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THE ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA HOSTS THE SECOND ANNUAL HBCU ACCESSFEST

ATLANTA – The **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra** will host its second annual **HBCU AccessFest: College and Career Fair**, at the Woodruff Arts Center on Sat, Sep. 21, from 12 noon to 5pm.

The free event will include representatives from Historically Black Colleges and Universities from across the country, so that students can explore higher education options for their academic futures. Planned activities include interactive booths from colleges, companies, and community organizations, along with workshops and networking opportunities.

“Last year’s inaugural HBCU AccessFest was a great success, bringing together partners from all over the country and all around Atlanta. We are excited to build on last year’s success,” said Jennifer Barlament, Executive Director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. “We look forward to investing in the Atlanta community and amplifying Black voices.”

Resources to support students’ academic and career journeys will be onsite. Students will have creative opportunities to interact with industry professionals and gain awareness of various career options and internships.

Panel discussions throughout the day will include key leaders in their fields offering insights on financial education, career advice, civic and cultural themes, and pathways into the arts. In addition, attendees will have the chance to shop local Black-owned businesses, vendors and food trucks, while enjoying music and more.

Hours after the HBCU AccessFest ends, the ASO’s season-opening concert begins, featuring Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann conducting music by Mahler and Schumann, featuring cellist Edgar Moreau.

Admission is free and open to the public. Attendees may learn more and RSVP at aso.org/hbcu

About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Under the leadership of Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) offers live performances, media initiatives, and learning programs that unite, educate and

enrich our community through the engaging and transformative power of orchestral music experiences. The ASO engages the diverse international community of our city, bringing people together in harmony—including our youngest citizens, with extensive opportunities for youth and families to fall in love with music. Two of the hallmark education programs celebrate anniversaries this season: the Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra celebrates 50 years and the Talent Development Program turns 30.

The Orchestra's range and depth are featured in more than 150 concerts each year, including the flagship Delta Classical Series, Movies in Concert, Family Concerts, Coca-Cola Holiday series, and many community and education concerts. In addition, the ASO presents many vibrant, wide-ranging events and artists through its Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall Live presentations. The ASO also performs with the ASO Chorus, originally founded by Robert Shaw, and currently under the direction of Norman Mackenzie. The Chorus is featured on nine of the ASO's 27 Grammy® Award-winning recordings.

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