

For More Information Contact
Kathy Matthews: (847) 841-7700
Executive Director, EYSO

For Immediate Release: September 2009

Grape Expectations Wine and Chocolate Tasting Sure to be a Hit
Annual Fundraiser is a Significant Source of Support for Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra

Elgin, IL – September, 2009 – On Friday, November 13th, 2009, the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra (EYSO) will host its annual fall fundraiser Grape Expectations from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Fox Valley University and Business Center (formally known as Elgin Community College’s Business Conference Center and located on the ECC main campus at 1700 Spartan Drive in Elgin).

Known for its fantastic food and variety of wines, Grape Expectations is an event that many regular participants look forward to every year. Approximately thirty red and white wines will be available for tasting from WineStyles in Lake in the Hills along with homemade and hand dipped chocolates from Graham’s Chocolates of Geneva. Last year’s attendees were thrilled with the addition of the chocolate tasting. It was the beginning of what is sure to be a well-loved and long-lasting tradition.

Attendants will also enjoy substantial appetizers; a silent auction with a great variety of items to choose from; a cash raffle; and musical performances by EYSO ensembles. Silent auction items include sports memorabilia, gift baskets, and special events. Those who wish to bid on the unique items available at the auction must be present.

“Over the years, Grape Expectations has become our Board of Directors’ signature public fundraising event. We see many of the same people every year along with those who are attending for the first time. The food and wine is fantastic and we have a lot of fun putting the event together,” stated Yosh Kodama, Grape Expectations Chairman. This event helps to raise money for the many scholarships given to students.

Tickets for Grape Expectations are \$45/person in advance or \$55 at the door. Tickets for the cash raffle are \$10.00, or three for \$25.00. There are three cash prizes: 1st = \$500; 2nd = \$250; and 3rd = \$125. The drawing will take place the evening of the event: winners need not be present and raffle tickets may be purchased prior to the event.

Please visit <http://grapes.eyso.org> to learn more and purchase tickets. Grape Expectations is being sponsored by the EYSO Board of Directors.

Call (847) 841-7700 to purchase wine tasting tickets for \$45.00/person or raffle tickets. The EYSO is also looking for volunteers and sponsors for the event (financial or auction donations appreciated).

EYSO is more than great concerts. It’s a life-changing opportunity.

About Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra Conductors

EYSO Conductors are dedicated to helping young musicians appreciate and enjoy music while helping them understand the rich history of music around the world. Each conductor has an extensive history of music appreciation, education and performance. Detailed conductor information can be obtained by calling the EYSO office. Interviews are available: Randal Swiggum, Music Director and Youth Symphony Conductor; David Anderson, Philharmonia Conductor and Chamber Music Institute Director; Daniel Beder, Prelude Orchestra Conductor; Jason Flaks, Brass Choir Conductor; and Beth Mazur Wood, Primo Conductor.

About Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra

The Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra (EYSO), an In-Residence Ensemble in the Arts Center at Elgin Community College, is home to five orchestras with nearly 300 students from over 60 communities. Founded in 1976, the mission of the EYSO is to create a community of young musicians, enriching their lives and the lives of their families, schools, communities and beyond, through the study and performance of excellent music. This program is partially supported by grants from the Palmer Foundation, the Elgin Cultural Arts Commission, the Illinois Arts Council, and the JP Morgan Chase Foundation.