



For Immediate Release Through September 30th

Loudoun Symphony

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The Loudoun Symphony Orchestra with new Music Director, Kim Allen Kluge, are thrilled to announce their extraordinary 2023-2024 Season— *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness*. We welcome you to join us as Maestro Kluge leads us to believe in the power of music to inspire, transcend, unite communities and to bring about positive change in the world.

Letter from the Maestro...

LSO's Maestro Kluge talks about his upcoming season...

"I want to serve ALL of Loudoun County so I strove to create a season that is UNIVERSAL as reflected in our season theme, *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness*. We are so lucky as Americans that from the youngest age we are taught to believe in the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and we will be weaving that theme throughout all the concerts in ways I hope will be revelatory, delightful, and engaging!

"We welcome visiting superstar artists with the broadest appeal, and will share music that everyone will love! We have designed concert programs and formats to best meet the needs of our community—children, families, young professionals, and seniors. We've also diversified our venues to reach the different regions of Loudoun County.

"This season we look forward to performing with fellow musicians including the Loudoun Choral and the phenomenal Melichenko Family—visiting musicians from Ukraine—who will bring their special and distinctive performance magic to the February program. Though they have been through so much tragedy during the Ukraine war, they always end their sets with Louis Armstrong's *It's a Wonderful World*. It gets me every time!

“The musicians and I are so excited to be sharing music ranging from epic film scores such as *Gladiator*, *Saving Private Ryan*, and *Star Trek*, to the music of Coldplay and U2, to iconic classical favorites including Copland’s *Fanfare for the Common Man*, Gustav Holst’s *The Planets*, Respighi’s *Pines of Rome* and Beethoven’s *Seventh Symphony*. I’m also super excited to be performing one of my favorite pieces, Duke Ellington’s *Nutcracker Suite* alongside music from Tchaikovsky’s *Nutcracker* on our popular Holiday Concerts. We welcome Loudoun County Chair of the Board of Supervisors Phyllis J. Randall who will be narrating the magical story of *The Nutcracker*. Being the parent of a young child inspired me to incorporate elements into the concerts that I know will inspire young people including music to *E.T. The Extraterrestrial* and *Star Wars*. And the Melichenko children virtuosos will be great role models for all the children in the audience— and adults for that matter!

“The LSO will be pulling out all the stops for our June 2nd family finale concert, “One Planet, One Community”. This inspiring inter-arts event will take place at Ion International Training Center & Music Arena, a major LSO partner who will be sponsoring the event. It will feature Olympic ice dancers skating to the live LSO performance!

“A videography comprised of art, poetry and other creative expressions from all throughout Loudoun County will be projected on a gigantic screen behind the orchestra. This event will be a culmination of our yearlong collaboration with the community — unleashing its creative energies in a spectacular way! We’re so excited to be partnering with LCPS and other organizations and individuals throughout Loudoun County!

“All concerts are free to children 12 and under. The LSO is adding matinees this year to make the concerts more accessible to children, young families, young professionals and seniors. Our Saturday night and Sunday afternoon concerts will all be designed to make the concert experience more enjoyable and accessible— we hope our new formats will make it easier to go out for a meal before or after the concert!

“I’m incredibly excited to explore the many layers of *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness* in music that is uplifting, entertaining, transformational and thought provoking. For a special treat on opening night we are thrilled to be performing Valerie Coleman’s *UMOJA*, Swahili for “Unity”. This piece embodies the spirit of LSO’s special mission to celebrate diversity, equity, and inclusion through the power of music.

“We welcome everyone to the LSO and hope to see you at the concerts!”

Kim

For dates, venues, and concert information go to: www.loudounsymphony.org/iso-season

Now in its 33rd season, Loudoun Symphony has evolved as a premier regional symphony through artistic excellence by providing a variety of programs that enrich, educate, engage and

entertain our community. A full season of seven in-person orchestral concerts as well as virtual performances are presented by the Loudoun Symphony Orchestra. The educational outreach program includes the Loudoun Symphony Youth Orchestra program which now provides performance opportunities for talented students through four ensembles and intensive training through a week-long Summer Orchestral Institute. www.loudounsymphony.org