

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Calgary Philharmonic takes kids on an orchestra adventure with launch of new online series

Calgary Alta., May 13, 2020 — Calgary Philharmonic musicians and Associate Conductor Karl Hirzer are taking kids on a fun and educational tour of the Orchestra they can experience from home. *An Orchestra Adventure (with Maestro Karl and friends)* is a four-part online series providing a musical journey through the four sections that make up a symphony orchestra: woodwinds, strings, brass, and percussion. Along the way, children will encounter different instruments and some of the musicians who play them, as well as take a few side trips to discover interesting facts about music and famous composers.

“We miss bringing students to the concert hall to experience live classical music and wanted to find a way to engage them while they’re at home,” says Hirzer, who also leads the Calgary Phil’s education and outreach concerts. “Kids are so curious and enthusiastic about music that we decided to capture that adventurous spirit and take them on a fun — and funny — musical journey through the instruments of the orchestra.”

This series of four 15-minute webisodes is perfect for parents and educators who want to share the symphony orchestra experience with children and spark a life-long love of classical music. They can look forward to a new webisode every two weeks, or just enjoy them whenever it’s convenient. The series combines musician videos recorded at home with animation and excerpts from live performances.

In the first instalment, *Wondrous Woodwinds*, children visit four musicians at home and discover the unique characteristics of the clarinet, flute, bassoon, and oboe, and learn about Mozart’s short but fascinating life. The webisode goes live on Tuesday, May 19 at 2 p.m., followed by a new release every two weeks (Sensational Strings on June 2, Brilliant Brass on June 16, and Playful Percussion on June 30). The series can be viewed at calgaryphil.com/kids-project. This project was made possible by the generous support of the Rozsa Foundation and Calgary Foundation.

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Media Opportunities

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About the Calgary Philharmonic

The Calgary Philharmonic celebrates 65 years as a pillar of Calgary's vibrant arts community in 2020 and has grown to be one of Canada's most celebrated live music ensembles. Led by Music Director Rune Bergmann, the Calgary Philharmonic presents classical masterworks, pop favourites, bold collaborations, and cutting-edge new works, and attracts world renowned guest artists and dynamic conductors. The Orchestra welcomes over 100,000 visitors annually and, in 2017, launched its live-stream initiative — an immersive, digital concert experience for audiences around the world. Follow the Calgary Philharmonic @calgaryphil on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and register for email updates at calgaryphil.com/newsletter.