



Kansas City Symphony announces its 2021/22 Season Subscriptions available now for Classical, Pops & Family Series, plus Holiday Concerts and Special Presentations

KANSAS CITY, Mo. | June 2, 2021 — The Kansas City Symphony announced its 2021/22 concert season today, returning to the stage in Helzberg Hall at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts with in-person audiences and full capacity this September. Current season subscribers have until July 15, 2021 to renew or upgrade their existing subscription, and persons wanting to subscribe for the first time may now choose any unsubscribed seats.

“We’ve missed performing in Helzberg Hall in front of live audiences so much” said Executive Director Danny Beckley. “There is a spark that happens when musicians perform before a live audience. You can see and hear our musicians’ passion. And we see on your face how the music makes you feel. It’s a unique connection unlike any other, something we crave, something we are all ready to experience again. We’ve programmed a season full of unique and special moments. We’ll be joined by an exciting group of guest conductors and soloists, we’ll feature world premieres and commissions, plus some of the greatest classical pieces ever written, including Saint-Saëns’ Organ Symphony and Beethoven’s Ninth performed with the Kansas City Symphony Chorus.”

Music Director Michael Stern adds, “The need for healing that comes through music and community is important like never before. I believe we are about to begin a great new chapter — because of the resilience and dedication of our extraordinary musicians and staff, the steady and confident leadership of our Board of Directors, and all of you who understand how special a place Kansas City is. Welcoming full audiences back to Helzberg Hall will be emotional for all of us. Ever since my first concert here in 2005, my goal was always to build something of real meaning for music and for Kansas City, and to strive for something higher. I cannot wait to see you all at our concerts again in this exciting new season. I feel as energized now as I did when I first arrived, and I know that feeling is only going to get stronger.”

CLASSICAL SERIES PROGRAMS

September 24-26, 2021

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Overture to *The Creatures of Prometheus*

GABRIEL KAHANE Piano Concerto (world premiere, Kansas City Symphony co-commission)

GUSTAV MAHLER Symphony No. 1, “Titan”

Michael Stern, conductor

Jeffrey Kahane, piano

October 29-31, 2021

STUART MURRAY TURNBULL *Odyssey* (world premiere)

MAX BRUCH Violin Concerto No.1

JOHANNES BRAHMS Symphony No. 1

Michael Stern, conductor

Randall Goosby, violin

November 5-7, 2021

FLORENCE PRICE *The Oak*
RICHARD STRAUSS *Burleske in D Minor*
NIKOLAI RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Scheherazade*
Peter Oundjian, *guest conductor*
Janice Carissa, *piano*

November 26-28, 2021

SAMUEL BARBER *Essay No.2*
LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 4*
ROBERT SCHUMANN *Symphony No. 3, "Rhenish"*
Johannes Debus, *guest conductor*
Eric Lu, *piano*

January 14-16, 2022

WILLIAM GRANT STILL *Poem for Orchestra*
GEORGE GERSHWIN *Piano Concerto in F*
DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH *Symphony No. 5*
Joshua Weilerstein, *guest conductor*
Jon Kimura Parker, *piano*

January 28-30, 2022

RICHARD STRAUSS *Tod und Verklärung (Death and Transfiguration)*
JOEL THOMPSON *New work (Kansas City Symphony co-commission)*
SERGEI PROKOFIEV *Violin Concerto No. 2*
LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN *Leonore Overture No. 3*
Michael Stern, *conductor*
Vadim Gluzman, *violin*

February 4-6, 2022

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK *Othello Overture*
PIOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY *Variations on a Rococo Theme*
SERGEI PROKOFIEV *Symphony No. 5*
Eduardo Strausser, *guest conductor*
Zlatomir Fung, *cello*

March 4-6, 2022

HENRY PURCELL/BENJAMIN BRITTEN *Chacony in G Minor*
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART *Piano Concerto No. 24*
EDWARD ELGAR *Symphony No. 1*
Michael Francis, *guest conductor*
Martina Filjak, *piano*

March 25-27, 2022

ANNA CLYNE *This Midnight Hour*
CLAUDE DEBUSSY *La mer*
JOHANNES BRAHMS Violin Concerto
Michael Stern, conductor
Midori, violin

April 1-3, 2022

JOAN TOWER *Tambor*
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART Clarinet Concerto
IGOR STRAVINSKY *Pétrouchka*, 1947 revision
Christian Reif, guest conductor
Raymond Santos, principal clarinet, *Bill and Peggy Lyons Chair*

April 22-24, 2022

AARON COPLAND *El Salón México*
SERGEI RACHMANINOFF Piano Concerto No. 4
ZOLTÁN KODÁLY *Dances of Galánta*
BÉLA BARTÓK Suite from *The Miraculous Mandarin*
Paolo Bortolameolli, guest conductor
Conrad Tao, piano

June 3-5, 2022

MAURICE RAVEL *Mother Goose Suite*
CHRIS ROGERSON Violin Concerto (world premiere, Kansas City Symphony co-commission)
CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS Symphony No. 3, "Organ"
Gemma New, guest conductor
Benjamin Beilman, violin
Jan Kraybill, organ

June 17-19, 2022

LILI BOULANGER *D'un matin de printemps*
JEAN SIBELIUS Violin Concerto
PIOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY Suite from *The Sleeping Beauty*
Ryan Bancroft, guest conductor
Augustin Hadelich, violin

June 24-26, 2022

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL "Zadok the Priest," Coronation Anthem No. 1
JESSIE MONTGOMERY Piano Concerto (Kansas City Symphony co-commission)
LUDVIG VAN BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9, "Choral"
Michael Stern, conductor
Awadagin Pratt, piano
Kansas City Symphony Chorus, **Charles Bruffy**, chorus director
Caitlin Lynch, soprano
Kelley O'Connor, mezzo-soprano
Derrek Stark, tenor

POPS SERIES PROGRAMS

October 22-24, 2021

THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

January 7-9, 2022

REVOLUTION: THE MUSIC OF THE BEATLES - A SYMPHONIC EXPERIENCE

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

April 7-9, 2022

FRANK AND ELLA, TOGETHER AGAIN

Jack Everly, *guest conductor*

Capathia Jenkins, *vocalist*

Tony DeSare, *vocalist*

May 20-22, 2022

Windborne's THE MUSIC OF QUEEN

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

Brody Dolyniuk, *vocalist*

FAMILY SERIES PROGRAMS

Sunday, October 3, 2021

HALLOWEEN SYMPHONY SPOOKTACULAR!

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

Sunday, November 21, 2021

THE COMPOSER IS DEAD AND OTHER MUSICAL MYSTERIES

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

Sunday, December 19, 2021

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

Kansas City Symphony Chorus, **Charles Bruffy**, *chorus director*

Ashley Brown, *vocalist*

Sunday, March 13, 2022

BUCKETS N BOARDS

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

Matt Levingston, *entertainer*

Gareth Sever, *entertainer*

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

December 10-12, 2021

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Patrick Dupré Quigley, *guest conductor*

Kansas City Symphony Chorus, Charles Bruffy, *chorus director*

December 16-19, 2021

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

Kansas City Symphony Chorus, Charles Bruffy, *chorus director*

Ashley Brown, *vocalist*

December 22-24, 2021

HOME ALONE: Film + Live Orchestra

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

January 20-23, 2022

HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX™ IN CONCERT: Film + Live Orchestra

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 20-22, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Sunday, January 23, 2022 at 2 p.m.

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

February 10-13, 2022

STAR WARS: RETURN OF THE JEDI™ IN CONCERT: Film + Live Orchestra

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 10-12, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 1 p.m.

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

April 12-14, 2022

ABBA THE CONCERT: A TRIBUTE TO ABBA

Jason Seber, *David T. Beals III Associate Conductor*

June 9-10, 2022

Windborne's THE MUSIC OF THE ROLLING STONES: MICK JAGGER & KEITH RICHARDS 1969

Brent Havens, *guest conductor*

Tony Vincent, *vocalist*

More information about these concerts, including times, prices and how to subscribe, is available at the Kansas City Symphony's website, kcsymphony.org, or by calling the Symphony Box Office at (816) 471-0400, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

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About the Kansas City Symphony

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 Symphony performs more than 130 concerts each year, 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.

The Symphony has released nine highly praised CDs to date with Reference Recordings. The latest release features One Movement Symphonies of Samuel Barber, Jean Sibelius and Alexander Scriabin. The Symphony and Michael Stern also have recorded for the Naxos label. Kansas City's new classical music radio station, 91.9 ClassicalKC, broadcasts Kansas City Symphony performances each week. For more information on the Symphony, please visit kcsymphony.org.