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Photos, logos, interview requests, on-site broadcast requests and more information available

## **KC SYMPHONY WELCOMES GRAMMY®-WINNER OLETA ADAMS TO FREE MEMORIAL WEEKEND CONCERT WITH FIREWORKS!**

*Lead Sponsor Bank of America to donate home to one deserving soldier through the Military Warrior Support Group at Union Station event on May 26*

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** (May 10, 2013) — The Midwest's most popular Memorial Weekend event, *Bank of America Celebration at the Station*, returns for its 11th year to Kansas City's Union Station on Sunday, May 26. *Bank of America Celebration at the Station* features Music Director Michael Stern and the Kansas City Symphony performing patriotic favorites against the backdrop of historic Union Station, plus a blazing fireworks finale above the National WWI Museum at Liberty Memorial.

A special addition to this year's event is the **donation of a home** by Bank of America to a wounded service member through the Military Warrior Support Group (MWSG). The executive director of MWSG will be present as will the service member, who survived the attack at Fort Hood and is a first responder, to receive the keys to the new home on-stage. Bank of America home donations are made possible by partnering with nonprofit agencies that serve the military and can help assess the greatest need and the best fit. MWSG works closely with Bank of America to donate homes across the country.

The Symphony takes the stage at 8 p.m. for a rousing set of orchestral music to celebrate all things American, including the *1812 Overture*, complete with 3 live firing cannons! At 9:45 p.m., all heads will turn to the sky over the National WWI Museum at Liberty Memorial for a stunning display of choreographed fireworks, bursting to the beat of patriotic music. This annual fireworks display is the largest of its kind in Kansas City.

Segments of the concert program will highlight soldiers who are returning home to the Midwest, following tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. Grammy® Award-winning recording artist and Kansas City, Kan., resident **Oleta Adams** joins the Symphony to perform her signature hit song *Get Here*, plus *Hallelujah* and *God Bless America*. The program also includes a moving narration of *Lincoln Portrait*, and a spotlight on **Musicorps**, an organization helping wounded veterans using music to recover and enrich their lives. Learn more: [www.musicorps.net](http://www.musicorps.net).

Grounds will open at 3 p.m. for this **free** community event. A variety of food truck vendors will be on-site, offering a wide array of food and beverage options. At 4 p.m., the Fountain City Brass Band will take the stage for 90 minutes of lively pre-concert entertainment.

(more)

## **KC invited to Bank of America Celebration at the Station, p.2**

Families attending the free outdoor performance by the Kansas City Symphony and the fireworks display are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs. Parking for **Bank of America Celebration at the Station** can be found throughout the area. Many garages and surface lots charge for parking, most \$5-7 per vehicle. It is suggested that attendees park in the areas north of Union Station. A parking map is available at [www.CelebrationAtTheStation.com](http://www.CelebrationAtTheStation.com).

For those who cannot attend **Bank of America Celebration at the Station**, the concert will be shown live on KCPT Channel 19, starting at 8 p.m. on Sunday, May 26. A rebroadcast of the concert will be scheduled to air on Memorial Day and over the Fourth of July weekend. In addition, numerous public television stations throughout the region will rebroadcast **Bank of America Celebration at the Station**. Check your local listings for channel as well as broadcast date and time.

Complete concert and event details are available online at [www.CelebrationAtTheStation.com](http://www.CelebrationAtTheStation.com).

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### **About the Kansas City Symphony**

Led by Music Director Michael Stern, the Kansas City Symphony's 80-member orchestra performs more than 50 concerts on three series (Classical, Family, Pops) during its 42-week season, September through June. In addition, the Symphony performs non-series concerts such as educational programs, free outdoor concerts, 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 p.m. Visit the Kansas City Symphony online at [www.kcsymphony.org](http://www.kcsymphony.org).

### **About Union Station Kansas City, Inc.**

Union Station is Kansas City's signature historical landmark and a civic asset. Renovated and reopened to the public in 1999, Union Station plays a key role in Kansas City's regional history. A voter approved bi-state cultural sales tax, the first of its kind in the country, funded nearly half of the \$250 million renovation. The remaining money was raised through private donations and federal funding.

Union Station receives no public funding. Current operating costs are funded by general admission and theater ticketing, grants, private donations, commercial space leases and facility rental. Union Station is a nonprofit 501c3 organization. The Station is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Union Station Kansas City, Inc. also operates the Kansas City Museum in Kansas City's historic northeast neighborhood.

The meticulously restored facility is, in and of itself, a historical artifact and is open daily to the public for viewing at no charge. Its maintenance is vital to the preservation of Kansas City's regional history. Union Station houses a science center and also serves as a showcase for Smithsonian Institute and other national traveling museum exhibits, including the upcoming National Geographic presentation *Real Pirates*. An entertainment district at Union Station includes a live theater, a 3D giant screen movie theater currently showing *Iron Man 3*, shops and restaurants. The Station's reopening has also helped stimulate the area's urban renewal.