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Rexburg Tabernacle Orchestra to perform

The Rexburg Tabernacle Orchestra will be presenting its Winter Concert, Wednesday, March 4, 2009 in the Rexburg Tabernacle Civic Center, 7:30 pm. under the direction of Dr. LaMar Barrus.

The concert features Richard Ferguson performing Violin Concerto in e minor, by Felix Mendelssohn. This concerto is a favorite with violinists and music lovers will recognize many of the themes and melodies from this work. Ferguson is a local businessman and accomplished musician who also functions as the concertmaster of the community orchestra. He has been preparing this work for many months as well as keeping up with his private teaching, teaching in the string program in Sugar-Salem School District and taking some university classes.

The orchestral ensemble will also be performing the popular New World Symphony by Antonin Dvorak. This familiar work was composed in 1893 while Dvorak was on a three-year teaching visit to America. He was greatly influenced by the spirit of "American folk" music where audiences hear the now famous "Goin' Home" melody from the second movement of the symphony.

Mark Seare, clarinetist and local public school music director, says he is thrilled to be playing this wonderful work and remarks about the growing musical maturity of the orchestra.

This free concert is one of three concerts presented yearly by this all-volunteer community orchestra, composed of gifted musicians from the area. Many are public and private music teachers, many are music students, also professional men and women who dedicate their time to rehearse weekly, practice privately and perform for their love of music and sharing their talents.

Dr. LaMar Barrus brings scores of years of experience as the director of the orchestra. He is retired director of the orchestras at Ricks College (now BYU-Idaho) and has been conducting the Rexburg Tabernacle Orchestra for five seasons.

Sponsors of the orchestra are the City of Rexburg and The Arts in Rexburg Council. Donations are always appreciated as the orchestra has many needs beyond just purchasing music. Specialty instruments and equipment have been made possible through the generous donations of local businesses and benefactors.

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The Arts in Rexburg Council 12 North Center St. Rexburg, ID 83440

Phone: 208.359.3020, 347 Fax 208.359.3022

thearts@rexburg.org www.rexburg.org