

The Jacksonville Symphony Presents The Magic of the Movies

Jacksonville, FL (January 17, 2018) --- On January 26 and 27 the Jacksonville Symphony will perform a concert of music from cinematic classics in The Magic of the Movies.

WHO: Michael Krajewski, principal pops conductor for the Jacksonville Symphony, will lead this concert of movie favorites. Known for his entertaining programs and clever humor, Krajewski is a much sought after conductor of symphonic pops. He is music director of The Philly Pops and principal pops conductor of the Atlanta and Jacksonville Symphonies. Previously, he was principal pops conductor of the Houston Symphony.

As a guest conductor, Krajewski has performed with the Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras; the Boston and Cincinnati Pops; the San Francisco, Baltimore, Detroit, Indianapolis, Seattle, Dallas, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and National Symphonies, and numerous other orchestras across the United States. International appearances include performances in Dublin and Belfast with the Ulster Orchestra as well as performances with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and Spain's Bilbao Symphony Orchestra.

Lori Wilshire grew up in Houston, Texas, and began singing at the age of five. She nurtured her love for music by singing in church and school choirs. She then moved to Nashville, Tennessee, to study music at Belmont University. During her second year at Belmont, she was offered a recording contract and began recording professionally and touring as a back-up singer for Gospel artist Michael W. Smith. Lori also worked as a session singer in Nashville, lending her voice to numerous artists' albums.

Later on, Lori became one half of the pop duo "Wilshire" and the band moved to Los Angeles. "Wilshire's" unique sound quickly caught on, landing them a record deal with Columbia Records and Warner-Chappell Publishing. The duo wrote their hit single, "Special," which climbed the *Billboard* Top 20 chart. They toured with artists like "Train" and "Seal," as well as performing live on *Late Night*, *The Sharon Osbourne Show*, *The Wayne Brady Show* and *Pepsi Smash*.

CONCERTMASTER SEARCH: During the extensive search for a new concertmaster, the Jacksonville Symphony will be bringing in seven candidates to perform with the Symphony during the season. For this concert, **Stephen Tavani** will take the stage with Krajewski and the Symphony. Following this performance, Tavani will also appear with the Symphony for Requiem for an Angel on February 2 and 3.

Violinist Stephen Tavani was recently appointed as the new concertmaster of the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, where he holds the Joseph and Marie Field Chair. As a soloist, he has performed with Carlos Miguel Prieto and the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, the National Repertory Orchestra, the American Youth Symphony, the Brentwood Westwood Symphony and others. Tavani recently has served as guest concertmaster for the Louisiana Philharmonic as well as concertmaster for ensembles including the Curtis Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra, the Colburn Orchestra and the Youth Orchestra of Americas.

WHAT: Since the beginning of film's history in the 1890s, movies have always had a way of capturing our attention and bringing us into the stories they tell. From the countless movie scores that John Williams has brought us, to the magic of music in a Disney film, soundtracks have truly transformed the movie-watching experience. Relive *Gone with the Wind*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Titanic*, *The Way We Were* and many more as Lori Wilshire, Michael Krajewski and the Symphony perform the iconic scores and songs from your favorite films.

WHEN: The abbreviated Coffee Series concert will take place at 11 a.m. on Friday, January 26, 2018. The full Pops Series concerts will take place at 8 p.m. on Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27, 2018.

WHERE: The concerts will take place in Jacoby Symphony Hall in the Times-Union Center for Performing Arts.

TICKETS: For more information or to purchase tickets, please call the Ticket Office at 904.354.5547 or visit JaxSymphony.org.

SPONSORS: Pops series concerts are sponsored by Fidelity National Financial. Coffee Series concerts are sponsored by Raymond James.

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The Jacksonville Symphony is North Florida's leading music nonprofit offering live performances at Jacoby Hall in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts and other venues throughout the area. In addition, the Symphony provides music instruction for youth and operates the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra. For more information about the Symphony, visit JaxSymphony.org, like them at facebook.com/JaxSymphony, follow them on @jaxsymphony, on Instagram at JaxSymphony and on YouTube at JacksonvilleSymphony.