



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jamie Wolf, 704-714-5112 or jamiew@charlottesymphony.org

EDUCATION BEHIND THE SCENES FOR SYMPHONY'S OCT 11 & 12 CONCERTS

*MOZART'S OVERTURE TO DON GIOVANNI, SAINT-SAENS VIOLIN CONCERTO NO. 3 WITH KAREN GOMYO,
& TCHAIKOVSKY'S "PATHETIQUE"*

October 2, 2013 | CHARLOTTE, NC – From the dramatic opening chords of Mozart's *Overture to Don Giovanni* to the captivating violinist Karen Gomyo's rendering of Saint-Saen's *Violin Concerto No. 3* and finally Tchaikovsky's harrowing "Pathetique," concert-goers might not notice the young students seated behind the musicians.

Maestro Christopher Warren-Green, the orchestra and Karen Gomyo will be the sole performers at **8 pm on Friday, October 11 and Saturday, October 12 at the Belk Theater**, but they won't be alone on stage.

A number of the musicians' private students and their students' families are being offered better-than-front-row seats, an opportunity to experience their teachers, world-class professionals who are where the students aspire to be, up close, sharing their art with a live audience.

And they won't be the only aspiring young musicians benefiting from on-stage observation this week: during the CSO's Friday morning rehearsal for this concert, more than sixty students from Charlotte Mecklenburg School's public arts magnet, Northwest School of the Arts (NWSA), will experience the orchestra training in action, a true behind-the-scenes peek at how professional musicians put their music together and prepare for a performance. Due to sheer numbers, most of the kids will be in the audience, but the advanced Recital Seminar students will be onstage with the orchestra.

The day before, Thursday, October 10, NWSA teachers will observe rehearsal and then participate in a hands-on professional development workshop with the Charlotte Symphony's internationally renowned Music Director Warren-Green.

These rehearsal experiences are part of a new component of the CSO's longstanding partnership with NWSA, where CSO musicians have intensively coached young musicians during band and orchestra classes throughout the school year for the past seven years.



Karen Gomyo plays Saint-Saen's *Violin Concerto No. 3* with the CSO Oct 11 & 12. Gomyo is first of a series of noteworthy soloists who, in Charlotte to perform with the CSO, will teach a masterclass for UNC Charlotte's Department of Music this year.

New this season, the CSO and NWSA have undertaken an innovative composition-to-performance education project for the school's Recital Seminar students. North Carolina composer Dan Locklair was commissioned to write a piece specifically for the instrumentation of this class. The work, entitled "Canzona for the Music Makers," will be premiered by NWSA's Recital Seminar students in May 2014, and then published and made nationally available for other school band and orchestras who struggle to find repertoire for often odd and unpredictable instrumentation.

CSO musicians aren't the only ones getting in on the teaching action, however; Karen Gomyo, the Symphony's guest soloist for the weekend, is instructing a masterclass for UNC Charlotte's Department of Music on Wednesday, October 9. The UNC Charlotte Department of Music, in partnership with the Symphony, will host a series of masterclasses by virtuosic soloists the CSO is bringing to perform in Charlotte this year, including pianist Stephen Hough, soprano Sarah Jane McMahon and violinist Gomyo, among others.

Over fifty percent of Charlotte Symphony Orchestra musicians teach music, some at area colleges and universities, others as mentors to the Charlotte Symphony's Youth Orchestras, many as private tutors and still many more through the Symphony's education programs in Charlotte's K-12 schools. The rest of the time, they are practicing, polishing and performing great symphonic music.

Tickets to the Charlotte Symphony's Tchaikovsky "Pathetique" concerts at 8 pm on Friday, October 11 and Saturday, October 12 at Belk Theater are available at charlottesymphony.org and 704-972-2000.

About the Charlotte Symphony

Founded in 1932 and led by internationally renowned Music Director Christopher Warren-Green, the Charlotte Symphony is a non-profit organization that serves our whole community through music that educates, entertains and enriches the human spirit. We are world-class musicians, music teachers and music lovers. We put violins in the hands of Charlotte's children and actively nurture the next generation with our programs in music education. We bring artistic excellence to Charlotte's parks and hospitals, schools and churches, stadiums and concert halls. The Charlotte Symphony is a cornerstone of our cultural community, connecting people and adding value to our lives through music .

###