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Heart of Los Angeles Youth Orchestra at Sport at the Service of Humanity Second Regional Conference

Loyola Marymount University Alum, former NCAA Water Polo player, and Chief Executive Officer of Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA), Tony Brown is proud to introduce members of the Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA) program who will provide a signature performance at the Sport at the Service of Humanity Second Regional Conference at Loyola Marymount University on June 20-21, 2018. Made possible by an initiative launched by the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for Culture, the conference is co-sponsored by the West Coast Conference and longtime funder and partner, the LA84 Foundation. For nearly thirty years, HOLA has witnessed firsthand the power of athletics and the arts to create social change and transform young lives.

Sports and arts are as important as traditional academic programs in ensuring that our young people reach their full potential. Access to quality sports and arts experiences for all children is a moral imperative. Every year, we see so many disenfranchised kids whose lives are propelled onward and upwards through these experiences. It’s wrong to deny kids equal access to these vital opportunities for growth, leadership, and success.
-Tony Brown, CEO of Heart of Los Angeles

About Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA): Heart of Los Angeles gives some of the city’s most vulnerable youth a chance to succeed in life. From what started 28 years ago with just a handful of kids in a dilapidated gym, today Heart of Los Angeles serves over 2,300 youth in a safe and supportive environment. HOLA’s mission is to provide underserved youth with exceptional programs in academics, arts and athletics within a nurturing environment, empowering them to develop their potential, pursue their education and strengthen their communities. HOLA has three core academic programs and offers a wide variety of enrichment activities, including a comprehensive music department, a robust visual arts program, premier sports leagues and activities, leadership and healthy living classes, and a cutting edge scientific arts program. For additional information about HOLA, please visit our website at www.heartofla.org.

About YOLA: Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA) is LA Phil Music & Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel's signature initiative, through which the LA Phil and community partners provide free instruments, intensive music training, and academic support to students from underserved neighborhoods, empowering them to become passionate learners and vital citizens. Beginning with 80 students in 2007, YOLA today serves nearly 1,000 students, studying up to 15 hours per week at four community-based sites where mentorship and leadership training is integral. YOLA students have the opportunity to work with LA Phil
musicians and world-renowned artists and conductors, travel to cities foreign and domestic, and perform in iconic venues such as Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Hollywood Bowl. YOLA is made possible in South Los Angeles, the Rampart District, Westlake/MacArthur Park, and East Los Angeles through the following community partners that share fiscal and programmatic responsibilities with the LA Phil: EXPO Center, Harmony Project, Heart of Los Angeles, Camino Nuevo Charter Academy and the Los Angeles County Office of Education.

**About the LA84 Foundation:** The LA84 Foundation is a nationally recognized leader in support of youth sport programs and public education and advocates for the important role sports participation plays in positive youth development. Created with a share of the 1984 Olympic Games surplus, LA84 began operations in 1985 as a grant making and educational foundation. The foundation supports hundreds of non-profit youth sports organizations throughout Southern California annually, trains coaches, commissions research, convenes conferences and maintains the world’s premier Olympic and sports library collection.