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## Boston Musica Viva and youth Marimba Magic Ensemble to bring new life to Aesop classic at BMV Family Concert

BOSTON – The youth percussion ensemble Marimba Magic® joins Boston Musica Viva (BMV), Boston’s first professional contemporary chamber music ensemble, for BMV’s 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Concert on Sunday, February 12, 2012, at the Tsai Performance Center in Boston. This all-ages introduction to contemporary classical music includes a world premiere musical version of Aesop’s *The Tortoise and the Hare* by Patrick Greene, and Michael Gandolfi’s *The Piper’s Tale*. Both pieces will be narrated by New England Cable News anchor Steve Aveson.

“Boston Musica Viva has played a vital role in creating and promoting new music for listeners of all ages,” says Richard Pittman, BMV Music Director. “The young artists who have performed with us find it to be an extremely rewarding experience, and their involvement makes the concert more accessible and exciting for their peers in the audience.” Since its founding in 1969, BMV has commissioned 18 new works for families, partnering with young artist groups such as Marimba Magic®, Northeast Youth Ballet, and the PALS Children’s Chorus.

**The Marimba Magic® Ensemble**, a program of The Rivers School Conservatory in Weston, is led by director Sarah Tenney. This talented group of students in grades 2 through 12 has performed for Classical New England’s Classical Cartoon Festival; the International Piano Conference in Budapest, Hungary; and various music pedagogy conferences nationally. The Family Concert will be Marimba Magic’s fourth collaboration with Boston Musica Viva on a newly-commissioned work.

The music of composer **Patrick Greene** was first performed by BMV in 2010, where Greene was a finalist in the tri-regional *Rapido!® A 14-Day Composition Contest*. Greene, recipient of a Master’s degree in Composition from The Boston Conservatory, has been commissioned by the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, The Elmsmen, Ensemble Amarcord, the Trinity College Chapel Singers, and the Pleasant Bay Children’s Chorus, among others. He is a founding member of The Fifth Floor Collective, a Boston-based composers’ ensemble. His piece *The Tortoise and the Hare* receives its world premiere at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Concert.

Composer **Michael Gandolfi** of Boston has a broad range of musical interests encompassing contemporary concert music, jazz, blues and rock. The span of his musical investigation is paralleled by his cultural curiosity, resulting in many points of contact between the world of music and other disciplines such as science, film, and theater. Gandolfi has received commissions from the Atlanta Symphony, the Fromm Foundation, Boston Musica Viva, Speculum Musicae, and the Koussevitzky Foundation. He is the chair of the Composition

Department at the New England Conservatory of Music and a faculty member at the Tanglewood Music Center. His piece *The Piper's Tale*, an imaginative retelling of "The Pied Piper," received its world premiere by Boston Musica Viva and The Marimba Magic® Ensemble in 2005.

Before the concert, the audience is invited to participate in play-based, interactive storytelling activities inspired by the music. The activities will be facilitated by Knucklebones, a diverse athletic services and retail company based in Somerville.

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### 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Concert

Sunday, February 12, 2012, 3:00 pm (pre-concert activities begin at 2:00 pm)

Tsai Performance Center, Boston University

685 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Patrick Greene                      **The Tortoise and the Hare** *world premiere*

Words by Christopher Pickett

Michael Gandolfi                      **The Piper's Tale**

Words by Dana Bonstrom

Featuring The Marimba Magic® Ensemble from The Rivers School Conservatory and Steve Aveson, narrator

#### **The Marimba Magic® Ensemble:**

Marcel Oliart

Emily Ghosh

Anna Haberman

Jonathan Henry

Daniel Glauber

Sarah Tenney, Director

Devon Rippe

Stephanie Steltzer

Tamara Lord

Mingle Li

Juliette Loschen

#### **Age Appropriateness**

This event is recommended for children ages 4 and older.

#### **Ticket Information**

Advance tickets are available by visiting [www.bmv.org](http://www.bmv.org) or by calling (617) 354-6910. Group discounts are available. On the day of the performance, call or visit the Tsai Performance Center Box Office, (617) 353-8725.

#### **Ticket Prices**

General Admission \$30 | Seniors/WGBH Members \$25 | Students/Children \$10

Funding for this Boston Musica Viva performance is provided in part by:



Sarah Tenney



Promotional partner:



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**About Boston Musica Viva**

Music Director Richard Pittman founded Boston Musica Viva in 1969 as the first professional ensemble in Boston dedicated to the performance and perpetuation of contemporary chamber music. A champion of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries' most influential composers, BMV celebrates its 43<sup>rd</sup> season in 2011-2012 of contributing to *evolution and revolution in music*.

**Boston Musica Viva is:**

Richard Pittman, Music Director

Ann Bobo, flute

William Kirkley, clarinet

Teresa Ling, violin

Geoffrey Burleson, piano

Robert Schulz, percussion

Jan Müller-Szeraws, cello