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JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRAS PERFORM TWO SPRING CONCERTS

Festival of Strings & Major/Minor

Jacksonville, FL (April 24, 2019) --- The Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras, under the direction of Principal Conductor Deanna Tham, will perform two concerts the week of May 6. The first, ***Festival of Strings***, will take place on **Monday, May 6 at 7 p.m.** in Jacoby Symphony Hall. The second, the annual ***Major/Minor*** program, will take place on **Friday, May 10 at 8 p.m.**, also in Jacoby Symphony Hall. Symphony Music Director Courtney Lewis will join Tham in conducting this concert.

The **Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras (JSYO)** serves more than 300 talented musicians from all over Northeast Florida through six levels of ensembles – two full symphonies and four levels of string ensembles – that vary by repertoire and technical advancement. Regional satellite sites now offer beginning to intermediate ensembles for student musicians in the early stages of their musical instruction.

Festival of Strings will feature all of the JSYO's young string ensembles: Jump Start Strings, Foundation Strings, Encore Strings and Premier Strings. The audience will hear well-known tunes from "Ode to Joy" to themes from *Pirates of the Caribbean*. *Festival of Strings* will be performed under the collective batons of JSYO conductors, Helen Morin, Rose Francis, David Song, Patrice Evans and John Wieland.

The ***Major/Minor*** concert will feature performances by the JSYO's top performing orchestral groups, the Repertory Orchestra and the Philharmonic. The students in each of these groups will perform alongside Jacksonville Symphony musicians. The concert will be conducted by Symphony Music Director Courtney Lewis and JSYO Principal Conductor Deanna Tham. The audience will hear symphonic classics such as Sibelius' *Finlandia* and Mahler's First Symphony, "Titan."

In addition to performances by those two ensembles, the concert will highlight the two winners of the JSYO's annual concerto competition, cellists Aaron Dantzler and Noah Hays. Dantzler will perform Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto and Hays will perform Shostakovich's Cello Concerto.

WHEN: *Festival of Strings* will take place on Monday, May 6 at 7 p.m. *Major/Minor* will take place on Friday, May 10 at 8 p.m.

WHERE: Both performances will be held in Jacoby Symphony Hall.

TICKETS: For more information, or to purchase tickets, please call the Ticket Office at 904.354.5547 or visit JaxSymphony.org. You can also visit the Ticket Office Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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The Jacksonville Symphony is North Florida's leading music nonprofit offering live performances at Jacoby Symphony Hall in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts and other venues throughout the area. In addition, the Symphony provides music instruction for youth and operates the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras. For more information about the Symphony,

visit JaxSymphony.org, like them at facebook.com/JaxSymphony; follow them on @jaxsymphony, on Instagram at JaxSymphony and on YouTube at Jacksonville Symphony.