



KANSAS CITY
SYMPHONY



John Lithgow narrates Kansas City Symphony family concert September 16th

Family Series introduces children to classical music

AUGUST 2, 2012 | KANSAS CITY – The Kansas City Symphony’s Family Series begins September 16th with “Farkle & Friends.” Based on John Lithgow’s spellbinding children’s book of the same title, the remarkable Farkle McBride is a musical genius who plays the violin, flute, trombone and drums with incredible skill. But something is missing. The orchestra serves both to accompany young Farkle on his musical journeys as well as underscore McBride’s emotional experiences as he struggles to find his musical passion. This concert also features *Carnival of the Animals* with Lithgow’s own narration.

These 50-minute Family Series concerts, designed to introduce children to classical music, will delight the entire family and are appropriate for children ages 4 and older. An instrument “Petting Zoo,” where kids can touch, play and learn about different musical instruments, begins one hour prior to concert.

- WHEN/WHERE:** Sunday, September 16 at 2:30 p.m.
Helzberg Hall, Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, 1601 Broadway, KCMO
- WHO:** Kansas City Symphony led by Aram Demirjian, assistant conductor
John Lithgow, narrator
- TICKETS:** \$12-40. Available at www.kcsymphony.org or contact the Symphony Box Office at 816.471.0400 for ticket availability. Phone lines are open from 10 am. to 5 pm., Monday through Friday.
- PARKING:** The Kauffman Center has numerous parking options available, including valet parking, the adjacent 1,000-car Arts District Parking Garage, surface lots and street parking. For more information, visit <https://www.kcsymphony.org/StaticCtl/ParkingAct>
- PHOTOS/BIOS:** Available at kcsymphony.org

Sponsored by the David T. Beals III Charitable Trust, Bank of America, Trustee. The Family Series is sponsored by Bayer CropScience.

Related Event: Special Appearance - John Lithgow

Actor and author **John Lithgow** offers an entertaining afternoon of insight, anecdotes, and readings from his books for young readers. Attendance is free, however reservations are required.

Saturday, September 15, 2012 at 2 p.m.

Plaza Branch Library, 4801 Main St.

RSVP: kclibrary.org or 816.701.3407

About the Kansas City Symphony

The Kansas City Symphony is the region's only full-time professional symphony orchestra, setting the standard for musical excellence. Led by Music Director Michael Stern since 2005, the Symphony has experienced impressive artistic growth, garnering national and international acclaim. The orchestra's 80 full-time musicians are area residents, and each season touch the hearts of more than a million people through our Classical, Pops and Family concerts; special holiday events; chamber concerts; major civic gatherings such as Bank of America Celebration at the Station, which draws over 55,000 people, and the Symphony In the Flint Hills annual concert. During its 42-week season, the orchestra also presents educational programs, community outreach performances, and serves as the orchestra for the Lyric Opera and the Kansas City Ballet. Classical performances are broadcast weekly on KCUR 89.3 FM during the Kansas City Symphony Hour, Thursdays at 9 pm. Visit the Kansas City Symphony online at [kcsymphony.org](https://www.kcsymphony.org).

For more information, contact: Megan Felling, marketing manager | mfelling@kcsymphony.org | 816.218.2621