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Media Alert  
Carl Jasieniecki  
Marketing Dept.  
Phone: (847) 926-9898  
E-mail: [Carl@mya.org](mailto:Carl@mya.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Midwest Young Artists  
878 Lyster Road  
Highwood, IL 60040

**Midwest Young Artists to hold annual charity benefit April 10;  
Chicago Musicians Charles Pikler and Ramsey Lewis to receive  
awards for work with local youth at the event.**

**What:** The 6<sup>th</sup> annual MYA Benefit; an evening of fine food, MYA youth jazz and chamber music performances, live & silent auctions and warm company.

**Who:** Midwest Young Artists, the leading performance based youth music education center in the Midwest, with honorees: Ramsey Lewis; Chicago Jazz Legend and Charles Pikler; Principal Viola of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

**Why:** This season, the MYA annual benefit will serve to recognize the achievements of these two top level professional musicians who, in keeping with MYA's mission, have taken the time to give back to the youth in their communities by volunteering their time and expertise, ensuring the availability of quality music programming and educational opportunities.

**Where:** The Exmoor Country Club  
700 Vine Avenue  
Highland Park, IL 60035

**When:** April 10, 2011 at 5:00pm,

*About MYA:*

With a vision to create an exceptional environment for young musicians, **Midwest Young Artists (MYA)** was founded in 1993. MYA reaches over 900 students from more than 74 cities in the metropolitan Chicago area, with students ranging in age from 12 months through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. MYA strives to provide the highest quality music experience for young musicians nationwide. MYA expects the best out of its students and provides a supportive and nurturing environment. It is a place where students are able to grow with their peers in a competitive, yet friendly atmosphere. MYA has 9 youth orchestras, more than 60 chamber music ensembles, 4 choral groups, several jazz big bands, numerous jazz combos, honors wind symphony, early and new music ensembles, and early childhood music program and classes in music history, theory and composition. Students have the opportunity to travel abroad and to perform in major venues throughout Chicago and around the world. Leading the nation in chamber music instruction, MYA graduates are accepted at the most selective conservatories, universities and colleges in the country.

- For more information, please visit <http://www.mya.org> or call (847) 926-9898.
- Follow MYA on Facebook at: <http://facebook.com/midwestyoungartists>