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News Release from:
University of Minnesota
University of Minnesota, Morris
Morris, Minnesota
March 24, 1961

For Immediate Release

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LAUNCHED AT MORRIS

Minnesota's newest symphony orchestra has been launched in West Central Minnesota with the enthusiastic participation of businessmen, housewives, music teachers, and students.

Directed by Ralph E. Williams, assistant professor of music at the University of Minnesota, Morris, the orchestra was organized five weeks ago with a dozen strings and two dozen wind and percussion players.

Coming to Morris to rehearse every Friday from as far as 45 miles away, many of the string players hadn't had an opportunity for many years to play in an orchestra.

One new string player has been added each week since rehearsals were initiated. The section now includes musicians from Alexandria, Clinton, Glenwood, Herman, Morris, Ortonville, and Starbuck. With the addition of players who plan to join later in the spring and in the fall, Professor Williams anticipates a string section of about two dozen players next year.

The orchestra will make its debut on May 9 on the final program of the University of Minnesota, Morris Artist Course series.