Dec. 5, 2012

Young ‘Strings’ celebrate the season

Experience the music of Christmas through the heart of a child with Sacramento State’s annual String Project Holiday Concert at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10, in the Music Recital Hall.

This free performance by local young people ages 5 to 17 features about 75 musicians performing on violin, viola, cello and string bass.

The program includes a selection from “Nutcracker Suite” and a fun piece called “Rhythmic Snapshots of Christmas.” The beginners will perform “French Folk Song” while the intermediate group will present a list of songs from the Suzuki repertoire.

The String Project gives local young people who might not have the means to pursue music the opportunity to learn string instruments taught by Sacramento State music majors. The program provides two benefits: teaching the children music while giving the Sac State students valuable experience teaching and leading their young charges. It’s all under the guidance of master teacher Judy Bossuat-Gallic and assistant Timothy Stanley.

For Alora Crago, a 10-year-old student at the Sacramento Waldorf School, it’s a chance to learn cello, an instrument she just started playing. “I really love the sound of it,” she says. “And my grandpa really loves the cello.”

“For many of these students, this is going to be the only music training they get before they get to college,” says Sacramento State student instructor Andrew Mearns. “And it’s been very rewarding – personally fulfilling – to get to pass on my love of music to young children.”

Not only do local young people and Sac State student teachers benefit from the program; the annual performance is a great way for adults and their children to enjoy a concert together.

For more information on the String Project, visit www.csus.edu/stringproject or call (916) 278-5191. For media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

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