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Matt Palm



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Metropolitan Area Youth Symphony wraps season with tribute to Jonathan May

Children's events, Metropolitan Area Youth Symphony, Music — posted by Matthew J. Palm on April, 21 2011 6:33 AM

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The next concert by the Metropolitan Area Youth Symphony (MAYS) will be in honor of "Mr. Jonathan May Day." May 1, the day of the concert, was declared "Mr. Jonathan May Day" by Orange County Mayor Rich Crotty in 2010.

May was an influential Central Florida music educator, conductor and honorary founder of the MAYS. He died in February 2010, and the MAYS was founded in the spring of that year by May's widow, Maureen, and Michael Miller.

The May 1 concert concludes the MAYS' inaugural season and will feature orchestral and chamber music, along with the world Premiere of Robert Kerr's "Elegy," dedicated to Susan Goldman and inspired by Jonathan May.

The MAYS performance will be from 3-5 p.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 2021 W. State Road 426, Oviedo. Admission is free. For more information on the concert, call 407-761-5170, email MAYS4music@maysymphony.org, or go to www.MAYSymphony.org.

The MAYS concert will also serve as a prelude to the May 14 performance by the Orlando Philharmonic, which will feature the world premiere of Daniel May's tribute to his brother, Jonathan, "The Tall and the Small."

Maureen May, cellist with the Phil and Bach Festival, as well as an artistic director of the MAYS, play cello in both performances. About 30 student musicians from Central Florida that were influenced by May will be play alongside the professional musicians during the Philharmonic's performance.

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