Maha Haider Regina Symphony Orchestra *306.791.6397*  Media Contacts: Rachel Molnar SaskGaming 306.798.0990

mhaider@reginasymphony.com rachel.molnar@saskgaming.com

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## CASINO REGINA DONATES \$40,000 TO STRINGS FOR CHANGE

Students at Arcola Community School and Mother Teresa Middle School will continue to benefit from an innovative music Education and Outreach program thanks in part to a \$40,000 donation from Casino Regina to the Regina Symphony Orchestra (RSO).

"Casino Regina believes in giving back by investing in organizations and events that make this community a better place to live," Minister Responsible for SaskGaming Nancy Heppner said. "This donation will help the RSO continue to inspire these students' love of learning through music, improving educational outcomes and strengthening the community."

"We humbly thank Casino Regina for being a valuable agent for social change and allowing us to make a higher impact in our community," RSO Executive Director Tanya Derksen said.

The donation was announced today during an event at Arcola Community School. The RSO also presented Grade 2 students from Arcola Community School with the violins they will use for the year, and Grade 7 and 8 students from Mother Teresa Middle School treated the assembled guests to a special performance.

Strings for Change began in 2013 and is a key initiative which reaches over 7,000 students in our community each year. The program has grown to include 80 Grade 1 and 2 students from Arcola Community School and Mother Teresa Middle School.

In weekly sessions, RSO violinists Eduard Minevich, Karley Parovsky and Andrea Hedlund introduce students to music history, active listening, rhythm and dancing, body awareness and introductory violin lessons. Grade 2 students advanced into their second year of playing violin, learning bow technique, posture, listening and group playing. The Grade 2 students performed at the school in May at the Collective Creation Program Concert.

The RSO strives to make orchestral music accessible to everyone and to strengthen our shared community. We remain committed to providing engaging programming as well as education and outreach opportunities to a wide array of people of all age groups. For more information on RSO's education and outreach programs visit reginasymphony.com or contact Anne McLellan, Education and Outreach Manager, at <a href="mailto:amclellan@reginasymphony.com">amclellan@reginasymphony.com</a> or at 306.791.6396.

