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INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING SINGER N'KENGE RETURNS TO PERFORM WITH THE JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY

Jacksonville, FL (March 14, 2018) --- The Jacksonville Symphony welcomes back international award-winning singer N'Kenge to perform in *LEGENDS: Diana Ross, Billie Holiday, Beyoncé and More* on March 23 & 24.

WHO: She's sung for presidents, at the EMMY's, the Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. N'Kenge returns to the Symphony to bring the songs of African-American greats including Billie Holiday, Diana Ross, Leontyne Price and more.

International Award Winning Singer N'Kenge, was called "electrifying" by the *NY Post* in the role of Mary Wells that she originated in Broadway's smash hit *Motown: The Musical*. N'Kenge was recently seen on National TV singing the National Anthem at Madison Square Garden. She made her Broadway debut in *Sondheim on Sondheim* singing alongside the late great Barbara Cook and Vanessa Williams. The singer has done solo engagements in New York at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center as well as the Library of Congress in Washington, DC that was broadcast worldwide by NPR.

N'Kenge is consistently seen as a soloist in pop programs with the Indianapolis Symphony, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra and New York Pops Orchestra among others around the globe.

Kenny Seymour will be joining N'Kenge as music director. Seymour has developed a reputation as a consummate professional for his creativity, talent, versatility and all around great musicianship. He has worked with some of Broadway's top producers, composers, playwrights, choreographers and directors. He has performed around the world, from the Legendary Apollo Theatre and Carnegie Hall to the Montreux Jazz Festival.

WHAT: N'Kenge brings the songs of African-American greats together with the Jacksonville Symphony.

"Performing LEGENDS with the glorious Jacksonville Symphony during Woman's History Month can't be more perfect in my eyes. LEGENDS completely centers around celebrating great women who have made their mark in the entertainment world. Women who are strong, women who are trail blazers and women whose talents and contributions transcends time.

I am so thrilled to sing songs made famous by Whitney Houston, Tina Turner, Motown's first female solo Artist Mary Wells, Metropolitan Opera's first Black Female Diva Leontyne Price and more. There is a little for everyone depending on an audience members' musical taste. LEGENDS really covers the entire gamete of genres and gives honor to these great ladies of soul, jazz, pop, opera and gospel during a month that truly highlights their achievements." – N'Kenge

WHEN: The concerts will take place on Friday, March 23 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 24 at 8 p.m.

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

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

SPONSORS: *LEGENDS* is a part of the Fidelity National Financial Pops Series.

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The Jacksonville Symphony is North Florida's leading music nonprofit offering live performances at Jacoby Symphony 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 Orchestras. 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.