

2/26/10

Jane Polett, Quincy Symphony Orchestra 222-2856

## STORIES, TALES & FABLES: The 39th Young Peoples Concerts

The Quincy Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of conductor Bruce Briney, will present the 39<sup>th</sup> annual Young Peoples Concerts at Baldwin Intermediate School on Thursday, March 25. STORIES, TALES & FABLES will feature new music for orchestra and narrator. The 11:30 performance is FREE and open to the public.

The orchestra will perform three modern selections. *Animal Ditties V* by Anthony Plog includes seven movements entitled Porpoise, Dog, Ant, Centipede, Chipmunk, Rhino, and Mule. The music depicts the antics of these animals while highlighting the different instruments of the orchestra. The narration features the whimsical poetry of Ogden Nash.

*The Remarkable Farkle McBride*, arranged for orchestra by Bill Elliott, is based on the well-known children's book by the same title by actor/writer John Lithgow. Farkle is a child prodigy who masters many musical instruments, but is not able to be satisfied until he finds the one place in the orchestra where he is truly fulfilled.

Todd Goodman's *Some Assembly Required* tells the story of a young girl who learns to take life one step at a time and that even small people can have a big and positive impact on the world around them. The orchestration throughout the story showcases many of the instruments of the orchestra. This is the second collaboration between the QSO and composer Todd Goodman. The QSO performed Goodman's *Symphony No. 1 "Fields of Crimson"* in February, 2009 with Goodman as Artist in Residence.

*Some Assembly Required* will be narrated by Maddy Zahn, a sixth grade student in Mrs. Novosel's Baldwin West classroom. Maddy is involved in her church, the Baldwin Choir, Student Council, and Baldwin Drama Club, where she starred as Alice in "Wonderland" and this year as the Evil Queen in "Doo Wop Wed Widing Hood."

Mettazee Morris, a professional storyteller, will narrate *Animal Ditties* and *Farkle McBride*. A native of Jackson, MS, she now lives in Quincy. She is an actor, musician and storyteller. Her love of storytelling began with her experiences growing up with her grandparents in Mississippi. Mettazee was involved in the Civil Rights Movement at a young age, involved in voter registration campaigns and youth programs through the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, and was the director of the first day care center in her community. She has presented stories in libraries, schools, and at annual celebrations, and has been a regional story teller at the Lake of the Ozarks and in Kansas City. She chooses stories that teach a moral lesson, stories that entertain, and stories that bring people together. Mett has been a member of the QSOA Board of Directors since 2007.

Over 3,700 children from area schools will be attending these 45-minute concerts during the school day. The concert will please children and adults alike! **Admission is free** in fulfillment of the QSOA's mission to bring fine symphonic orchestral and choral music to the people of Quincy, and to encourage young people to foster an interest in live symphonic and choral music. The concerts have been made possible by support from Silver Baton Concert Sponsor Refreshment Services Pepsi, and support from Encore! Symphony Volunteer Council, Jack Sharkey Transportation, the Breakfast Kiwanis Club of Quincy, the city of Quincy, the business and individual members of the Quincy Society of Fine Arts, the Paul and Frances Morrison Charitable Music Foundation, and by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. New Encounters Sponsors for all QSOA concerts are the Knapheide Manufacturing Company and Dene Lambkin Honda, Hyundai, and Hertz. Call 217-222-2856 or visit [www.qsoa.org](http://www.qsoa.org) for more information.