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February 3, 2014

The School of Performing and Visual Arts Presents Event on Feb. 4

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University's School of Performing and Visual Arts presents a Distinguished Artist/Faculty Concert featuring the combined talents of Calin Lupanu, Monica Boboc, Tanja Bechtler, and Piotr Swic on Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 8 p.m. in Blanton Auditorium, located in Hamrick Hall. All four performers serve as adjunct professors in the music division of the GWU School of Performing and Visual Arts. This event is free and open to the public with optional donations in support of the music program.

Selections to be performed include *Quartettsatz* by Franz Schubert and *Reverie* by Henryk Wieniawski, both composed in the 1800s, as well as *K. 458 The Hunt* by Mozart, written in the 1700s.

Lupanu (violin) was born in Romania. Currently in his 10th season as a member of the Charlotte (N.C.) Symphony Orchestra, he serves as concertmaster. Lupanu has received numerous awards as a soloist, including first prize at the international violin competition in Suceava, Romania. Prior to winning the national audition for the Charlotte Symphony position, he served as assistant concertmaster of the Green Bay, Wis., Symphony Orchestra and the Evansville, Ind., Philharmonic and was a principal player for the Alabama Symphony.

Boboc (violin) was also born in Romania and serves with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. Boboc gave her first performance as a soloist with a professional orchestra at the age of 14. Boboc completed her musical studies at the Bucharest Music Conservatory, where she was later appointed as assistant professor for chamber music. Numerous honors for Boboc, include fourth prize in the London, England, International String Quartet Competition and silver medalist at the Shostakovich International String Quartet Competition in Russia.

Bechtler (cello) is a native of Switzerland and was introduced to her instrument at the age of nine. She is the founder of the Bechtler Ensemble Music Series, which she co-directs. The series is performed at the Bechtler Museum, located in Charlotte, and is intended to connect historical and creative contents of music pieces to selected works of art from the museum's collection. Bechtler is a former player with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and has participated in numerous educational residences throughout the Charlotte-Mecklenburg County school system.

Swic (viola), originally from Poland, began music studies at the age of seven. Following college in Poland, Swic won a full scholarship to attend the prestigious Tanglewood Music Festival (Massachusetts), where he worked with the likes of Yo-Yo Ma. He earned the certificate of graduate study at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, where during that time he performed with symphonies in Greenville and Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, Ga. Swic established the Charlotte Strings Academy, where he and his wife provide private lessons.

More information about the School of Performing and Visual Arts music division is available at 704-406-4453.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University's purpose is to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education by preparing graduates for professional and personal success, instilling in them a deep commitment to service and leadership, and equipping them for well-rounded lives of lasting impact, Pro Deo et Humanitate (For God and Humanity).