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LINCOLN'S SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA  
EDWARD POLOCHICK, MUSIC DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra Presents February 4<sup>th</sup> Classical Concert**

**(LINCOLN, Neb. – January 20, 2022)** In response to the current Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department guidance and recommendations, Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra has made several changes to upcoming events:

- In order to maximize participation and allow a live audience, LSO has postponed its "Happy Birthday Beethoven" Family Concert featuring William Shomos (originally scheduled for January 30) to **Sunday, April 24, 2:00pm** at O'Donnell Auditorium on the Nebraska Wesleyan University campus. As a result, LSO's "Frederick's Fables" Family Concert originally scheduled for Sunday, May 1, has been cancelled. All ticket purchases for "Happy Birthday Beethoven" will be honored on the re-scheduled date, including Family Concert Subscriptions. Additionally, LSO will renew all current Family Concert Subscriptions for the 2022-23 season free of charge.
- LSO's annual Young People's Concerts, a series of daytime field trip orchestra concerts reaching more than 5,400 students throughout Nebraska and neighboring states each year, have been postponed until **Thursday, April 21 at 11:00am**. Schools wishing information about attending in-person or via streaming should contact Hannah@lincolnsymphony.com.
- LSO has made repertoire changes for its upcoming "Wherefore Art Thou Anton?" performance on **Friday, February 4, 2022 at 7:30pm**. The orchestra will perform at the Lied Center for Performing Arts with Music Director Edward Polochick and guest soloists violinist Anton Miller and violist Rita Porfiris. The concert will be available to attend in-person or via streaming, and LSO will contact all current ticketholders to request their preferred concert experience. A limited number of tickets are available for in-person attendance, as audience capacity will be limited to 25% of the available seating. LSO requires that every audience member ages 12 and over provides proof of vaccination or proof of a negative test taken within the previous 72 hours, prior to being admitted to the venue. Audience members will be seated in their chosen pods at least 6 feet away from other pods, and every patron (regardless of age) is required to wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth at all times while in the concert venue. The concert will be performed without intermission or concessions.

"The orchestra is overjoyed to return to the stage with repertoire appropriate for a slightly smaller and distanced orchestra," says Music Director Edward Polochick. "And, as for the original repertoire, we look forward to re-programming it on a future season."

The program will begin with Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's hauntingly lyrical, *Keep Me from Sinkin' Down*.

Following the Coleridge-Taylor, LSO will perform *Verso* from contemporary American composer Kenji Bunch. "Written for Violin, Viola, and Harpsichord soloists with string orchestra (with yours truly conducting from the harpsichord)," says Polochick, "this work is a fun, jazzy piece which pays homage to the concerto form and scoring of great Baroque masters such as Vivaldi, Handel and J.S. Bach." **LSO Concertmaster Anton Miller** will be joined by his wife and music partner, violist **Rita Porfiris**, as soloists for this work. "I am always so excited to have the opportunity to feature Anton with our orchestra, and I am doubly excited and grateful that Rita will be joining us to make this program possible," says Polochick.

Following the Bunch, Miller and Porfiris will continue to be featured on J.S. Bach's *"Double" Concerto in D minor*.

"In Latin, 'Verso' suggests the turning of a page. It's a symbolic way of looking back, but also forward to the next chapter," says the Miller Porfiris Duo. "In this spirit, Kenji's work looks back and forward, with respectful nods to Bach's *Brandenburg Concertos* and Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante*, while incorporating more contemporary rhythmic and harmonic elements. We are especially excited to pair this work with the beloved *Double Violin Concerto* of J.S. Bach, in its new reworking for Violin and Viola by Rita Porfiris. Not only is the instrumentation of

the two works similar, but we know you will enjoy the ebullience and joy of both composers shining through so clearly.”

To close the concert, LSO presents the spectacular and ever-popular “Surprise Symphony”, *Symphony #94* of Franz Joseph Haydn.

Tickets for the concert are available for purchase online at [www.lincolnsymphony.com](http://www.lincolnsymphony.com), by phone at (402) 476-2211, or by visiting Lincoln’s Symphony Orchestra’s box office (233 S. 13th St., Ste. 1702).

New this season: LSO will make the Pre-Concert Chat available to view online beginning at 12:00pm on the Thursday prior to the concert. Hosted by Nebraska Public Media's Genevieve Randall, each chat is an in-depth look at the music with Maestro Polochick and special guests. The Pre-Concert Chat will also be screened in the Steinhart Room at 6:45pm prior to the concert.

To stay current with symphony events, follow Lincoln’s Symphony Orchestra on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter – and don’t forget to use #LSOLove when sharing your symphony experience.

In an effort to make all LSO concerts financially accessible, LSO’s tickets are available for only \$15 or \$35 each for adults, inclusive of all ticketing and facility fees. Tickets for youth ages 17 and under are available for \$5 each, made possible by the Lienemann Charitable Foundation.

Lincoln’s Symphony Orchestra’s 2021-22 season sponsors are Immanuel Communities and Union Bank & Trust. The Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment also provided generous support toward Lincoln’s Symphony Orchestra’s 2021-22 season.

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