

**JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY JOINED BY TRUMPETER BYRON STRIPLING FOR
*RAGTIME, BLUES AND JAZZ***

Jacksonville, FL (October 3, 2018) --- The Jacksonville Symphony will perform with trumpeter, conductor and vocalist Byron Stripling for Fidelity National Financial Pops Series concert *Ragtime, Blues and Jazz* on October 12 & 13. Audiences may recognize him from his appearance in the 2016-2017 Symphony performance of *Ella and Louis*. In this “tour de force” concert, Byron Stripling showcases ragtime masters Scott Joplin and Jelly Roll Morton plus blues legends B.B. King and Muddy Waters.

A powerhouse trumpeter, gifted with a soulful voice and a charismatic onstage swagger, **Byron Stripling** has delighted audiences internationally. As a soloist with the Boston Pops Orchestra, Stripling has performed frequently under the baton of Keith Lockhart, as well as being featured soloist on the PBS television special, “Evening at Pops,” with conductors John Williams and Lockhart. Currently, Stripling serves as artistic director and conductor of the highly acclaimed, award winning Columbus Jazz Orchestra.

Stripling earned his stripes as lead trumpeter and soloist with the Count Basie Orchestra under the direction of Thad Jones and Frank Foster. He has also played and recorded extensively with the bands of Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Herman, Dave Brubeck, Lionel Hampton, Clark Terry, Louis Bellson and Buck Clayton in addition to The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, The Carnegie Hall Jazz Band and The GRP All Star Big Band.

Since his Carnegie Hall debut with the New York Pops, Stripling has emerged as one of America’s most popular symphony pops guest artists, having performed with over 100 orchestras around the world including the Boston Pops, Pittsburgh Symphony, Seattle Symphony, Baltimore Symphony and Dallas Symphony, to name a few.

PRE-CONCERT: An hour before the concert of Friday evening, 7 p.m., the Guild of the Jacksonville Symphony will be hosting an Instrument Zoo for any and all Symphony patrons.

WHEN: The Jacksonville Symphony will perform *Ragtime, Blues and Jazz* on Friday, October 12 and Saturday, October 13, both at 8 p.m.

WHERE: Both concerts will take place in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Art’s Jacoby Symphony Hall.

SPONSORS: *Ragtime, Blues and Jazz* 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.