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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Bringing Classical Music to Life:
Raper takes the Pavilion stage for the first time at
the fall orchestra concert
*Classic Drama: Feel the Music***

Montrose, CO – The Valley Symphony Association (VSA) kicks off its 52nd season with their fall orchestra concert, “Classic Drama: Feel the Music,” and invites audiences to experience masterpieces from great composers whose creations touch our souls. Performances at the Montrose Pavilion are slated for Saturday, November 11 at 6:30 p.m., and Sunday, November 12, at 3 p.m. Season partners are Cimarron Wealth Management and the David Mize Family.

The VSA is a regional all-volunteer performing arts organization in its 52nd season. From teens to octogenarians, musicians from all walks of life hail from throughout the Uncompahgre, Grand, and North Fork Valleys and come together to bring classical music to life.

DMEA/Elevate is the concert partner for Classic Drama: Feel the Music. “As a cooperative business, community is our heart—it’s why we do what we do,” said Member Relations Manager Becky Mashburn. “We believe in supporting organizations like Valley Symphony Association because they enrich our communities and build connections between people. They are one of the many organizations that make our local community such a great place to live. We are proud to support them and all the talented local musicians.”

The first concert of the VSA’s five-concert series will also be the first time the VSA’s new Music Director and Orchestra Conductor Troy Raper takes the stage at the Pavilion in his new position. “From the youngest students to professionals, there is a place for everyone in the arts,” Raper said. “Being selected to lead this outstanding music organization is a tremendous honor and holds a great deal of meaning to me as a Western Slope musician.”

He's particularly excited to take the stage for the first time to present the “Classic Drama” concert. “This concert showcases the rich tapestry of emotions we can experience as human beings. Every musical piece we encounter during the course of our lives imprints itself with a unique emotion or memory. There are times when a melancholic tune uplifts us, or a cheerful melody evokes challenging memories.”

“Each piece selected for our ‘Classic Drama’ concert resonates deeply with my own memories and emotions,” he said. “I truly feel that any time dedicated to engaging with art—be it listening,

performing, or crafting—is a precious gift, and it brings me immense happiness to share this gift with you.”

His hope is to play to two full houses at the Pavilion. “The music we perform is thought provoking and touches the emotions in many different ways,” Raper said. “We look forward to delivering a deeply moving performance and that, by the concert’s end, you will carry new memories and a glimpse of the joy, turmoil, and fervor the original composers intended.”

“So join us and ‘feel the music!’”

DMEA/Elevate is the concert partner for *Classic Drama: Feel the Music*. HERE? OR ABOVE?

For information, visit the VSA on Facebook @valleysymphonyassociation or at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets for the upcoming November-April concert series at the Montrose Pavilion are also available online; in Delta at Clubb’s (417 Main St.); and in Montrose at Cimarron Wealth Management (1731 E. Niagara Road) and Colorado Smiles (601 S. Third St.). Other inquiries may be directed to 970-765-8323 or info@ValleySymphony.net.

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About the Valley Symphony Association

Since 1970, the Valley Symphony Association has culturally enriched the community and its members by bringing together some of the best volunteer musicians from the Uncompahgre, North Fork, and Grand Valleys to bring classical music to life!

Performances range from classical orchestral to upbeat pop, from purely instrumental to purely choral, to a combination of both.

Our goal is to ensure that future generations will enjoy the legacy of live orchestral and choral music that so magnificently celebrates the human spirit.

About Our Season Co-Partners

Cimarron Wealth Management strives to simplify your financial life and give you confidence about your future so you can focus on your passions. It starts with the foundation of investment, estate and tax planning discussions, but our passion is honest conversations about purpose, legacy and generosity.

The David Mize Family has quietly and generously supported all types of Western Slope non-profit organizations for decades and is a longstanding donor to the VSA.

About Concert Partner DMEA/Elevate Internet

About DMEA

Delta-Montrose Electric Association is a member-owned rural electric cooperative. Located in southwest Colorado, DMEA provides safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to approximately 30,000 members, primarily in Montrose and Delta counties. DMEA is a progressive and forward-thinking electrical distribution cooperative dedicated to meeting the diverse energy needs of its members. Learn more at www.dmea.com.

About Elevate

Built by Delta-Montrose Electric Association, Elevate is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the electric cooperative. In 2016, Elevate began building a 100% fiber internet network in DMEA's local communities, bringing much-needed high-speed and reliable internet to rural Western Colorado. Today, Elevate provides access to multi-Gigabit internet to more than 20,000 DMEA members and serves more than 13,000 customers with the fastest and most reliable internet available. Service offerings include internet speeds starting at 400 Mbps up to 6 Gig, television, and telephone. Learn more or sign up for service at elevateinternet.com.