



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ATLANTA SYMPHONY HALL CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS WITH BELOVED ATLANTA TRADITIONS AND  
NEW SEASONAL FAVORITES**

**ATLANTA** – The **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**’s December concert calendar is full of blockbuster guest artists and audience favorites that offer a way to celebrate the season for everyone with their family and friends—from the powerful chorus leading carols to jazzy holiday tunes and movies in concert. [see calendar listing below]

The ASO’s celebrated Coca-Cola Holiday Concerts return with one of the ASO’s most treasured holiday programs, **Christmas with the ASO**. It returns for four performances with the ASO, Chorus and Morehouse Glee Club on Dec. 9 and 10, featuring favorite hymns, carols, and anthems celebrating the holiday season.

The power of **Handel’s Messiah** with its magnificent “Hallelujah Chorus” will be felt throughout Symphony Hall as Director of Chorus Norman Mackenzie leads the Orchestra and the ASO Chamber Chorus in part one of the *Messiah* on Dec. 14 and 15.

Irish singing sensations **Celtic Woman** presents *A Christmas Symphony with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra* on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 21 and 22. Celebrate this holiday season with the celestial voices of multi-platinum Irish singing sensation Celtic Woman with a full orchestra. Featuring music from the all-female ensemble’s most favorite Yuletide songs performed by them over the years.

The new **Sounds of the Season** program ushers in the holiday spirit on Dec. 23 with jazz vocalist **Tammy McCann** in stirring renditions of festive carols, such as “Santa Claus is Comin to Town.” *The Nutcracker* will be performed by the ASO in an entirely fresh way—first with Tchaikovsky’s original version right next to Duke Ellington’s big-band arrangements.

**‘Twas the Night Before Christmas** Family Concert is designed for our youngest patrons and their families with a festive mix of carols, along with the score of the classic animated film, *The Snowman*, while it plays on a screen overhead during two shows on Dec. 3.

The **Movies in Concert series**, presented by Invesco QQQ, features beloved films playing on a 40-ft screen overhead while the score is performed live to picture by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Patrons can enjoy Macaulay Culkins' hilarious hi-jinks as Kevin McCallister, as John Williams' charming score comes to life in **Home Alone** (Nov. 25-26), or feel the romance warming up as Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet, Jude Law, and Jack Black act out in **The Holiday** (Dec. 16-17).

Emmy and Golden Globe winner Darren Criss jumpstarts the holiday season on Nov. 21, performing songs from his recent holiday album, **A Very Darren Crissmas**, with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. The show will include big band Christmas classics, novelty tunes, and folk-pop ballads.

#### **CALENDAR LISTING OF HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES AT SYMPHONY HALL**

##### **A Very Darren Crissmas**

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Thurs., Nov. 21, 8pm

Jacomo Rafael Bairos, conductor

Darren Criss, vocals

Since bursting onto the pop-culture landscape from Fox's hit show *Glee* over a decade ago, Emmy and Golden Globe winner Darren Criss has embodied the kind of kaleidoscopic artistry that's entirely uninhibited by form or genre. Kicking off the Christmas season, Criss will perform songs from his recent holiday album, *A Very Darren Crissmas*. His first-ever full-length project includes a wildly eclectic collection of songs from big band Christmas classics to novelty tunes to modern-day folk-pop ballads. *A Very Darren Crissmas* showcases his artistry delivering both thrillingly unpredictable moments and a timeless sense of Christmas magic.

##### **Home Alone: Live in Concert**

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Sat., Nov. 25, 7pm

Sun., Nov. 26, 3pm

Scott Terrell, conductor

A true holiday favorite, this beloved comedy classic features renowned composer John Williams' charming and delightful score performed live to picture by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and with special guests, the Georgia Tech Chamber Choir. Macaulay Culkin stars as Kevin McCallister, an 8-year-old boy who's accidentally left behind when his family leaves for Christmas vacation, and who must defend his home against two bungling thieves. Hilarious and heart-warming, *Home Alone* is holiday fun for the entire family!

##### **'Twas the Night Before Christmas Family Concert**

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Sun., Dec. 3, 1:30pm and 3pm

Glenn E. Alexander II, conductor

The stockings are hung, and Symphony Hall is ready for the magic of the season with the orchestra performing a festive mix of carols along with the score of the classic animated film, *The Snowman*, while it plays on a screen overhead. Also, a narrator will join the orchestra for the beloved tale *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

### **The Jinkx & DeLa Holiday Show**

Atlanta Symphony Hall

Mon., Dec. 4, 8pm

You better watch out, you better not cry, because “The Queens of Christmas” (*Entertainment Weekly*), BenDeLaCreme and Jinkx Monsoon, are coming to ATLANTA with a brand-new edition of the internationally acclaimed *The Jinkx & DeLaHoliday Show*! Another holiday season brings another year of fabulous spectacle, whip-smart comedy, brand-new songs, and annual favorites. *This show is 18+*.

### **Sarah Brightman: A Christmas Symphony**

Atlanta Symphony Hall

Wed., Dec. 6, 8pm

Accompanied by orchestra\*, choir and special guests, this magical holiday show will feature Sarah performing many of her holiday classics and greatest hits. It is an unforgettable Christmas spectacle during the most wonderful time of the year.

\*Please note, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra will not be performing at this event.

### **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis: Big Band Holidays**

Atlanta Symphony Hall

Fri., Dec. 8, 8pm

The world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and guest artists span genres and generations as they perform around the world for people of all ages. Jazz at Lincoln Center is led by Chairman Clarence Otis, Managing and Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, and Executive Director Greg Scholl.

### **Christmas with the ASO**

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Sat., Dec. 9, 3pm and 8pm

Sun., Dec., 10, 3pm and 8pm

Norman Mackenzie, director of choruses

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus

Morehouse College Glee Club

Director of Choruses Norman Mackenzie leads the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in an evening of holiday carols, hymns and more. This timeless tradition begun by Robert Shaw is sure to inspire holiday cheer.

### **A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live on Stage**

Atlanta Symphony Hall

Wed., Dec. 13, 7pm

*A Charlie Brown Christmas*, the Emmy and Peabody award-winning story by Charles M. Schulz, has warmed the hearts of millions of fans since it first aired on television over fifty-five years ago. Now the classic animated television special comes to life in this faithful stage adaptation that celebrates the timeless television classic so the whole family can join Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Lucy, Linus and the rest of the Peanuts characters in their journey to uncover the true meaning of Christmas. After the final bow, the show crescendos into a celebration of song as the audience is invited to join the Peanuts gang in singing traditional Christmas songs and carols.

### **Handel's *Messiah***

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Thurs., Dec. 14, 8pm

Fri., Dec. 15, 8pm

Norman Mackenzie, director of choruses

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chamber Chorus

The "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's glorious *Messiah* is one of the top downloads of the Christmas season and an Atlanta tradition. Get into the holiday spirit with the renowned Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Chorus performing Bach's Cantata No. 1 and Part One of the *Messiah*.

### ***The Holiday: Live in Concert***

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Sat., Dec. 16, 7:30pm

Sun., Dec. 17, 3pm

The beloved Christmas film, *The Holiday*, will be presented live in concert featuring its musical score performed live to the film by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. This is a brand-new way of experiencing *The Holiday*, which has become a cult Christmas viewing experience for many. *The Holiday* stars Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet, Jude Law, and Jack Black, and tells the story of how two women who have never met and live 6,000 miles apart find themselves in the same exact place. They meet online at a home exchange website and impulsively switch homes for the holiday. Iris moves into Amanda's L.A. house in sunny California as Amanda arrives in the snow-covered English countryside. Shortly after arriving at their destinations, both women find the last thing either wants or expects; a new romance.

### **Samara Joy: A Joyful Holiday featuring the McLendon Family**

Atlanta Symphony Hall

Tues., Dec. 19, 8pm

Concert presented by Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE & Jazz 91.9 WCLK. Samara Joy, one of jazz's newest stars, celebrates the holidays at Atlanta Symphony Hall with her unique and award-winning interpretations of holiday classics. With her GRAMMY-Award winning and chart-topping album, *Linger Awhile*, 23-year-old Samara Joy makes her case to join the likes of Sarah, Ella, and Billie as the next jazz singing sensation recorded by the venerable Verve Records. Her voice, rich and velvety yet precociously refined, has already earned her appearances on the *TODAY Show*, *The Tonight Show w/Jimmy Fallon*, *The Late Show w/Stephen Colbert*, *CBS Mornings*, and more, in addition to millions of likes on TikTok — cementing her status as perhaps the first Gen Z jazz singing star.

### **Celtic Woman: Christmas Symphony Tour 2023 with the ASO**

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Thurs., Dec. 21, 8pm

Fri., Dec. 22, 8pm

Celebrate this holiday season with the celestial voices of multi-platinum Irish singing sensation Celtic Woman with a full orchestra. Featuring music from the all-female ensemble's most favorite Yuletide songs performed by them over the years. Prepare for an enchanting and festive evening filled with mesmerizing music, performance, and holiday cheer.

## **Sounds of the Season**

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Sat., Dec. 23, 3pm and 8pm

William R. Langley, conductor

Tammy McCann, vocalist

The sparkling sounds of the season abound when your symphony performs your favorite holiday music! Hear *The Nutcracker* in an entirely fresh way—first with Tchaikovsky's original version right next to Duke Ellington's big-band arrangements. This family-friendly holiday celebration features singer Tammy McCann, whose powerful, sultry, voice merges jazz with a Gospel esthetic to bring her unique sound to festive tunes. "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" with his friend "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" as we all go on a "Sleigh Ride" together!

More information and a full list of available concerts can be found at [aso.org/holidays](http://aso.org/holidays).

*Holiday concerts are made possible through an endowment from the Livingston Foundation, in memory of Leslie Livingston Kellar. Additional support of Christmas with the ASO provided by BlackRock.*

## **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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