



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA COLLABORATES WITH AREA MILITARY MUSICIANS FOR FREE CONCERT AT POWELL HALL, MAY 22

The third Joining Forces on Stage concert celebrates American music in collaboration with musicians from the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, and Missouri National Guard

(March 1, 2022, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details of its biannual Joining Forces on Stage at Powell concert, a free community performance featuring SLSO musicians in collaboration with the region's military bands. The concert, supported by Commerce Bank, is 3:00pm CDT, Sunday, May 22, at the SLSO's home at historic Powell Hall.

This concert is free, but ticket reservations are required by visiting <u>slso.org</u> or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700.

Wind, brass, and percussion musicians of the SLSO team up with military musicians from the U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America stationed at Scott Air Force Base (Shiloh, Illinois), the 399th Army Band stationed at Fort Leonard Wood (Waynesville, Missouri), and—new this year—the 135th Army Band (Missouri National Guard, Springfield, Missouri) for the free Joining Forces on Stage at Powell concert. The afternoon of rousing musical performances features patriotic anthems, military medleys, and a poignant musical tribute to those laid at rest in our national cemeteries—a celebration of American music fitting for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. The concert opens with a traditional fife and drum medley and also includes favorites from John Philip Sousa, a nod to the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force, a tribute to Stephen Sondheim, and a celebration of the 90th birthday of composer John Williams (a former U.S. Air Force musician).

Kevin McBeth, Director of the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus, shares the podium with military band commanders Major Justin Lewis (U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America), Warrant Officer 1 Brian Dorgan (399th Army Band), and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Keith Moyer (135th Army Band) in this powerful joint performance with musicians in uniform. This is the third Joining Forces concert the SLSO has hosted with military musicians; the first was in 2017, with a second concert in 2019. Collaborations extended in 2020 with smaller ensemble performances at area colleges through SLSO's College Connections program.

Proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test is required for all audience members ages 5 and older at every Powell Hall event. All patrons are required to wear masks while inside Powell Hall. Visit <a href="style="color: blue;">slso.org/protocols</a> for the most up-to-date information on health and safety protocols.





## **Calendar listing:**

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra teams up with musicians from the U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America at Scott Air Force Base, the 399th Army Band at Fort Leonard Wood, and the 135th Army Band in Springfield, Missouri, for a joint concert at Powell Hall at 3:00pm, Sunday, May 22, at Powell Hall. The concert is free, but ticket reservations are required by visiting <a href="style="color: blue;">style="color: blue;">style="color: blue;">style="color: blue;</a> at Powell Hall. The concert is free, but ticket reservations are required by visiting <a href="style="color: blue;">style="color: blue;

Sunday, May 22, 2022, 3:00pm Powell Hall, 718 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO

Kevin McBeth, conductor Major Justin Lewis, conductor Warrant Officer 1 Brian Dorgan, conductor Chief Warrant Officer 2 Keith Moyer, conductor

This concert is supported by Commerce Bank.

## **About the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra**

Celebrated as a leading American orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is the second-oldest orchestra in the country, marking its 142nd year with the 2021/2022 season and its third with <a href="Music Director Stéphane Denève">Music Director Stéphane Denève</a>. The SLSO maintains its commitment to artistic excellence, educational impact, and community collaborations, honoring its mission of enriching lives through the power of music.

The SLSO serves as a convener of individuals, creators, and ideas, and is committed to building community through compelling and inclusive musical experiences. As it continues its longstanding focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, and access, the SLSO embraces its strengths as a responsive, nimble organization, while investing in partnerships locally and elevating its presence globally. For more information, visit slso.org.

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