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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: May 12, 2011

Valley of the Moon Children's Foundation receives \$4,125 donation from Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra

Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival performance at Davies Hall raised funds for children's charities

(SANTA ROSA) — When the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra was chosen to perform in the Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival at Davies Symphony Hall in January, they designated their portion of the benefit funds for the **Valley of the Moon Children's Foundation (VOMCF)**. In the month of May, Santa Rosa Symphony Director of Education Ben Taylor presented a check for \$4,125 to the children's charity.

VOMCF supports the **Valley of the Moon Children's Center**, which is Sonoma County's only 24-hour emergency shelter for abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Included in the Foundation's completed projects are a state-of-the-art covered playground structure, computer lab and a fully stocked resource library. They also fund educational scholarships to former foster youth.

Meg Easter-Dawson, program manager of the Valley of the Moon Children's Center, said: "We are incredibly grateful for the support of the Santa Rosa Youth Orchestra. Without the help of such organizations from our local community, the Foundation would not be able to meet their mission of serving Sonoma County's foster youth. This contribution is especially touching because it is an example of youth helping other youth to succeed."

This charity was chosen through a survey of the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra musicians. The SRS Youth Orchestra was invited to participate in the Bay of Hope Festival on January 16, 2011, with five other top-notch area youth orchestras: the California Youth Symphony, Oakland Youth Orchestra, Peninsula Youth Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, and Young People's Symphony Orchestra.

For more information about the Santa Rosa Symphony's Training Young Musicians program and its Summer Music Academy, visit the Symphony's [website](#) or call (707) 546-7097 ext. 225.

—Photo of check presentation to VOMCF available upon request—