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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly Wind Orchestras To Present 'Evening of Musical Masterpieces' June 8

The Cal Poly Wind Orchestras, with more than 100 musicians, will perform "An Evening of Musical Masterpieces" at 8 p.m. June 8 in the Christopher Cohan Center's Harman Hall.

A highlight of the Spring Concert will be a new transcription of Mussorgsky's "Pictures At An Exhibition," according to William Johnson, Wind Orchestras conductor and Cal Poly music professor.

"Although the work was originally composed for piano in 1874, it has been transcribed for symphony orchestra by Maurice Ravel and most recently for wind orchestra by Tohru Takahashi," Johnson said. "This new transcription captures the beauty and power of the work with its extraordinary use of woodwinds, brass and percussion. The work musically describes 10 paintings by Victor Hartmann, some real, some imagined by the composer, but all beautifully painted with Mussorgsky's musical brush, achieving mystery, frenzy, humor and grandeur.

"After 'The Hut of Baba Yaga,' listeners will experience a grand and glorious finale with the famous 'Great Gate of Kiev,'" Johnson said.

The evening program will also include "Dance of the Jesters" by Peter Tchaikovsky, "Songs of Sailor and Sea" by Robert W. Smith and "Art of the State" by Stephen Melillo. Euphonium soloist Jordan Ray will perform the first two movements of Joseph Horowitz's Concerto for euphonium, and Sara Finsten will perform the final movement of David Maslanka's Concerto for flute.

"Central Coast music lovers will not want to miss the youthful, enthusiastic performance of some of the most spectacular works ever written for a large orchestra," Johnson said. "The Spring Concert will be the culmination of a year of musical growth and development. These players will be at their very best."

Tickets cost \$7 to \$15 and can be bought at the Performing Arts Ticket Office 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call SLO-ARTS (756-2787); to order by fax, dial 756-6088. The Spring Concert is sponsored by Cal Poly's College of Liberal Arts, Music Department and Associated Students Inc. For more information, call the Music Department at 756-2607.

- 30 -

(NOTE TO EDITORS: Please disregard previous publicity mentioning guest conductor 87-year-old Frederick Fennell, who is unable to appear because of health problems. Cal Poly Music Professor William Johnson will conduct the two ensembles. Also please note that photographers and reporters are welcome at Wind

Orchestra rehearsals 7-9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays in Room 216 of the Davidson Music Center. Electronic images of the orchestras can be found online at: <http://www.chris.com/wvj/WO-2000-Color-Protrait.jpg>; <http://www.chris.com/wvj/WO-2000Trom.jpg>; <http://www.chris.com/wvj/WO-2000-BC.jpg>; <http://www.chris.com/wvj/WO-2000JJTimp.jpg>; <http://www.chris.com/wvj/wvj.jpg>; and <http://www.chris.com/wvj/WO-2000WVJ.jpg>.)

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