

JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY HONORS MEMORIAL DAY WITH *PATRIOTIC POPS*

Jacksonville, FL (May 16, 2018) --- The Jacksonville Symphony will honor Memorial Day with *Patriotic Pops*, a concert dedicated to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

WHO: To help commemorate this day, the Jacksonville Symphony has partnered with local organizations that support the military and its members for the Saturday evening concert. Before the concert, organizations such as **Wounded Warrior Project**, headquartered in Jacksonville, **K-9's for Warriors**, headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, and **Operation New Uniform**, headquartered in Jacksonville, will have a presence in the lobby to share how they help and support veterans and their families. **Veterans United Brewery**, headquartered in Jacksonville, will be offering tastings of their beer in the lobby as well as selling their beverages at the bars. Veterans United was started in 2013 by a group of military veterans that shared an enthusiastic desire for producing and enjoying premium craft beer.

The Symphony, with food service provider SAVOR, have worked together to bring food trucks to the Times-Union Center for this event. The trucks will park on the river side of the Performing Arts Center off of West Coastline Drive and will serve food from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Food trucks attending include Kaboom Kababs, Wursthusters and Southern Twang. The Symphony will supply lawn games to help give this event a true "picnic and pops" feel in honor of Memorial Day. Patrons are welcome to bring lawn chairs or blankets to set out on the grassy patio before the concert begins.

WHAT: The program for these concerts features American favorites from Sousa marches to "America the Beautiful." In addition, works by John Williams make two appearances in the program: once for famed Olympic Fanfare *Summon the Heroes* and again when the Symphony performs *The Cowboys Overture*. With many more in between, the program will come to a rousing conclusion with Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*.

CONCERTMASTER SEARCH: During the extensive search for a new concertmaster, the Jacksonville Symphony will be bringing in eight candidates to perform with the Symphony during the season. The last of these candidates is Lauren Roth. She will be performing with the Symphony for *Patriotic Pops* and the season finale on Jun 1 & 2, *Twilight of the Gods*.

Lauren Roth is concertmaster of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra and was named assistant professor of violin at the University of Arizona beginning in the 2013-2014 school year. Prior to these positions, she was concertmaster of the Canton Symphony. In May 2013, Roth earned a Master of Music degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music as a student of William Preucil, and she was accepted into his prestigious Concertmaster Academy. She was a member of the Cleveland Pops orchestra and a substitute with The Cleveland Orchestra.

A native of Seattle, Roth received a Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Italian studies from the University of Washington. She was a student of Professor Ron Patterson. During that time, she served as concertmaster of the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra, Thalia Symphony, Marrowstone Festival Orchestra and the UW Symphony.

Roth has appeared as soloist with Philharmonia Northwest, Thalia Symphony, Canton Symphony, Sierra Vista Symphony and the Tucson Symphony. In 2013 she attended the Tanglewood Music Center

and received the Jules C. Reiner Violin Prize. An avid teacher and chamber musician, Roth was an adjunct faculty member at Holy Names Academy in Seattle and has served on the faculty of Icicle Creek Music Center and the International Lyric Academy in Italy. She spends summers in Prague, Czech Republic and Bellingham, WA where she is a faculty member at the Prague Summer Nights Festival and the Marrowstone Music Festival respectively.

WHEN: The first performance will be held on Friday, May 25 at 11 a.m. as a part of the Raymond James Coffee Concert Series. The concert will feature an abbreviated program and complimentary coffee and cookies will be available in the lobby before the start of the concert. The second performance will take place on Saturday, May 26 at 8 p.m. as a part of the Fidelity National Financial Pops Series. This evening concert will have food trucks parked on the river side of the building off of West Coastline Drive starting at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: All performances will take place in Jacoby Symphony Hall in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts. For the Saturday evening performance, the pre-concert picnic will be held on the back riverside patio of the Times-Union Center.

TICKETS: For more information, or to purchase tickets, please call the Ticket Office at 904.354.5547 or visit JaxSymphony.org. You can also visit the Ticket Office Monday-Friday 10a.m. to 4p.m. Military personnel are able to purchase best-available tickets at their local ITT/ITR offices at a reduced price.

SPONSORS: These concerts are a part of the Raymond James Coffee Series and 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.