

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pasadena Symphony Association
Pasadena Symphony & POPS
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May 27, 2020

PASADENA SYMPHONY AND POPS ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA GOES VIRTUAL

Pasadena, CA – Join the **Pasadena Symphony Association** for an unforgettable evening of music and entertainment on Saturday, **September 12, 2020 at 6pm** as they transform the annual **Moonlight Sonata Gala** to a unique online experience. The party will come to you via a live-streamed special event featuring exclusive performances from Pasadena Symphony and POPS artists, an exciting live auction, Fund the Future paddle raise, and a digital dancefloor with music from the Great America Songbook. Festivities for the Moonlight Sonata Virtual Gala will open at noon on **Thursday, September 10, 2020** with a dedicated gala website offering one-of-a-kind, interactive content to get you ready to join in on the fun, plus messages from musicians, staff and surprise guests.

Saturday evening's virtual event will be co-hosted by Music Director David Lockington and Resident Pops Conductor Larry Blank, with special guest appearances including Principal Pops Conductor Michael Feinstein. True to the organization's mission, performances by guest artists and students from the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra will be highlighted throughout the evening.

All proceeds will support the recovery and relaunch of the Pasadena Symphony and POPS' live performances when it is safe to resume operations. Participation in this year's Moonlight Sonata Virtual Gala is at no cost, but attendees will be asked to register through a secure website prior to the event. For more information, please visit PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org/MoonlightSonata2020.

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. 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 *Tom and Erika Girardi 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 400 gifted 4th-12th grade students from more than 50 schools all over Southern California. The PYSO has toured internationally at prestigious venues in New York, Vienna, and most recently San Jose, Costa Rica. They regularly perform throughout Southern California and have appeared 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.

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