



GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL CONTINUES IN JULY WITH AN INDEPENDENCE DAY SALUTE, CANADA'S 150th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, A JOHN WILLIAMS TRIBUTE, THE MUSIC OF BROADWAY AND MORE

*Plus, the Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus perform in neighborhood parks
As part of Mayor Emanuel's Night Out in the Parks program*

CHICAGO (June 19, 2017) — The 83rd season of the **Grant Park Music Festival** continues in July with Artistic Director and Principal Conductor **Carlos Kalmar** leading the Grant Park Orchestra, along with Chorus Director **Christopher Bell** and the Grant Park Chorus, in Millennium Park's Jay Pritzker Pavilion. With a few exceptions during the Fourth of July week, concerts are Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. The July program schedule is below. A complete Grant Park Music Festival schedule is accessible at www.gpmf.org.

Patrons can order One Night Membership Passes for reserved seats, starting at \$25, by calling **312.742.7647** or going online at gpmf.org and selecting their own seat down front in the member section of the Jay Pritzker Pavilion. Membership support helps to keep the Grant Park Music Festival free for all. For every Festival concert, there are seats that are free and open to the public in Millennium Park's Seating Bowl and on the Great Lawn, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The month begins with the acclaimed **Canadian Brass** joining the orchestra for a celebration of Canada's sesquicentennial, conducted by Lucas Waldin (July 1). The Festival presents its annual **Independence Day Salute** with Christopher Bell conducting (July 4), followed by a tribute to the music of **John Williams** with **Star Wars and More**, conducted by **Thomas Wilkins** (July 7 and 8). **Fawzi Haimor** leads the orchestra in **Haydn's London Symphony** and the Midwest premiere of Syrian composer **Kareem Roustom's Ramal** (July 12) and **Andrew Tyson** makes his Festival debut in **Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2**, led by guest conductor **Simone Young** (July 14 and 15). Audiences will next hear **Angelo Xiang Yu** in **Saint-Saëns' Violin Concerto No. 3** conducted by **Brett Mitchell** (July 19).

Love is in the air when **Ted Sperling** conducts **A Broadway Romance** featuring the Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus along with Broadway stars **Laura Osnes** and **Santino Fantana** (July 21 and 22). Festival favorite **Stephen Hough** returns this season to perform **Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 1**, then the month concludes with **Mozart's Linz Symphony** and **Frank Martin's In terra pax** featuring the Grant Park Chorus and soloists **Colleen Daly** (soprano), **Lauren Segal** (mezzo-soprano), **David Pomeroy** (tenor), **James Westman** (baritone) and **Daniel Okulitch** (bass) (July 28 and 29).

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Christopher Bell and the Grant Park Orchestra reprise their ***Independence Day Salute*** at the South Shore Cultural Center (July 5). Bell and the Grant Park Chorus bring **Rachmaninov's** powerful and moving ***Vespers*** to the South Shore Cultural Center (July 13) and the Columbus Park Refectory (July 18). All are part of Mayor Emanuel's *Night Out in the Parks* program.

WFMT's *Relevant Tones* host **Seth Boustead**, CSO's *Sounds and Stories* contributor **Laura Sauer**, WFMT on air host **Dennis Moore**, and theatre producer/director **Gary Zabinski** host free pre-concert lectures one hour before the concert in Millennium Park's Family Fun Tent located just west of the Jay Pritzker Pavilion. Special guests at these lectures include Hollywood Bowl Orchestra Principal Conductor **Thomas Wilkins** (July 7 and 8), Colorado Symphony Music Director **Brett Mitchell** and violin soloist **Angelo Xiang Yu** (July 19), conductor **Ted Sperling** (July 21 and 22), and pianist **Stephen Hough** (July 29).

Open lunchtime rehearsals of the Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus continue through August 19 and typically take place Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Audiences are welcome to sit in the Pavilion Seating Bowl during rehearsals, and Festival docents will be on site to talk about the week's concerts during rehearsal breaks.

Eleven of this summer's concerts, including July 4, July 12, July 19 and July 26 at 6:30 p.m., will be broadcast on 98.7WFMT, Chicago's classical and fine arts radio station, and also online at wfmt.com/streaming.

For more information about the Grant Park Music Festival including membership, One Night Passes and group seating, visit gpmf.org or call **312.742.7647**. For additional information, visit the Grant Park Music Festival Facebook page or follow the Festival on Twitter [@gpmf](https://twitter.com/gpmf).

Grant Park Music Festival

For more than 80 years, the Grant Park Music Festival has been Chicago's summer musical sensation, demonstrating that classical music, performed by a world-class orchestra and chorus can have a transformative impact on the city. Showcased in the city's most spectacular setting, the Festival continues to be the summer gathering place for all of Chicago. The Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park is the official home of the Grant Park Music Festival, with free seats available for every concert.

The Festival is led by Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Carlos Kalmar, along with Grant Park Chorus Director Christopher Bell, Grant Park Orchestral Association President and CEO Paul Winberg, and Board Chair Stephen Smith.

For information about the Grant Park Music Festival, **visit gpmf.org** or call **312.742.7647**. For additional information, visit the Grant Park Music Festival Facebook page or follow the Festival on Twitter [@gpmf](https://twitter.com/gpmf).

The Grant Park Music Festival gratefully acknowledges the generous support from its 2017 sponsors: BMO Harris Bank, Season Sponsor; AbelsonTaylor, Presenting Sponsor of "American Accents;" Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park, Official Hotel; Macy's, Official Picnic Sponsor; and ComEd, Concert Sponsor; with additional support from the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation, Walter E. Heller Foundation and Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation.

The Grant Park Music Festival is a key partner in Mayor Rahm Emanuel's *Night out in the Parks* program. *Night Out in the Parks* is an initiative featuring more than 2,000 cultural activities annually in Chicago Park District locations citywide in support of the City of Chicago's Cultural Plan.

Carlos Kalmar

Carlos Kalmar has been Principal Conductor of the Grant Park Music Festival since 2000, and was named Artistic Director in 2011. Under Kalmar's leadership, the Festival has become one of the world's preeminent classical music festivals, and his role has been essential in shaping its artistic vision.

In addition to his role at the Grant Park Music Festival, Carlos Kalmar begins his fourteenth season as Music Director of the Oregon Symphony this fall. He previously served as Music Director of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Radio Televisión Española in Madrid, the Stuttgart Philharmonic Orchestra, the Opera House and Philharmonic Orchestra in Dessau, Germany and the Tonkünstler Orchestra in Vienna, while also traveling the world as a guest conductor appearing with some of the world's most important orchestras.

Christopher Bell

Christopher Bell has served as Chorus Director of the Grant Park Chorus since 2002, and led the Chorus through its 50th anniversary in 2012 with a series of special events, including the release of its first ever *cappella* recording entitled *Songs of Smaller Creatures and other American Choral Works*, available on Cedille Records. He works extensively with the Festival's *Apprentice Chorale*, comprised of students from the DePaul University School of Music and the University of Illinois at Chicago that have been hand-picked by Bell, and conducts the Festival's annual *Independence Day Salute*.

This year, Bell will join The Washington Chorus as its Artistic Director. He is also the Chorus Master of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra Junior Chorus, and the Belfast Philharmonic Choir. Largely responsible for the formation of the National Youth Choir of Scotland (NYCoS) in 1996, he has been its Artistic Director ever since. Bell was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Music from the Royal Conservatoire in Scotland in 2012, in recognition of his contribution to the performing arts in Scotland. In 2015, he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Music from the University of Aberdeen. He is the recipient of the 2013 Michael Korn Founders Award given by Chorus America, established in 1978 to honor an individual with a lifetime of significant contributions to the professional choral art.

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GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL **JULY SCHEDULE**

all programs subject to change

CANADA'S 150th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION WITH THE CANADIAN BRASS

Saturday, July 1 at 7:30 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra; Lucas Waldin, guest conductor; Canadian Brass, soloists

An evening of symphonic suites, blues and the Beatles, all with a Canadian flair, in celebration of Canada's 150th birthday.

INDEPENDENCE DAY SALUTE

Tuesday, July 4 at 6:30 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra; Christopher Bell, conductor

A program of rousing marches and patriotic anthems including Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*, Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever*, the *Armed Forces Salute*

NOTE: concert repeats Wednesday, July 5 at 6:30 PM at the South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Drive

STAR WARS AND MORE: THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS

Friday, July 7 at 8:00 PM

NOTE TIME

Saturday, July 8 at 8:00 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra; Thomas Wilkins, guest conductor

The music of your favorite films is brought to life! Orchestral favorites from *Star Wars*, *Superman*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and more.

HAYDN LONDON SYMPHONY

Wednesday, July 12 at 6:30 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra; Fawzi Haimor, guest conductor

Roustop: *Ramal*

Haydn: Symphony No. 104, *London*

Hindemith: *Symphonic Metamorphosis*

GRANT PARK CHORUS: RACHMANINOV VESPERS **NOTE DATE AND LOCATIONS**

Thursday, July 13 at 7 PM at the South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Drive

Tuesday, July 18 at 7 PM at the Columbus Park Refectory, 5701 W. Jackson Boulevard

Grant Park Chorus; Christopher Bell, chorus director

The Grant Park Chorus heads out to the neighborhoods for their annual *a cappella* concert.

BEETHOVEN PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2

Friday, July 14 at 6:30 PM

Saturday, July 15 at 7:30 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra; Simone Young, guest conductor; Andrew Tyson, piano

Hindson: *Headbanger*

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 2

Strauss: *Symphonia Domestica*

SAINT-SAËNS VIOLIN CONCERTO

Wednesday, July 19 at 6:30 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra; Brett Mitchell, guest conductor; Angelo Xiang Yu, violin

Bunch: *Supermaximum*

Saint-Saëns: Violin concerto No. 3

Copland: *The Red Pony*

A BROADWAY ROMANCE

Friday, July 21 at 6:30 PM

Saturday, July 22 at 7:30 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus; Ted Sperling, guest conductor; Christopher Bell, chorus director; Laura Osnes and Santino Fontana, vocal soloists

Two-time Tony Award-nominee Laura Osnes (*Cinderella*, *Bandstand*) and Santino Fontana (*Cinderella*, *Frozen*) take audiences through the ups and downs of romance with music from *Carousel*, *Follies*, *Oklahoma*, *Cinderella*, *Frozen* and more.

BRAHMS PIANO CONCERTO NO. 1

Wednesday, July 26 at 6:30 PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra; Carlos Kalmar, conductor; Stephen Hough, piano

Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1

Kodály: *Dances of Galanta*

Brahms: *Hungarian Dances* Nos. 1, 3, 6

MOZART LINZ SYMPHONY

Friday, July 28 at 6:30 PM

Saturday, July 29 at 7:30PM

Performers: Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus; Carlos Kalmar, conductor; Christopher Bell, chorus director; Colleen Daly, soprano; Lauren Segal, mezzo-soprano; David Pomeroy, tenor; James Westman, baritone; Daniel Okulitch, bass

Mozart: Symphony No. 36, *Linz*

Martin: *In Terra Pax*

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