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# NEWS RELEASE

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## Unique "Sit-In" Concerts inspire youths to musicianship

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Marin Symphony Youth Orchestra presents Kid-Friendly, Free Concerts on May 30 & 31 at Local Schools

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SAN RAFAEL, CA—The spark that transforms a young child into a musician is often simple, sheer fascination. Exposed to orchestral music for the first time, kids' minds can boggle over the instruments' shapes and sounds. Consider, for instance, the initial visual impact of a tubby tuba, the glistening timpani or a proud string bass. Imagine a child's response to hearing for the first time a quirky bassoon, soaring flute or sliding trombone. Then imagine all those sights and sounds together. When curiosity inevitably takes over, musicians are born.

Provoking fascination and satiating curiosity are the two primary goals of the Marin Symphony Youth Orchestra's annual Sit-In Concerts, scheduled this season for May 30 at Pickleweed Community Center, San Rafael and on May 31st at Park Elementary School, Mill Valley. At the MSYO Sit-In Concerts, young audience members sit right next to the performers to get an "up close" perspective on the sights and sounds of orchestral musicianship. These family-friendly performances last just one hour and are followed by a 45-minute instrument "petting zoo" where the curious can try out the instruments for themselves, guided by the same Marin Symphony Youth Orchestra members they just saw perform. Then there's free ice cream!

George Thomson, Artistic Director of the Marin Symphony Youth Programs, will conduct Lalo Schifrin's Theme from *Mission: Impossible*, excerpts from Klaus Badelt's film score to *Pirates of the Caribbean*, and other more traditional but equally recognizable favorites: the overture to *Le Corsaire* by Berlioz, an excerpt from Sir Edward Elgar's "Enigma" Variations, and Glière's *Russian Sailor's Dance*, conducted by Assistant Conductor Andrei Gorchov.

The Sit-In Concerts are FREE.

The Marin Symphony Youth Programs consist of the Marin Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Crescendo Workshops (which train beginning and intermediate music students for participation in the Youth Orchestra) and Symphony@Schools, an outreach program that brings members of the Marin Symphony orchestra into local schools for educational and entertaining presentations. Participation in the Youth Orchestra and Crescendo programs are by audition. For audition and program information, click [www.marinsymphony.org](http://www.marinsymphony.org)

Marin Symphony is one of the most time-honored and prestigious cultural organizations in Marin County. Currently in its 56<sup>th</sup> season, the Marin Symphony presents five pairs of classical music concerts in the Marin Veterans' Memorial Auditorium from October through April, the Marin Symphony season. The 2009-10 season just announced, the "Season of the Scribe," highlights classical music works that have inspired the lives and works of renowned local writers. Annual specialty concerts include the Holiday Concerts by Candlelight (December 4 & 5, 2010), the Marin Symphony Family Concert narrated by KDFC morning show host Hoyt Smith, and the Prelude series, offering recitals by world-class artists in the luxury of private Marin homes. Music Director Alasdair Neale conducts The Marin Symphony orchestra.

#### **MSYO SIT-IN CONCERTS - IF YOU GO:**

##### **Saturday, May 30, 2009, 2:30pm**

Pickleweed Community Center  
50 Canal St., San Rafael, CA

##### **Sunday, May 31, 2009, 2:30pm**

Park School  
360 East Blithedale Ave., Mill Valley, CA

##### **Admission: Free**

For more information, call 415.479.8100 or click [www.marinsymphony.org](http://www.marinsymphony.org).

Instrument loan by The Magic Flute music store of San Rafael. Ice cream provided by Clover Stornetta Dairy in Petaluma.

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Jpg: The instrument petting zoo at a Marin Symphony Youth Orchestra concert. Photo by Calvin Jow.