



**DC YOUTH
ORCHESTRA**
PROGRAM



Members of the DC Youth Orchestra at the White House just prior to their April 13 performance

Courtesy DC Youth Orchestra

D.C. Double-Play

The DC Youth Orchestra raised its political profile this spring with two noteworthy appearances. One took place at the South Lawn of the White House (pictured below), which was opened on April 13 to children age ten and under for sports, live musical performances, storytelling, and the traditional Easter Egg Roll. The DC Youth Orchestra was invited to perform at the egg-roll after playing at a meeting of the Arts Council of the National Endowment for the Arts on March 27, where the orchestra's executive director, Ava Spece, spoke on behalf of her organization. During her speech to the NEA, Spece said, "Every child needs a place where they feel important, a place where they can achieve something and a place where they know they belong. For some children that may be in math class, for others it is on the athletic field, but for many, it's a music class!... We have seen tremendous musical successes from our students, but more often—and perhaps more satisfying—are the successes outside of music. And that is just fine for us."



Courtesy DC Youth Orchestra

White House South Lawn, where DC Youth Orchestra members performed on April 13 for the annual Easter Egg Roll.