

March 3, 2011

Midland Symphony Orchestra's "Maestro Wannabe" Update

MIDLAND –The Midland Symphony Orchestra's "**Maestro Wannabe**" fundraiser is in its final month and Midland High's **Kathy Peretz** is in the lead with 44% of the votes! Not far behind is **Steve Derees** (Dow High), with 25% of the votes, **Bill Monroe** (Midland High) with 16% of the votes, and **Shirley Rose** (Dow High) has 15% of the votes. "Maestro Wannabe" candidates are competing for the chance to conduct the orchestra at the April 16, 2011, MSO concert. The contestant with the most "votes" becomes "Maestro" for an evening! The "Maestro Wannabe" contest provides a fun, competitive environment for raising funds to support programming and educational growth for the Midland Symphony Orchestra, and is its largest fundraiser.

Vote for your favorite "Maestro Wannabe" candidate by pledging **\$1 per vote**. *It's easy!* Call the MCFTA Ticket Office at 989-631-8250, or donate online at www.mcfta.org. Voting continues through Friday, April 1, 2011.

Remember, this year's contest continues the "delicious" twist to this fun fundraiser. Dine-in or take-out at **Pi's Chinese Restaurant** or **Genji Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar** anytime after 5 pm on Mondays and Tuesdays during the month of March. Each restaurant will donate a portion of their nightly Monday and Tuesday proceeds to MSO. Ballots can be cast in the restaurant lobbies.

Maestro Wannabe Candidates *Dow High v. Midland High!* Who will win: **GREEN & gold** or **BLUE & gold?**

- **Steve Derees**, Dow High Band Director
- **Bill Monroe**, Midland High Band Director
- **Kathy Peretz**, Midland High Orchestra & Band Director
- **Shirley Rose**, Dow High Orchestra & Choir Director

The Midland Symphony Orchestra (MSO) has provided mid-Michigan with continuous symphonic music since 1936. Along with concerts featuring renowned guest artists, the MSO also provides educational opportunities through its touring ensembles in the schools, Tunes for Tots, prelude lectures, scholarships, music appreciation programs and guest artist master classes and residencies.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, and Music Society – Choral. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

Contact:
Julie Dukes
Communications Manager
(989) 631-5930 x 1602
dukes@mcfta.org

#