

The CMAC Project c/o United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro PO Box 877 Greensboro, NC 27402-0877

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# All Black & Latino Chamber Orchestra Coming to Greensboro

The Sphinx Virtuosi featuring the Catalyst Quartet will reach out to inspire thousands of underserved Guilford County school children, as well as perform at Aycock Auditorium during their National Tour.

**GREENSBORO, NC, August 30, 2011** – Greensboro's inaugural <u>17 Days Festival</u> will include a concert with the internationally renowned, all Black and Latino chamber orchestra, <u>Sphinx Virtuosi featuring the Catalyst Quartet</u>. The conductorless ensemble will perform at Aycock Auditorium on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM as part of their 2011 National Tour. The Sphinx Virtuosi is comprised of 20 alumni of the acclaimed <u>Sphinx Competition</u> for young Black and Latino string players.

The Sphinx Virtuosi concert is one facet of a three-day outreach program of the <a href="MAC Project">CMAC Project</a> (Classical Music Across Cultures), a non-profit group fiscally sponsored by the <a href="United Arts Council of Greater">United Arts Council of Greater</a> (Greensboro). The primary goal of the CMAC Project is to bring the Sphinx Virtuosi to Greensboro to enrich our community artistically, socially and educationally. This project will help build classical music audiences, reach out to underserved public school music students, and help prepare teachers to better meet the needs of their underserved students.

"My students are 75% non-white. Every time I show them videos of Sphinx, I can see something resonating inside of them. This project is going to be life changing."

--Marta Richardson, Violin Teacher & CMAC Project Coordinator

## The CMAC Project includes:

- A two-day residency, October 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>, targeting GCS string programs with the most diverse student make-up
- A welcoming reception for Sphinx at the <u>International Civil Rights Center & Museum</u> on October 6<sup>th</sup>
  (RSVP for music faculty from GCS, area universities, public officials, arts organizations, media, etc.)
- A university level master class featuring the renown <u>Catalyst Quartet</u> at UNCG Recital Hall on October 7<sup>th</sup>
- A public concert at Aycock Auditorium on Friday evening, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM (A limited number of free student tickets are available.)
- A free Saturday morning workshop at the Greensboro Cultural Center for area string students in grades 6 - 12

#### **Sphinx Virtuosi Concert**

Tickets: \$10.00 336.334.4TIX boxoffice.uncg.edu

A limited number of free student tickets are available. To reserve, please call 336.256.0167.

## **About the Sphinx Organization**

The mission of the Detroit-based <u>Sphinx Organization</u> is to increase the participation of Blacks and Latinos in music schools, as professional musicians and as classical music audiences; to administer youth development initiatives in underserved communities through music education; and to promote the creation, performance and preservation of works by Black and Latino composers. <u>Aaron Dworkin</u>, Sphinx Organization Founder and 2005 <u>MacArthur Fellow</u>, was nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the National Council on the Arts on August 3, 2011.

### **About the CMAC Project**

The CMAC Project (Classical Music Across Cultures) will help build classical music audiences, bring together diverse people groups and cultures, influence children's futures and much more. Learn more about the CMAC Project by visiting <a href="MacProject.org">CMACProject.org</a> and connecting with us on <a href="facebook/CMACProject">facebook/CMACProject</a>, <a href="twitter.com/CMACProject">twitter.com/CMACProject</a>, and <a href="linkedin.com">linkedin.com</a> (Keyword: CMAC Project).

#### **About Marta Richardson**

The visionary for this project is Marta Richardson, a public school violin teacher at Peeler Open School for the Performing Arts in Greensboro, NC. Marta is a graduate of the <u>UNCG School of Music</u>, a former member of the <u>Greensboro Symphony</u> and a founding member of the world music group Songs of Water.













