



Pasadena Symphony Association
Pasadena Symphony & POPS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Free Concert at Pasadena City Hall with the Pasadena Symphony and POPS

The family friendly event features Broadway stars Larry Blank, David Burnham, Valerie Perri, and Christina Saffran

Pasadena, CA – Stars of the stage and screen will illuminate the night sky when the Pasadena Symphony presents its annual FREE “Music Under The Stars” concert on Saturday, Oct. 4, at Pasadena City Hall Centennial Square. This concert is sponsored in part by Bank of America Charitable Foundation and The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation. Under the baton of multiple Tony Award-nominated Larry Blank, Resident Pops Conductor, the Pasadena Symphony welcomes vocalists Valerie Perri, Christina Saffran, and David Burnham, who will sing a collection of hits from Broadway, the movies, and the Great American Songbook. With a selection including legendary music by Jule Styne, Stephen Sondheim, Andrew Lloyd Webber and so much more. The JPL chorus, composed of volunteer JPL employees and under the direction of Donald Brinegar, completes the line-up for this captivating evening of Music Under the Stars. Grounds open at 5:30 p.m., the concert will take place between 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

At the concert, the Pasadena Symphony Association will honor Mayor Bill Bogaard for his leadership support of the Association over the years.

“We’re thrilled to be able to offer this enchanting concert once again this year to the Pasadena community,” stated Paul Jan Zdunek, CEO of the Pasadena Symphony Association (PSA). “The success of this concert is directly related to the philanthropy of the Bank of America Charitable Foundation and The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation who generously sponsored this family oriented event. Music Under The Stars holds a special place in the hearts of families in the Pasadena community, and we hope to continue to inspire their love of the symphony for years to come.”

The family-friendly fun begins at 5:30 p.m. with pre-concert activities, family-style picnicking, and gourmet food trucks. Families can discover the wonder of creating their own music with the instruments of the orchestra at the instrument “petting zoo,” where kids of all ages can toot flutes, blow trumpets, bow strings, and bang on percussion instruments. Families are also encouraged to bring their own picnic along to enjoy at the site, or purchase a variety of tasty offerings from a collection of gourmet food trucks.

Perri is best known and loved for her legendary performance as Eva Peron in the Tony Award-winning musical *Evita*. She has also played starring roles in such Broadway blockbusters such as “Fiddler on the Roof,” “West Side Story,” “Gypsy,” “Jesus Christ Superstar,” “I Do, I Do,” “And the World Goes Round,” “Man of La Mancha,” and “Annie Warbucks.”

Saffran’s artistic career is expansive having starred in numerous Broadway master pieces including, “Singin’ In the Rain,” Maggie in “A Chorus Line,” Shoo Shoo in “Sophisticated Ladies,” Rosabud and Edwin Drood in “Drood,” and Zaneeta in “The Music Man.”

Burnham was last seen as Fiyero in the Broadway sensation, “Wicked,” a role he originated in the developmental stages of the production. He is an original cast member of the Broadway production of “The Light in the Piazza,” and the recipient of the prestigious Helen Hayes Award for best actor for his portrayal of Fabrizio on the National Tour.

“As a major supporter of the arts, Bank of America is proud to once again help bring events like Music Under The Stars to Pasadena,” said Craig Colbath, Bank of America Merrill Lynch resident director, based in Pasadena. “By supporting cultural legacies like the Pasadena Symphony and POPS, we provide our communities with access to art and culture that not only offer social and education benefits, but also acts as an economic driver for the region.”

Bank of America’s arts program supports nonprofit arts and culture presenters at the local level and with leading world-class arts entities. Other programs include the *Museums on Us*® program, which offers Bank of America customers free access to 150 of America's finest cultural institutions, and the *Art in our Communities*® program through which the company shares its corporate collection with museums throughout the world.

Admission to this event is free, and guests are encouraged to bring a picnic, blanket, and low-back chairs. Rental chairs will also be available at the event. For more information, visit www.PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org or call 626.793.7172.

IF YOU GO:

- **What:** Bank of America Music Under the Stars with the Pasadena Symphony and POPS
- **When:** Saturday, Oct. 4. Pre-concert festivities at 5:30 p.m.; concert at 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Pasadena City Hall Centennial Square
- **Cost:** Free
- **Parking:** Plaza Las Fuentes Structure (Union Ave & Los Robles); School House Parking Facility (Green St. & Raymond Ave); Pasadena Center/Sheraton Parking Structure (Marengo & Cordova); Paseo Colorado Subterranean Garage; Paseo Colorado Marengo Avenue Parking Structure; Paseo Colorado Los Robles Parking Structure; Arroyo Seco Park Parking (Raymond Ave or Arroyo Blvd), and Marriott Courtyard Hotel Parking (enter on Raymond).

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ABOUT THE PASADENA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Recent Acclaim for the Pasadena Symphony and POPS

“The Pasadena Symphony signals a new direction...teeming with vitality...dripping with opulent, sexy emotion.” Los Angeles Times.

“...full of pulsating energy from first note to last... the strings were lushly resonant, the wind principals were at the top of their games, and the brass rang out with gleaming vigor.” –Pasadena Star News.

Formed in 1928, the Pasadena Symphony and POPS is an ensemble of Hollywood’s most talented, sought after musicians. With extensive credits in the film, television, recording and orchestral industry, the artists of Pasadena Symphony and POPS are the most heard in the world.

The Pasadena Symphony and POPS performs in two of the most extraordinary venues in the United States: Ambassador Auditorium, known as the *Carnegie Hall of the West*, and the luxuriant Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Garden. Internationally recognized, Grammy-nominated conductor, David Lockington, serves as the Pasadena Symphony Association’s Music Director, with performance-practice specialist Nicholas McGegan serving as Principal Guest Conductor. The multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy Award-nominated entertainer dubbed “The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook,” Michael Feinstein, is the Principal Pops Conductor, who succeeded Marvin Hamlisch in the newly created *Marvin Hamlisch Chair*.

A hallmark of its robust education programs, the Pasadena Symphony Association has served the youth of the region for over five decades through the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestras (PYSO) comprised of five performing ensembles, with over 250 gifted 4th-12th grade students from more than 50 schools all over the Southern California region. The PYSO Symphony often performs on the popular television show *GLEE*.

The PSA provides people from all walks of life with powerful access points to the world of symphonic music.

About Bank of America Corporate Social Responsibility

Bank of America’s commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR) is a strategic part of doing business globally. Our CSR efforts guide how we operate in a socially, economically, financially and environmentally responsible way around the world, to deliver for shareholders, customers, clients and employees. Our goal is to help create economically vibrant regions and communities through lending, investing and giving. By partnering with our stakeholders, we create value that empowers individuals and communities to thrive and contributes to the long-term success of our business. We have several core areas of focus for our CSR, including responsible business practices; environmental sustainability; strengthening local communities with a focus on housing, hunger and jobs; investing in global leadership development; and engaging through arts and culture. As part of these efforts, employee volunteers across the

company contribute their time, passion and expertise to address issues in communities where they live and work. Learn more at www.bankofamerica.com/about and follow us on Twitter at @BofA_Community.

About Larry Blank

Larry Blank is one of the most prolific and sought after composers, conductors, and orchestrators in the entertainment business today. His work has been presented all over the world, including some of Broadway's most successful musicals, Carnegie Hall, and top television and film projects.

He was the music director/conductor and/or vocal arranger for many shows on Broadway and in Los Angeles including "They're Playing Our Song," "Evita," "Sugar Babies," "La Cage Aux Folles," "Phantom Of The Opera," "Onward Victoria," "Copperfield," "Colette," "A Chorus Line," and "A Little Night Music." He has been nominated twice for both the Tony Award and the Drama Desk Award for his orchestrations in "The Drowsy Chaperone" and "Irving Berlin's White Christmas."

Mr. Blank has worked with top talent from varied fields of the entertainment world, notably as personal conductor to Michael Crawford. He has also worked with Michael Feinstein, Marvin Hamlisch, Bernadette Peters, Kelsey Grammar, Christine Baranski, Roberta Flack, Pete Fountain, Peabo Bryson, Sally Kellerman, Nancy Dussault, Marc Shaiman, Jerry Herman, Ann- Margaret, Davis Gaines, Bette Midler, George Benson, Placido Domingo, Randy Newman, Trisha Yearwood, Tom Scott, Quincy Jones, Michael Bolton, John Raitt and Diana Rigg.

Blank's background includes orchestrating and arranging songs for "South Park," and he was music supervisor and orchestrator for Jerry Herman's movie, "Mrs. Santa Claus," starring Angela Lansbury and Charles Durning. Some of the films he lent his talent to include "The Kid," "Kiss The Girls," "The American President," "Forget Paris," "City Slickers II," "The Net," "That's Entertainment III," "North," "I'd Do Anything," and "Stuart Saves His Family." Blank's music can be heard on the animated feature films, "Cats Don't Dance" and "All Dogs Go To Heaven," as well as the "101 Dalmatians Christmas Special."

Mr. Blank's television work includes orchestrating and composing music for several of the Grammy Awards and Academy Award shows as well as numerous television movies and shows.

About Valerie Perri

Valerie Perri is best known to theater audiences for her Award-winning performance in the lead role of Eva Peron in the Tony Award-winning musical Evita. Directed by the legendary Harold Prince, Valerie headed the first National Touring production performing the lead role across the United States and Canada. Other Broadway shows include starring roles in: West Side Story, Gypsy, Jesus Christ Superstar, I do, I do, The World Goes Round, Man of La Mancha, Annie Warbucks, City of Angels, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change and Jerome Robbins Broadway. Valerie is a recipient of a Los Angeles Drama Critics Award for her performance in the Pasadena Playhouse production of Harry Chapin: Lies and Legends and a nominee for Chicago's prestigious Sarah Siddons Award for her role as Evita Peron. She has performed with orchestras at Wolftrap, San Diego, Frankfurt, London, and Walt Disney Concert Hall. Her television and film credits include: ER, Another World, Brooklyn Bride, Who's the Boss, Gepetto with Drew Carey, The Out of Towners with Goldie Hawn and Steve Martin; George of the Jungle

with Brendan Frasier; Grease with John Travolta; and Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star with David Spade.

About Christina Saffran

Christina Saffran's Broadway career is extensive, having starred as Kathy Seldon in *Singin' in the Rain*, (cast recording), Maggie in *A Chorus Line*, Shoo Shoo in *Sophisticated Ladies*, Rosa Bud and Edwin Drood in *Drood*, and Zaneeta in *The Music Man*. A true triple threat, audiences throughout the world have been thrilled by her leading performances in *My Fair Lady*, *Showboat*, *South Pacific*, *Phantom*, *White Christmas*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Damn Yankees*, *Sound of Music*, *Pajama Game*, *She Loves Me*, *Street Scene*, *Grease*, *Company*, *My One and Only*, *Chess*, *Aspects of Love*, *Me and My Girl*, *I Do I Do...*the list goes on.

Her concert work includes a multitude of styles ranging from engagements as the lead chanteuse for Herbie Hancock, to soloist with various national symphony orchestras, and the Duke Ellington Orchestra as well opening for Don Rickles, with her own show in Las Vegas' Stardust. She has provided animated voices for Disney's *Aladdin*, *Mulan*, *Magic Flute*, *102 Dalmatians*, *A Bug's Life*, *Armageddon*, *Pocahontas II*, *Hunchback II*, and *Lady and the Tramp II*, and is heard on *Enchanted*, *Cinderella*, *Galaxy Quest*, *Polar Express*, *Christmas with the Kranks*, *The Lorax* and *The Santa Clause II*.

About David Burnham

David Burnham was last seen on Broadway in the mega-hit musical, "Wicked", playing Fiyero, a role that he originated in the developmental workshops of the show. He is an original Broadway cast member of the musical "The Light In The Piazza," performing both on the Tony Awards and the PBS telecast "Live From Lincoln Center." He is the recipient of the prestigious Helen Hayes Award for Best Actor as well as the Best Actor Garland Award for his portrayal of Fabrizio in the national tour of "The Light In The Piazza."

David first gained critical acclaim when, after a two-year search, he was chosen to replace Donny Osmond as Joseph in the national tour of "Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" (Dramalogue Award). He toured nationally in another Andrew Lloyd Webber blockbuster, playing Peter in "Jesus Christ Superstar." Last year in NYC, he starred in the new Off-Broadway show "The Best Is Yet to Come - The Music Of Cy Coleman." He was the voice of the Prince in the Warner Bros. animated feature, "The King And I," and can be heard on the soundtracks to "Ghepetto," and "Home On The Range."

David performs with symphonies all over the country and his solo concert has been seen in the United States, Canada, and Europe. He has recorded two solo albums, his self-titled CD and "One Day." David works extensively with kids through vocal and acting workshops and hosts a summer program for young artists called "Camp Sing."