



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2023

CONTACT: Ashley Mirakian, 404-733-4349

ashley.mirakian@atlantasymphony.org

**THE ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RETURNS TO PIEDMONT PARK FOR
FREE CONCERT ON SEPT. 30 FEATURING A SEASON CELEBRATION**

**PRESENTED BY DELTA AIR LINES AND THE CHARLES LORIDANS FOUNDATION, INC.
With Support from The Mark and Evelyn Trammell Foundation, Inc.**

ATLANTA – The **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra** returns to **Piedmont Park** on **Saturday, September 30, at 7:30 p.m.** with a free performance on Oak Hill, for the final performance this summer of its Concerts in the Park series, a “Season Celebration.”

“Our concerts in Piedmont Park are a highlight of the year for us, allowing us to share music in a gorgeous setting with the entire community,” said Jennifer Barlament, Executive Director. “There’s nothing like sitting back in the grass on a warm early fall evening and hearing the music of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra wash over you. This concert is especially exciting because it allows us to give Atlanta a “sneak peek” of what is to come in the Orchestra’s 79th season at Symphony Hall, everything from orchestral greats to the film music of John Williams. In addition, early-comers will have a chance to hear the amazingly talented students of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, the premiere youth orchestra in the state of Georgia and one of the finest student ensembles in the nation.”

Conducted by William R. Langley, the *Season Celebration* features highlights from the coming season at Symphony Hall with works such as Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Capriccio espagnol*, a movement from Dvořák’s *New World Symphony*, and Marquez’ *Danzón No. 2*. The concert will start and finish with two excerpts from John Williams’ film scores, *Hook* and *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial*.

Attendees are encouraged to arrive early with their picnic dinners, as seating with a good view of the stage is first-come, first-served. There will be an added bonus for early birds as there will be a 6:30 performance by the ASYO String Chamber Ensemble, conducted by Tamara Dworetz, to kick off their 50th Anniversary Season with a program featuring works by Tchaikovsky, Mendelssohn and Bernstein.

There will also be a merchandise table with ASO-branded gear for purchase, as well as food trucks with beverages to complete the picnic experience. Family-friendly activities will be hosted by the ASO Education and Community Engagement Department.

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Concerts in the Park are presented by Delta Air Lines and the Charles Loridans Foundation, Inc. Major support is provided by The Mark and Evelyn Trammell Foundation, Inc.,

City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, Fulton County Arts and Culture, the Georgia Council for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Admission is free to the public and tickets are not required. Additional details and full program information are available at www.aso.org/piedmont.

Concert in the Park

Piedmont Park, Oak Hill (371 10th St. NE)

Saturday, September 30, 7:30 p.m.

William R. Langley, conductor

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

JOHN WILLIAMS	"The Flight to Neverland" from <i>Hook</i>
MENDELSSOHN	<i>The Hebrides Overture</i>
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	<i>Capriccio espagnol</i>
SMETANA	"The Moldau" from <i>Má vlast</i> (My Fatherland)
ARTURO MÁRQUEZ	Danzón No. 2
DVORÁK	Finale from Symphony No. 9 ("From the New World")
JOHN WILLIAMS	"Flying Theme" from <i>E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial</i>

Pre-concert performance at 6:30 by the ASYO String Chamber Ensemble, conducted by Tamara Dworetz.

Important Concert Information

- Seating with a direct view of the stage is not guaranteed. Patrons are encouraged to arrive early, as seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. The ASYO String Chamber Orchestra will perform at 6:30.
- The performance will take place at Piedmont Park's Oak Hill, located in the southwest corner of the park.
- There is limited parking at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens Parking Facility, adjacent to Piedmont Park. Patrons are encouraged to carpool, ride MARTA to Arts Center Station or Midtown Station, walk or bike to the event.
- Patrons may bring outside food and beverages into the concert area; however, grills, glass containers and outside alcoholic beverages are not permitted.
- Beer, wine and food will be available for purchase on-site.
- Pets are not permitted at this event. However, the Piedmont Park Dog Park will be open.
- In the case of inclement weather, check aso.org and ASO social media channels for updates. There is no scheduled rain date.

About William R. Langley

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Associate Conductor and ASYO Music Director, William R. Langley, began his career as an orchestral conductor at age sixteen. In 2009 he founded the Wolf River Chamber Orchestra and in 2011 the Memphis Repertory Orchestra. Langley also serves as conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra and the Blueshift Ensemble, a contemporary music ensemble dedicated to programming and promoting new and existing chamber works while incorporating multi-genre collaborations. An avid performer, the young Maestro has appeared as guest conductor with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Starling Chamber Orchestra, Blueshift Ensemble, Concert:Nova, and All of the Above Ensemble.

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.

###