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Chiles High School Orchestras to Play Concert at Mission San Luis "San Luis Suite," Composed by Conductor Chris Miller, Will be Performed

Tallahassee, FL – September 26, 2011 Seventy student musicians of the Chiles High School orchestras will perform in concert from 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Friday, October 7 at Mission San Luis. The concert will feature members of the Chiles Concert Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra performing multiple works including the original work *San Luis Suite* composed by conductor Chris Miller. *San Luis Suite* depicts in music the life of the Apalachee Indians. The performance will take place inside the 17th century Franciscan church on the grounds where the Apalachee lived. The concert is free with site admission.

To begin the concert, Chiles Concert Orchestra will play *Two Scenes from the Hollow: Ichabod's Walk* and *The Hessian's Ride* by Kirt Mosier. These pieces are a thrilling ride based on the *Legend of Sleepy Hollow;* the first section is a sinister tango, and the second is a blazing musical chase depicting the gallop of the headless horseman.

Next, The Chiles Chamber orchestra will play *Suite* #3 *in D* by J.S. Bach; the *Air* is one of the most famous pieces from the Baroque Era.

Finally, both orchestras will combine to perform *San Luis Suite* by Chris Miller, the conductor of the Chiles Orchestras for the past eight years. *San Luis Suite* is dedicated to Mission San Luis' Director of Archaeology, Dr. Bonnie McEwan and has three movements. *Dawn* portrays the stirring of crickets and one bird's song during the pre-dawn darkness of a summer morning at the mission. As the morning light builds, musical tension increases until the sun's first rays streak from the horizon and another day begins. *Work* is set as a proud hymn-like melody played over a running, repetitive accompaniment illustrating a sense of personal satisfaction in the working of daily tasks. The final movement, *The Game*, depicts the game played by the Apalachee on the mission plaza. It begins with the stirring of feet in the dust as the two teams vie for the advantage. Briefly the Apalachee take control of the game, but a new, darker element appears foreshadowing the coming of marauders and the mission's fiery demise.

After the concert, the orchestra students will spend the afternoon at Mission San Luis learning more about mission life as they tour reconstructed buildings, interact with historical interpreters, and participate in team-building activities in the Council House. The musicians will have a chance to walk in the plaza where the Apalachee played their traditional games. The Chiles High School Orchestra Concert at Mission San Luis is entirely funded by a grant from the Target Corporation. For additional information about Chiles High School Orchestras contact Chris Miller at MillerCh@LeonSchools.net. For additional information about Mission San Luis, visit www.missionsanluis.org.