



Kansas City Symphony to Release First Episode of New Podcast

KANSAS CITY, Mo. | March 20, 2020 — The Kansas City Symphony today released the first episode of its new podcast called “Beethoven Walks into a Bar...”

The podcast features three hosts from the Symphony family: David T. Beals III Associate Conductor Jason Seber, Principal Flute Michael Gordon and Education Manager Stephanie Brimhall. Moving forward, they plan to invite guests to join in as well.

“I’ve long thought these three would make a fantastic podcast,” says Executive Director Danny Beckley. “They’re passionate about music, engaging and fun. If Beethoven were alive today and wanted to talk about music with his friends at the pub, I’m sure he’d have a great time with these folks. The hope is our new podcast will be a fun way to talk about music and bring a little joy into your day. This is one of several new ventures we are starting in light of the current situation.”

The first episode is available through Apple Podcasts, Google Play, Spotify and Stitcher. The podcast is free. Cartoonist Jeff Curnow, who is also assistant principal trumpet in the Philadelphia Orchestra, created the cover art.

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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 130 concerts each year, often welcomes guests of international acclaim as part of its Classical and Pops Series, and serves as the orchestra for the Kansas City Ballet and Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

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 250,000 community members, including the annual Bank of America Celebration at the Station concert each Memorial Day weekend and performing at Symphony in the Flint Hills every summer.

The Symphony has released seven highly praised CDs to date with Reference Recordings. The latest release features Holst’s *The Planets* and *The Perfect Fool*. The Symphony and Michael Stern also have recorded for the Naxos label. Kansas City’s NPR affiliate, KCUR 89.3 FM, broadcasts Kansas City Symphony performances each week. More information on the Kansas City Symphony is available at kcsymphony.org.

