



# PRESS RELEASE...

## COLOMA SPECTACULAR AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

Coloma and the Coloma Trust Massed Ensemble were selected to perform at the Royal Albert Hall this month in the Music for Youth (MFY) School Proms. Coloma choirs formed some of the 3000 young musicians selected from over 40,000 in the UK, to take part in this prestigious event which sees the top young musicians from all over the UK come together at the concert hall for a truly stunning performance.

Coloma pupils performed 'The Pearl' by Howard Goodall a piece commissioned by Headteacher Mrs Martin for Coloma's 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and which was first performed in front of the famous composer himself at the Royal Festival Hall in 2010. It is a beautiful work with words taken from a poem by George Herbert, a 17<sup>th</sup> century metaphysical poet and although complex at first glance, clearly sums up the essence of the school. The message is that although we understand and know many things, what is most important to us is our relationship with God and our journey to Heaven. Coloma pupils were joined by students from St Elphege's and Regina Coeli primary schools, and The Quest Academy – Coloma Trust and Royal Russell secondary schools and accompanied by the orchestra of the Bromley Youth Music Trust. It was a lively performance with Coloma's newly formed dance academy providing movement, streamers and material to represent areas of the poem. The evening finished in true 'Proms' style, with all the performers and audience singing a newly-commissioned version of Land of Hope and Glory, supported by the orchestra and accompanied by fireworks and balloons.

MFY stages the largest festival of music in the UK in which thousands of young musicians perform in a series of both regional and national events culminating in the School Proms at the Royal Albert Hall. MFY Chief Executive, Judith Webster said, "Music for Youth is thrilled to welcome over 600 young people who make up the Coloma and Coloma Trust Massed Ensemble to the MFY Proms stage. They are one of just three massed ensembles to perform at the MFY Proms this year."

It is an incredible achievement that Coloma has been invited to perform at this event for the third consecutive year. Mrs Hilary Meyer, Director of Music and Assistant Headteacher at Coloma commented, “The girls have worked extremely hard to reach such an amazing standard and we are all extremely proud of their achievements”.

----- END -----

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL LIZ SMITH**

**ON 020 8654 6228**

or e mail [esmith@coloma.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:esmith@coloma.croydon.sch.uk)