

Paulette Matson, President

LONG BEACH SYMPHONY

ECKART PREU, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Kelly Lucera, Executive Director



LONG BEACH, CA, January 31, 2018 – Long Beach Symphony today announced it is launching a new Family Concert with an eye toward creating a 3 concert Family Series. Designed to inspire families to engage with orchestral music while spending quality time together, the series will provide interactive family activities on the plaza of the Long Beach Performing Arts Center (300 E. Ocean Blvd.) prior to the 50-minute matinee concert, designed just for kids, that will take place inside the Terrace Theater. Activities include an instrument petting zoo, musical games and performances, arts and crafts, food trucks, and creative play areas that invite families to experience and play music together.

The pre- and post-concert activities will be free and open to the public beginning at 2:00 pm, and the full symphonic concert begins at 3:00 pm. General adult concert tickets are \$15 each and all children are free, thanks in part to a grant from the Earl B. & Loraine H. Miller Foundation that has partnered with the Long Beach Symphony to make these concerts accessible to all children throughout the region. To facilitate attendance, the Symphony is working with the Long Beach Public Library System to create a transportation hub in North Long Beach at the Michelle Obama Library that will provide transportation to and from the concert.

The April 29th concert, titled, *We Can Be Heroes* invites families to meet the super heroes of the Orchestra in an afternoon of sing-alongs to music from *Frozen* and *Moana*, dancing to music by Beethoven and Mozart and a conducting lesson to *Star Wars* music. Broadway star and local darling, Susan Egan, will be a guest artist, and the concert will be led by Music Director Eckart Preu. Audiences are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite hero costume.

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The Symphony will partner with various non-profit organizations, such as the Long Beach Library Foundation and area music stores and other arts organizations to create a festival-like atmosphere with a sensory-friendly story corner, a makers-space Mobile Studio that includes a music-making machine called "Makey Music," and much more.

Kelly Lucera, Executive Director of Long Beach Symphony, exuded excitement about the new Family Concert Series, stating, "Making symphonic music accessible to everyone in the community is an integral part of the mission of the Symphony. We are thrilled to be able to bring this kind of fun, engaging experience for our community to build memories forever!"

The concert is also partially underwritten by the Port of Long Beach, Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center, and Wells Fargo Bank.

For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.LongBeachSymphony.org or call (562) 436-3203 ext. 1. Tickets are also available on Ticketmaster.

ABOUT LONG BEACH SYMPHONY

Established in 1935, the **Long Beach Symphony** draws over thousands to its six Classical concerts in the Long Beach Performing Arts Center Terrace Theater and five POPS! concert events in the Long Beach Arena. The Symphony partners with the Long Beach Unified School District to provide over 150 free music education programs throughout the year reaching 24,000 students. For more information, please visit www.LongBeachSymphony.org.

SEASON DETAILS – 2017-18

REMAINING CLASSICAL SEASON – All concerts in Terrace Theater of the Long Beach Performing Arts Center at 8:00 pm

2.3.18 | SPANISH NIGHTS WITH PEPE ROMERO

Eckart Preu, conductor

Pepe Romero, Guitar

Surinach Ritmo Jondo

Chabrier España

Celedonio Romero/Torroba *Concierto De Málaga*, Guitar Concerto

Rimsky-Korsakov *Capriccio espagnol*, op. 34

Bizet *Carmen* Suites No. 1 & 2

3.10.18 | SCOTTISH FANTASY

Eckart Preu, conductor

Caroline Goulding, violin; Eric Rigler, bagpipes

Bach *Air on the G String*

Mendelssohn Symphony No. 3, op. 56, A minor, *Scottish*

Bruch *Scottish Fantasy*, op. 46

Davies *Orkney Wedding with Sunrise*

4.28.18 | PROKOFIEV'S ROMEO AND JULIET

Eckart Preu, conductor

Benjamin Beilman, violin

Strauss *Don Juan*, op. 20

Mozart Violin Concerto No. 3, G major

Higdon *blue cathedral*

Prokofiev Selections from *Romeo and Juliet*, Suites No. 1 & 2

6.2.18 | SEASON FINALE: RACHMANINOFF & TCHAIKOVSKY

Eckart Preu, conductor

Fei-Fei Dong, piano

Glinka *Kamarinskaya*

Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 2, op. 18, C minor

Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 2, op. 17, C minor, *Little Russian*

REMAINING POPS! SEASON 2017-18 – All concerts at Long Beach Arena, doors open at 6:30 pm for picnicking, concerts begin at 8:00 pm

February 17, 2018 – The Great American Songbook – Eckart Preu, conductor | Susan Egan/ David Burnham, vocals

Bring your Valentine and dance the night away to romantic love songs from the Great American Songbook with the Long Beach Symphony and Broadway stars, Susan Egan and David Burnham. Don't miss your chance to see Maestro Preu make his POPS! debut!

March 17, 2018 – Celtic Spirit with Eileen Ivers – William Waldrop, conductor | Eileen Ivers, fiddle

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Celebrate Saint Patrick's Day with nine-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion and music star of *Riverdance*, Eileen Ivers. Joined by her band, Immigrant Soul, they will change the way you think about the violin and Celtic music!

May 12, 2018 – Fiesta Finale with Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band – Matt Catingub, conductor | Poncho Sanchez, conga

Get on your feet and get ready for a high-energy evening of music featuring Poncho Sanchez as he reunites with conductor Matt Catingub to present some of the most exciting latin pop and jazz from the past and present!

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