

***STAR WARS: A NEW HOPE IN CONCERT* TO FEATURE ICONIC SCORE PERFORMED LIVE TO FILM**

**Concert Features Composer John Williams' Complete Score from *A New Hope*
Performed Live to Picture by the Jacksonville Symphony and
Conducted by Nathan Aspinall**

Saturday and Sunday, February 23 & 24

Jacksonville, FL (February 13, 2019) -- The Jacksonville Symphony will present *Star Wars: A New Hope In Concert* featuring screenings of the complete film with Oscar®-winning composer John Williams' musical score performed live to the film. The concert will be led by Symphony Associate Conductor Nathan Aspinall.

Since the release of the first *Star Wars* movie over 40 years ago, the *Star Wars* saga has had a seismic impact on both cinema and culture, inspiring audiences around the world with its mythic storytelling, captivating characters, groundbreaking special effects and iconic musical scores composed by Williams.

Fans will be able to experience the scope and grandeur of this beloved film in a live symphonic concert experience, when the *Star Wars: A New Hope* debuts on **Saturday, February 23 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 24 at 3 p.m.**

FILM SYNOPSIS:

Set 30 years after *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace*, *Star Wars: A New Hope*, the fourth episode of the saga, returns to the desert planet of Tatooine. A young Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) begins to discover his destiny when, searching for a lost droid, he is saved by reclusive Jedi Obi-Wan Kenobi (Alec Guinness). A civil war rages in the galaxy, and Rebel forces struggle against the evil Galactic Empire, Luke and Obi-Wan enlist the aid of hotshot pilot, Han Solo (Harrison Ford). Joined by the quirky droid duo R2-D2 and C-3PO, the unlikely team sets out to rescue Rebel leader Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher) and make use of the stolen plans to destroy the Empire's ultimate weapon.

In a legendary confrontation, the rogue group mounts an attack against the Death Star for a climactic battle with the evil Sith Lord Darth Vader.

JOHN WILLIAMS:

Legendary composer Williams is well known for scoring all eight of the *Star Wars* saga films to date, beginning with 1977's *Star Wars: A New Hope* for which he earned an Academy Award® for Best Original Score. His scores for *The Empire Strikes Back*, *Return of the Jedi*, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* and *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* were each nominated for Best Original Score.

Williams has won five Academy Awards, four Golden Globe® Awards, seven British Academy Film Awards, five Emmy® Awards and 23 Grammy® Awards. With 51 Academy Award nominations, Williams is the Academy's most nominated living person and the second most-nominated individual in history, after Walt Disney. In 2005, the American Film Institute selected Williams' score to 1977's *Star Wars: A New Hope* as the greatest American film score of all time. The soundtrack to *A New Hope* also was preserved by the Library of Congress in the National Recording Registry, for being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant." Williams was inducted into the Hollywood Bowl's Hall of Fame in 2000, and he received the Kennedy Center Honors in 2004, the National Medal of Arts in 2009, and the AFI Life Achievement Award in 2016. Williams has

composed the scores for eight of the top 20 highest-grossing films at the U.S. box office (adjusted for inflation).

The *Star Wars: Film Concert Series* is produced under license by Disney Concerts in association with 20th Century Fox and Warner/Chappell Music.

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WHERE: *Star Wars: A New Hope In Concert* will take place in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts' Jacoby Symphony Hall.

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

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ABOUT THE JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY

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 Twitter @jaxsymphony, on Instagram at JaxSymphony and on YouTube at JacksonvilleSymphony.

ABOUT DISNEY CONCERTS

Disney Concerts is the concert production and licensing division of Disney Music Group, the music arm of The Walt Disney Company. Disney Concerts produces concerts and tours, and licenses Disney music and visual content to symphony orchestras and presenters on a worldwide basis. Disney Concerts' concert packages include a variety of formats, such as "live to picture" film concerts and themed instrumental and vocal compilation concerts, and range from instrumental-only symphonic performances to multimedia productions featuring live vocalists and choir. Current titles include the *Star Wars Film Concert Series (Episodes IV-VII)*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Fantasia*, *Pixar In Concert*, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, *Alice In Wonderland*, *Frozen*, *Ratatouille*, *The Pirates of the Caribbean* series (Episodes I-IV), and *Silly Symphonies*, which last year collectively accounted for over 400 performances in many of the world's top concert venues, including Lincoln Center, Royal Albert Hall, Sydney Opera House, Tokyo Forum and the Hollywood Bowl. Numerous new concert packages and touring productions from Disney's portfolio of studios, including Disney's feature animation and live action studios, Pixar, Lucasfilm and Marvel, are currently in development.