

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (REVISED)

Outstanding Local Middle School Honor Student Selected to Perform at Carnegie Hall

Contact: Nancy Richardson

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El Paso, TX April 23, 2016— Myles Thomas Lavis, an Honor student at **Alderete Middle School in Canutillo ISD**, has been selected for the **2016 Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall** this June. He will perform as **Second Alto** at the 125th anniversary season at Carnegie Hall with the *Honors Junior Choir*. Participation in one of the three *Honors Ensembles* is limited to only the **Highest Rated Performers** from across North America and select international schools.

This past fall Myles Lavis, nominated by Ms. Alejandra P. Martinez, Middle School Choir Director, was invited to apply for acceptance into the **Honors Performance Series** at Carnegie Hall. His submission included an outline of his personal and musical accomplishments, as well as an audio recording. After careful review by Master Conductors and the *Honors Selection Board*, he was accepted as a finalist into this **'exclusive group'** of talented performers and notified by his Principle, Mr. G. Kimble and Music teacher, Ms. A. Martinez. Myles will join other students to study under the masters in New York City and perform in the celebrated venue, Carnegie Hall, which should prove to be an enriching, rewarding and memorable experience. His inclusion into this prestigious group is a direct result of the **talent, dedication, and exceptional accomplishments** that Myles has demonstrated.

According to Nancy Richardson, Program Director, "Being selected to the Honors Performance Series is something each Finalist should be extremely proud of accomplishing. We process thousands of nominations annually, selecting only the most talented performers. Working with these conductors and performing at Carnegie Hall is a 'once-in-a-lifetime experience' that these student musicians never forget".

Myles, a member of the National Junior Honor Society and Life Scout with Boy Scouts of America (Troop #82), has been studying music for the past 6 years. As a member of the **Alderete Middle School Honor Choir**, he serves as **Choir President** and is also active in Theatre Arts. Furthermore, he has won Gold twice at the WorldStrides Heritage Music Festival in Anaheim, CA; participates in UIL competitions and recently received 1st place recognition in the El Paso All Region Choir. As a dedicated student, he has received many academic awards, is an active participant in many extracurricular activities with a flair for fine arts. When presented with his notification of acceptance as a finalist Myles said, **"This is a dream come true! At times, it has not always been easy to pursue a dream like this, because kids sometimes make fun of you for liking music. Being accepted into this program proves if you stay focused on your goals your efforts will pay off! I know that some people only dream about performing at Carnegie Hall that is why I am so grateful to be given this amazing opportunity this summer!"**

Junior Finalists come together for five days in June 2016 in New York City to have the opportunity to learn from Ms. Sally Albrecht, work with other Finalists, and get a taste of New York City. The Saturday, June 25, performance is open to the public and tickets can be purchased beginning 60 days prior to the performance through the Carnegie Hall box office.

The *Honors Performance Series* was created to showcase accomplished individual high school and middle school performers on an international level by allowing them to study under master conductors and perform in the celebrated venue, Carnegie Hall. The *Honors Performance Series* is proudly presented by WorldStrides, the nation's leading educational travel organization. Learn more by visiting www.honorsperformance.org and www.worldstrides.com.

If you would like to support Myles' efforts and pursue this once-in-a-life time dream, contributions can be made to his **Bank of America Student account # 488062126201; ABA Routing # 111000025**. If you are not able to offer financial support please keep him in your thoughts and prayers as he pursues this remarkable opportunity.



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El Paso, TX April 23, 2016— Elliot Paul Lavis, an Honor student at **Alderete Middle School in Canutillo ISD**, has been selected for the [2016 Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall](#). He will perform as a **Second Tenor** at the 125th anniversary season at Carnegie Hall in June 2016 with the *Honors Junior Choir*. Only the **Highest Rated Performers** from across North America and select international schools are accepted into one of the three *Honors Ensembles*.

Elliot Lavis auditioned this past fall for the **Honors Performance Series** at the recommendation of his music teacher Ms. Alejandra P. Martinez, Middle School Choir Director. His application, which included his accomplishments, both personal and musical and his audio recording were carefully reviewed by the *Honors Selection Board and Master Conductor* and he was notified in school by his Principle, Mr. G. Kimble and his Music teacher, Ms. A. Martinez, that he was recognized as a finalist. Acceptance into this **'elite group'** is a direct result of the **talent, dedication, and high achievements** demonstrated in Elliot's application and audition recording. Elliot will join other performers from North America and select international schools.

According to Nancy Richardson, Program Director, ***"Being selected to the Honors Performance Series is something each Finalist should be extremely proud of accomplishing. We process thousands of nominations annually, selecting only the most talented performers. Working with these conductors and performing at Carnegie Hall is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that these student musicians will never forget"***.

Elliot, a National Junior Honor Society member and Life Scout with Boy Scouts of America (Troop #82), has studied music for 6 years. Currently he is a member of **Alderete Middle School Honor Choir** and for the past two years has participated in UIL and All-Region competitions, placing in top positions each time. Additionally, he has competed with his Choir nationally, at the **WorldStrides Heritage Music Festival** in Anaheim, CA and in both instances achieved GOLD honors. Furthermore, during his 1st national competition, while in elementary school, was selected as the recipient of Disney's **"Time to Start Dreaming"** award, winning by beating out other High School and Middle School nominees. In response to his selection as a Junior Finalist, this accomplished young man, Elliot Lavis said, **"It is such an honor to have been selected as a finalist and I look forward to meeting the other performers selected who share my passion for music and the arts. Many people dream of performing at Carnegie Hall and I am so excited that this is what I am about to do. I know this will be a life changing experience for me, one that I will never forget!"**

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The *Honors Performance Series* was created to showcase accomplished individual high school and middle school performers on an international level by allowing them to study under master conductors and perform in the celebrated venue, Carnegie Hall. The *Honors Performance Series* is proudly presented by WorldStrides, the nation's leading educational travel organization. Learn more by visiting www.honorsperformance.org and www.worldstrides.com.

If you would like to support Elliot's efforts and pursue this 'once-in-a-life time' dream, contributions can be made to his **Bank of America Student account # 488062126201; ABA Routing # 111000025**. If you are not able to offer financial support please keep him in your thoughts and prayers as he pursues this amazing opportunity.

