



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECEIVES  
SIZABLE GRANT FROM UMPQUA BANK FOR 2013-2014  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS**

*Grant focuses on providing music for young people*

(Vancouver, WA) The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra is happy to announce that it has received a \$5,000 grant from Umpqua Bank, announced jointly by Umpqua Bank and VSO Executive Director Igor Shakhman. The grant is presented to help further the mission of The VSO by supporting our annual Children's In-school Concerts at Skyview Concert Hall in May for SW Washington students.

Continuing the orchestra's focus on music appreciation in schools, two 45 minute concerts at Skyview concert hall are fun and instructional, combining the artistry of the orchestra under the direction of Maestro Brotons. The concerts provide fun information on the instruments and music aimed at elementary school students from 6-12 from all over SW Washington, including home-schooled children. The concert is for school children only and not open to the public. In 2012, The VSO played a shortened version of Holst's *The Planets* with video provided by OMSI, which was wildly successful.

For 35 years, The Vancouver Symphony has been a leader in the community in providing music and music education for students. Dozens of the orchestra's members give private lessons and are public school instructors in Washington and Oregon. Every year, the orchestra ends its season with in-school concerts at Skyview. In addition, The VSO issues over \$5,000 in scholarship money in its Young Artists Competition, now in its 20th year. On April 12 & 13, three incredibly talented young artists performed in concert with the orchestra and as part of the orchestra's outreach program, The VSO Brass Quintet played at Vancouver's Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School in early April.

The VSO has forged lasting partnerships with fellow local arts organizations and businesses, which support the orchestra by sponsoring its programs and offering grants that support the orchestra's mission of providing quality music to the community. With ticket prices only covering a fraction of The VSO's expenses, this support, such as that shown by Umpqua Bank and individual organizations and donors, helps fulfill our promises to the community.

"We are so grateful to community leaders like Umpqua Bank for supporting our efforts" said Dr. Shakhman. "Thanks go out to everyone at the Vancouver School District for their continued support of The VSO and our efforts at providing continual musical enrichment."

The VSO continues its 2013-2014 season with its concert May 31 & June 1 featuring guest pianists Orli Shaham and Igal Kesselman at Skyview Concert Hall.

Complete information on the season schedule and ticket information is at [vancouverSymphony.org](http://vancouverSymphony.org).

### **About Umpqua Bank's Community Responsibility**

Umpqua Bank is committed to supporting the needs of our communities through our time and resources. In 2013, we awarded more than \$1.8 million to nonprofit organizations in support of youth development and education, community development and the arts.

We are particularly proud of the commitment our associates have made to our communities through volunteerism. Our Connect Volunteer Network is an industry-leading volunteer program that provides associates with paid time-off each year—40 hours for full-time and 20 hours for part-time—to serve at youth-focused organizations, schools and community development programs.

Since inception, Umpqua Bank associates have contributed more than 280,000 volunteer hours through Connect. In 2013 alone, 1,961 associates contributed 43,335 hours to more than 1,690 organizations.

### **About The VSO**

Acclaimed Maestro Salvador Brotons is now in his 23rd season of leading the professional orchestra of over 70 core members. For 35 seasons The VSO has been a cornerstone of Southwest Washington's arts community, providing world-renowned classical music, promoting young musicians, and opening doors to classical music for young audiences through events such as the annual In-School concerts, Young Artists Competition and various family-styled special events and performances. Many of our musicians are teachers in our school districts and beyond. The VSO provides our region with a multi-concert classical season every year and performs at Skyview Concert Hall, 1300 NW 139th Street, Vancouver. Season support for The VSO is provided by NW Equity Holdings, All Classical Portland and The Columbian. Tickets for the VSO Chamber Series and all VSO symphony concerts are on sale now at (360) 735-7278 or [www.vancouverSymphony.org](http://www.vancouverSymphony.org).

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