



For Immediate Release
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Youth Orchestras in Arkansas and Pennsylvania Selected for Midori's *Orchestra Residencies Program in 2012/2013*

The **Orchestra Residencies Program** is pleased to announce the recipients for the 2012/2013 season: the **Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and Arkansas Symphony Youth Orchestra** in Little Rock, Arkansas and the **Reading Symphony Orchestra and Reading Symphony Youth Orchestra** in Reading, Pennsylvania. These outstanding organizations were selected by an objective committee, based on fulfillment of a variety of criteria as documented in their applications.

Through the Orchestra Residencies Program, violinist Midori will spend five to seven days each in Little Rock and Reading, working intensively with the youth orchestras, performing with the adult symphonies, and participating in assorted community education and outreach projects.

Designed by Midori as a means of supporting the American youth orchestra, the Orchestra Residencies Program is a collaborative project which provides meaningful musical experiences now for the next generation of classical musicians. The program aspires to help establish the youth orchestra as a presence in the community, as well as to build upon relationships with the local professional symphony, visiting artists and administrative staff.

The inaugural Orchestra Residencies took place in Alaska in October 2004 with the youth and professional orchestras of Anchorage and Fairbanks; since then, Midori has presented the program in Alabama, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, North and South Dakota, Tennessee and Vermont. The 2011/2012 ORPs will be held in Alexandria, Virginia and Eugene, Oregon.

Any U.S. youth orchestra and its affiliated adult orchestra, with combined budgets not exceeding \$4.5 million, may submit an application for an Orchestra Residency with Midori. The orchestras must apply together. The applications are reviewed by a small committee of arts professionals, and two residencies will be awarded each year.

For more information, please visit www.GoToMidori.com/orp.

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