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NEWS ALERT: VANDOREN EMERGING ARTIST WINNERS TO PERFORM AT MUSIC FOR ALL NATIONAL FESTIVAL

The first annual Vandoren Emerging Artist (VEA) Competition came to an end with the announcement of three winners. The winners were selected from over 100 entries from across the country. This is the first Vandoren competition in the United States and is underwritten by Vandoren Paris, DANSR, Inc., the U.S. importer of Vandoren products in cooperation with Music for All.

The winners of the first annual VEA Competition are: Brian Clancy - Jazz Saxophone, Emil Khudyev – Clarinet and Phil Pierick - Classical Saxophone.

Clancy is from Southlake, Texas and a graduate of Carroll Sr. High School in 2007. He is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree in Jazz Studies at the University of North Texas. Khudyev, born in Turkmenistan, began his musical training at the Moscow Conservatory. He was then a student at the Interlochen Arts Academy and the Cleveland Institute of Music and is currently studying at the Yale School of Music. Pierick has degrees in performance and music history from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he is currently pursuing a master's degree in performance.

Each winner will travel to Indianapolis, Indiana to perform at the 2011 Music for All National Festival as well as work with Vandoren artists that are present at the festival. Additionally, each winner will receive a trip to Paris to visit Vandoren at 56 Rue Lepic and meet with Vandoren staff, product specialists and artists. Finally, each winner receives a mouthpiece, reed and ligature package from Vandoren along with a \$1,000 cash award.

Next year, VEA will add performance requirements to the application process to create a more level performance venue for all entrants. "The level of performance was so high," commented Vandoren U.S.A. artist relations manager David Gould, "that the panel of judges felt they needed to hear similar performances to make a more precise judgment."

Call for auditions for the 2012 VEA will be published in April of this year. Young performers wishing to audition must be between the age of 18 and 23.

About Music for All

Music for All (MFA) is one of the nation's largest and most influential organizations in support of active music-making. Headquartered in Indianapolis, MFA uniquely combines regional and national music-event programming with awareness campaigns and advocacy aimed at expanding access to music in schools and communities. A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational organization, MFA's programs include 25-plus annual events, including the Music for All National Festival, the Music for All Summer Symposium, the Bands of America Grand National marching band championships and Regional marching band championships across the country. Learn more at www.musicforall.org

Music for All's efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsor, the Yamaha Corporation of America; Official Uniform Sponsor, Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Equipment Sponsor, Wenger Corporation; Official Sponsor, SmartMusic®; Official Student Travel Sponsor Music Travel Consultants; Corporate Sponsors NAMM; and Remo, Inc.; and Associate Sponsors, Vic Firth, Inc. and Vandoren. Music for All is also supported by the Arts Council of Indianapolis and the City of Indianapolis, by the Indianapolis Cultural Development Commission and by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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