

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival taking applications for its Very Young Composers Project

Vail, Co. — Curious what it would be like to compose your own music? Interested in hearing your music composition performed by the New York Philharmonic? If you are between the ages of 8 and 12 with an interest in music, then this just may be your chance.

The Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival is now taking applications for its Very Young Composers Project, a program that gives children an opportunity to learn music composition with musicians from the New York Philharmonic. Selected students will create an original piece of music which will then be performed by members of the New York Philharmonic in Vail and Avon libraries.

In cooperation with the New York Philharmonic, Bravo! is looking for seven to nine students, ages 8 to 12 years old with an interest in music to participate in the program. A musical background is not required. Applications are available at www.vailmusicfestival.org or call 970.827.4302.

The New York Philharmonic conducts the young composers program in New York public schools and around the world. This is the second year of the program in Eagle County. Associate Principal Bassist and Creative Education Associate John Deak led the Eagle County program last year and will lead the program again this summer.

Ted Wiprud, director of music for the New York Philharmonic, says the program is successful for children across the country. “Just a very few children get this opportunity to work with composers, who work as mentor scribes, to capture the student’s ideas so professional musicians can play it,” says Wiprud.

Last summer nine students participated in the Very Young Composers Project and those students will serve as student mentors to this year’s group. Valerie Constein, 12 -years-old at the time of the program, participated last summer and will be assisting the new students this year. Constein says her experience last summer “was incredible.”

“It’s just amazing working with them because they’re all so wonderful,” says Constein. “It was so cool to hear your music being played just the way you want it by the professionals.”

Celebrating 22 years in the Vail Valley in 2009, the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival is a hallmark cultural attraction in Colorado. The seven-week festival touts the highest quality classical musicians in the world today. Bringing in three venerable ensembles, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, The Philadelphia Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic, the Bravo! Festival has established Vail as one of today’s leading musical landmarks. Festival highlights include Jaap van Zweden, newly appointed Music Director and Conductor for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, world renowned cellist Alisa Weilerstein, violinist Gil Shaham, and pianists Yuja Wang, Orli Shaham, and Garrick Ohlsson. From instrument petting zoos to intimate soirées; from Tchaikovsky to Broadway Pops, the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival has it all in the glorious setting of the Rocky Mountains. Pack a picnic and enjoy the concerts from the lawn, or purchase reserved, covered seating. For a complete Festival lineup and to purchase tickets visit www.vailmusicfestival.org or call 877.812.5700.

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