

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Sunriver Music Festival Planning For More Classical Concerts in Bend**

The Sunriver Music Festival, now in its 32<sup>nd</sup> season, is actively preparing for the upcoming two-week festival in August. This year, in addition to the traditional classical performances in the historic Great Hall at the Sunriver Resort, the Festival is proud to announce an expanded classical offering to the Bend audience. For the first time in the 32 year history, the Sunriver Music Festival will move two classical orchestral concerts to Bend in addition to the Pops Concert.

“With the closure of the Cascade Festival of Music, we felt there was an opportunity to bring our top notch, professional orchestra to Bend,” explains Pam Beezley of the Sunriver Music Festival. “Last summer, we offered a special concert honoring the tickets purchased for Cascade’s concerts. The patrons in attendance were extremely appreciative and enjoyed the Sunriver Music Festival Orchestra’s performance. Since then, we have had a number of Cascade Festival of Music patrons become members and attend our other concerts in Sunriver.”

“Our Board felt strongly that this was an important year to make our concerts more accessible to the Bend and extended Central Oregon community,” adds Pam Beezley. “Bringing two of our classical performances to the Tower Theatre in Bend will help to fill the classical music festival void and will introduce our outstanding orchestra to an expanded audience.”

Each August, the Sunriver Music Festival presents a full two weeks of concerts, rehearsals, piano recital and master class, receptions, a kid friendly family concert and a Pops Concert. This year’s festival activities will run from August 9 to August 22 and will include a musical line up to please both classical music scholars and novices, including familiar favorites by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Bach.

The Sunriver Music Festival has hired a new concertmaster, Jun Iwasaki, after the retirement of long time Festival concertmaster Phillip Ruder. Jun Iwasaki is also the Oregon Symphony concertmaster.

On Friday, August 14, Jun Iwasaki will be the featured artist performing two solo pieces during the first orchestral concert, the Dvorak *Romance in f minor* and Vaughn Williams *The Lark Ascending*. This concert will also include a brass antiphonal piece by Gabrieli and the beautiful Mozart *Symphony #41*, commonly known as *Jupiter*.

The Sunriver Music Festival's opening night on August 13 will feature the newly crowned 2009 Van Cliburn Silver Medalist in a solo piano recital in the Great Hall. The Van Cliburn International Piano Competition is held every four years in Fort Worth, Texas. This year's competition will be May 22 - June 7.

"We love bringing the Van Cliburn finalists to Sunriver, especially when the timing falls in the same year as the Van Cliburn competition," explains Pam Beezley. "These young artists have so much talent and energy and they are excited to perform. We have had Olga Kern and Joyce Yang here shortly after their big wins at the Van Cliburn and the audience was thrilled by their performances."

Saturday, August 15, the Van Cliburn Silver Medalist will join the orchestra for a piano concerto. This concert also includes Schumann *Symphony #1* and the Mozart *Divertimento #2*.

The beautifully renovated Tower Theatre will be the home for the Sunriver Music Festival's final two classical concerts on Friday and Saturday, August 21 and 22.

"The Tower Theatre is an ideal venue for our Festival's classical performances in Bend," says Pam Beezley. "The seating capacity is identical to the intimate setting of the Great Hall. The acoustics are great and being in downtown Bend provides a variety of dinner options within walking distance."

**Sunriver Music Festival  
Summer Concert Schedule  
August 9 - 22, 2009**

**Historic Great Hall at the Sunriver Resort**

August 13 - 2009 Van Cliburn Silver Medalist  
Solo Piano Recital

August 14 - Concert I with Orchestra  
Gabrieli, Dvorak, Vaughn Williams, Mozart  
Featuring: Jun Iwasaki, violin

August 15 - Concert II with Orchestra  
Mozart, Schumann and Piano Concerto  
Featuring: 2009 Van Cliburn Silver Medalist

August 16 - Family Concert  
"Peter and the Wolf"

**Summit High School Auditorium**

August 18 - Pops Concert

**Tower Theatre in Bend**

August 21 - Concert III with Orchestra  
Cherubini, Bach, Mendelssohn, Mozart,  
Haydn  
Featuring: Adam Kuenzel, flute

August 22 - Concert IV with Orchestra  
Hummel, Mozart, Mendelssohn  
Featuring: Jeffrey Work, trumpet

On Friday, August 21 in the Tower Theatre, the Sunriver Music Festival Orchestra will open the program with the Cherubini *Concert Overture*. The program also includes the familiar pieces Mendelssohn *Overture to The Wedding of Camacho* and Mozart *Overture to Don Giovanni*, the energetic Haydn *Symphony #93* and will feature the Minnesota Orchestra's principal flutist Adam Kuenzel performing the *Bach Suite #2*.

Closing night of the 2009 festival at the Tower Theatre will feature the Oregon Symphony's principal trumpet Jeffrey Work performing the *Hummel Concerto in E* with the orchestra. The program includes Mozart's *Serenade #11 for Eight Winds* and will close with the exciting *Mendelssohn Symphony #4*.

"Our long-time Artistic Director Maestro Lawrence Leighton Smith has created an enjoyable line up of familiar classical music selections that will please music lovers of all ages," concludes Pam Beezley. "We are delighted to have the opportunity to share the magic of the Sunriver Music Festival's 32 year history with our long-time Sunriver patrons and with new patrons in Bend."

For more information about the Sunriver Music Festival's summer festival and other events, call the Sunriver Music Festival Ticket Office at 541-593-9310, email at [tickets@sunrivermusic.org](mailto:tickets@sunrivermusic.org) or visit [www.sunrivermusic.org](http://www.sunrivermusic.org).