**PRESS RELEASE**

**Spring Concert Planned for Fenton Orchestras**

FENTON, MI – The Fenton Community Orchestra (FCO) and Simply Strings are performing their annual Spring Concert April 26 & 27. Sponsored by A Joyful Noise Music Studio, the concerts will begin at 7:00 p.m. at Fenton High School’s Ruby Zima Auditorium. Admission is free, and donations are gratefully accepted.

“It has been a very busy winter for the FCO, performing at the Fenton Expo followed by a special event at the Capitol Theater in Flint. We are very excited to share our spring program with our audiences,” said Andrew David Perkins, FCO Music Director and Conductor. “This program offers a wide array of music from the Romantic period, including Dvorak's Slavonic Dance No.1, Radetzky March by Johann Strauss, English Folk Song Suite by Vaughan Williams, and the Light Cavalry Overture by Franz Von Suppe. To balance this, we will perform the recently composed Huapango by Gabrielle Musella, and a segment of Zhou Tian’s Broken Ink: Listening to the Land. We will also feature Aaron Copland's mid-century classic Fanfare for the Common Man. It will not disappoint.”

Simply Strings, the FCO’s partner novice orchestra for adults, has been busy preparing the Finale to “The Bird” - Haydn’s String Quartet, op. 33. They are also performing Tim McCormick’s Donegal Fiddles, Henry Mancini’s timeless favorite Moon River, and the Finale from Tchaikovsky’s Symphony #5.

The FCO’s Board of Directors is pleased to inaugurate a Memorial Scholarship in conjunction with this concert. “We are pleased to begin our FCO Memorial Scholarship Fund, in memory of members we have lost,” said Board Chair Kathy Kortge. “Its primary purpose is to help current and future members with membership fees. In the future, we hope to expand the program to offer scholarship assistance for music lessons, camps such as Interlochen or Blue Lake, and various other growth opportunities. As our musicians develop their abilities, our audiences will appreciate them all the more.”

Fenton High School is an accessible facility. Those requiring special accommodations are encouraged to email fentoncommunityorchestra@gmail.com or call 810-390-5020. The FCO is proud to present free concerts so that those of any background may attend. ALL are welcome!

(IF ROOM):

The FCO’s 14th season is sponsored by Marathon Flint Oil and The State Bank. The State Bank is also sponsoring this year’s Simply Strings Orchestra. Business Council sponsors include Fenton’s Open Book and First Choice Heating and Cooling, The FCO is also supported in part by matching grants from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Share Art Genesee distributed by Greater Flint Arts Council (Your Tax Dollars Are at Work!), the Michigan Nonprofit Association, and the Fenton Community Fund – a division of the Community Fund of Greater Flint.

**About the Fenton Community Orchestra**

Mission: *The FCO’s purpose is to provide a place for musicians of all ages to connect through music by providing an educational and entertaining music program for both its members and its audiences.* Learn more at [fentonorchestra.org.](http://fentonorchestra.org) The FCO is a 501c3 non-profit organization and [donations](http://fentonorchestra.org/donations) are tax-deductible.

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