



KANSAS CITY SYMPHONY

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Kansas City Symphony Unveils Special Guests for 2016 Bank of America Celebration at the Station Concert

Local jazz stars Bobby Watson and Kevin Mahogany to join Kansas City Symphony for 14th annual Memorial Day Weekend concert

KANSAS CITY, Mo. | March 24, 2016 — The Kansas City Symphony has just announced local jazz stars, saxophonist Bobby Watson and vocalist Kevin Mahogany, will join the Kansas City Symphony in concert on Sunday, May 29 at 8 p.m. for the 14th annual Bank of America Celebration at the Station, held at Union Station.

Bank of America Celebration at the Station is the largest FREE Memorial Day weekend event in the Midwest with fun for the whole family. The site opens at 1 p.m. with opportunities to enjoy pre-concert entertainment, food trucks, and the Lee Jeans Family Zone

At 8 p.m., Associate Conductor Aram Demirjian will lead the Kansas City Symphony and special guests in a two-hour concert featuring favorites such as “The Stars and Stripes Forever,” “Armed Forces Salute” and Tchaikovsky’s “1812 Overture,” complete with live cannons. The concert culminates with a grand finale when all eyes turn skyward for KC’s largest display of choreographed fireworks, presented to the beat of patriotic music, all above the National WWI Museum at Liberty Memorial.

Watson previously appeared with the Symphony back in 2012 for the 10th annual Bank of America Celebration at the Station concert. The Symphony also welcomes back special guest narrator Jim Birdsall (announcer for CNBC and NFL Films) and the U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America Brass Ensemble for this year’s event.

As the event draws near, more details regarding pre-show entertainment, special exhibits and more will be posted at kcsymphony.org/celebration and on the Symphony’s [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.

For interviews, photography or other media requests, please contact Communications Manager Beth Buchanan at bbuchanan@kcsymphony.org or (816) 218-2621.

High-resolution publicity photos of Bobby Watson, Kevin Mahogany and the Kansas City Symphony are available for download [here](#).

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About the Kansas City Symphony and Chorus

Founded in 1982, the Kansas City Symphony has established itself as a major force in the cultural life of the community. Praised for performances of uncompromising standard, the orchestra is the largest in the region and enjoys a national reputation under the artistic leadership of Music Director

Michael Stern. The Kansas City Symphony Chorus is a volunteer, 160-member ensemble led by multi-Grammy® Award-winning conductor, Charles Bruffy, that continues its long tradition of excellence as the choral voice of the Kansas City Symphony. The Kansas City Symphony performs more than 100 concerts each year, while also serving as the orchestra for the Kansas City Ballet and Lyric Opera of Kansas City, and it often welcomes guests of international acclaim as part of its Classical and Pops Series.

Complementing its full schedule of concerts, the Symphony enriches the lives of Kansas City residents by providing music education opportunities for children and adults, such as KinderKonzerts, Young People's Concerts, an instrument petting zoo and concert comments. Highlights each season include a range of free master classes, events and concerts reaching more than 200,000 community members, including the annual Bank of America Celebration at the Station concert each Memorial Day weekend and Symphony in the Flint Hills every summer. Additionally, the Symphony has released five CDs with Reference Recordings — Shakespeare's *Tempest*, the Grammy® Award-winning Britten's *Orchestra*, an Elgar/Vaughan Williams project, *Miraculous Metamorphoses* highlighting composers Hindemith, Prokofiev and Bartók, and most recently, the Grammy® Award-nominated Saint-Saëns *Symphony No. 3, "Organ."* Two additional projects have been recorded and slated for future release, including the music of contemporary composer Adam Schoenberg (recorded June 2014) and Holst's *The Planets* (recorded January 2015).

The Symphony and Michael Stern also have recorded for the Naxos label. Kansas City Symphony performances can be heard locally each week on KCUR 89.3 FM, Kansas City's NPR affiliate. More information on the Kansas City Symphony is available at kcsymphony.org