

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 13, 2023

**Jacksonville Symphony Creates New Living Composers Seminar**

Jacksonville, Fla - The Jacksonville Symphony has curated a Living Composers Seminar to engage the community and discuss the importance of new symphonic music. The inaugural event will be hosted by Music Director Courtney Lewis, Associate Conductor Kevin Fitzgerald, Assistant Conductor Grant O'Brien and award-winning composer Lowell Liebermann. This event will take place on Wednesday, September 27, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Davis Gallery located within the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts.

The Living Composers Seminar will focus on the significance of new contemporary music and its ability to showcase artistic innovation, inclusivity and intellectual exploration while preserving the tradition of orchestral music. Through discussion and examples, the group will share insights and personal experiences that will help dispel barriers to embracing a new paradigm of classical music.

"New music produced by living composers is so important because it keeps classical music relevant, fresh and reflective of contemporary times," said Music Director Courtney Lewis. "I hope that everyone who attends this seminar leaves with a fresh perspective on classical music of all eras, from old favorites to new discoveries, and looks forward to the innovation and daring brilliance yet to come in the upcoming season."

The Jacksonville Symphony has embarked on a multi-year project to premiere original commissions from today's most exciting composers. The 2021/22 Season saw the first of these works with *Trances*, a full symphonic piece by Tarik O'Regan. The 2023/24 Season features two original commissions: Lowell Liebermann's *Organ Concerto* and the world premiere of an original composition by Courtney Bryan. Liebermann will join the panel of speakers at the inaugural Living Composers Seminar to provide expert insights into composing new symphonic music.

There is no cost to attend this exclusive Jacksonville Symphony event, but a ticket is required as spaces are limited. Visit [JaxSymphony.org](https://jaxsymphony.org) or call the Box Office at 904.354.5547 to secure tickets.

**About the Jacksonville Symphony**

The Jacksonville Symphony is North Florida's leading music nonprofit offering live performances at Jacoby Symphony Hall in the Jacksonville 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](https://jaxsymphony.org).

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