wind Ensemble)

March 29, 2008, 10 am, Symphony Hall (WCRB Cartoon Festival)

April 27, 2008, 5 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with ICP)

In addition to the four orchestras, BYSO's other programs include Preparatory Wind Ensemble, Chamber Music Program, Summer Camp and Intensive Community Program (ICP), which provides rigorous string instrument instruction serving underrepresented youth. As members of ICP, students learn to achieve excellence through the challenge of learning to play the violin, viola, cello or bass. Through discipline and creativity, individuality and teamwork, students accomplish personal and group goals. The results are young people who develop high aspirations and love to work hard towards excellence. Excitement, enjoyment and pride in ICP members' music making can be seen in every one of their performances.

Preparatory Wind Ensemble and Intensive Community Program both perform several times throughout the 2007/08 season

### **Preparatory Wind Ensemble**

November 18, 2007, 5 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with Young People's String Orchestra)

February 17, 2008, 3 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with Junior Repertory Orchestra)

May 4, 2008, 3 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with Repertory Orchestra)

### **Intensive Community Program**

December 9, 2007, 6 pm, Holiday Concert Roxbury at Roxbury Community College

January 21, 2008, Martin Luther King, Jr. Performance (time and location to be announced)

March 29, 2008, 10 am, WCRB Cartoon Festival at Symphony Hall (with Young People's String Orchestra)

April 27, 2008, 5 pm, Tsai Performance Center at Boston University (with Young People's String Orchestra)

May 18, 2008, 3 pm, Symphony Hall (with Boston Youth Symphony and Young People's String Orchestra)

For ticket prices and further information call 617-353-3359 or go to [www.BYSOweb.org](http://www.BYSOweb.org)

Boston University's College of Fine Arts is a major sponsor of the BYSO.

### **JPMorgan Chase**

The BYSO 50th Anniversary Season is made possible in part by JP Morgan Chase Foundation. JPMorgan Chase Foundation's legacy of supporting education, the arts and diversity inspired the sponsorship of BYSO's 50th Anniversary season. We share a common mission of a commitment to excellence, access to the arts and investing in and inspiring youth.

### **About Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras**

Since its inception in 1958 at Boston University, the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras (formerly the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, or GBYSO) continues to achieve the highest artistic standards, and remains committed to musical excellence. Today, the BYSO is widely regarded as one of the country's finest youth orchestras and is recognized nationally as a model music and arts education organization.

###