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A 43-YEAR SUNRIVER TRADITION THRIVES: THE SUNRIVER MUSIC FESTIVAL

SUNRIVER, ORE – While we are all staying home during the COVID-19 crisis, it is reassuring to know that a festival that has been around since the 70s is still hoping and planning to share its 43rd summer season in August.

Now, it was an audacious idea when Sunriver residents Paul and Polly Kahle told friends in 1977 they wanted to start a classical music festival in a summer resort using professional musicians from around America that would perform in a vintage 1940s Officers' Club.

Four decades later, the Festival not only survives, it thrives, with the launch of its 43rd Season, August 9-22, celebrating the 250th birthday of Ludwig van Beethoven. A full slate of classical concerts, pops concert, solo piano concert, master classes, music workshops, family concert, open rehearsals fill these two weeks in August. Friends of the Festival (members) could reserve their favorite seats as early as today; general public ticket sales open June 1st.

“What was an unproven idea has now become one of Central Oregon’s preeminent classical musical experiences,” explains operations director Meagan Iverson. “While the original festival only performed in Sunriver, we continue our new tradition of performing in Sunriver and Bend and in concerts featuring world-class musicians throughout the year.”

Artistic Director and Conductor George Hanson returns for his 10th and final season to lead the Sunriver Music Festival Orchestra. Musicians from prestigious orchestras throughout the U.S. are now being handpicked by Maestro Hanson for the pending summer season. As a symphony and opera conductor, pianist, recording artist, television host, and passionate spokesman for the arts, Hanson is helping shape the changing role of the modern Music Director.

The Festival Ticket Office is open and can be reached for tickets at 541-593-9310 or visit www.sunrivermusic.org for pricing, tickets, and details on the upcoming summer season.

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2020 SUMMER FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **Festival Faire Dinner & Auction – Sunday, July 26**
Sunriver Resort Great Hall, 4:30 p.m. – This grand fundraiser continues to support the scholarship program and the Summer Festival. The elegant Festival Faire dinner and auction in the Great Hall at Sunriver Resort includes performances by the talented Young Artists Scholarship winners.
- **Pops Concert – Sunday, August 9**
Mountain View High School, 7:30 p.m. – Enjoy “American Songbook: A Tribute to our Veterans” as this patriotic evening features the return of baritone Octavio Moreno, a standout from 2018, plus Sarah Mattox, mezzo-soprano with the Festival Orchestra.
- **Voice Master Class – Monday, August 10**
Baritone Octavio Moreno will work with local voice students. The public is invited to see the magic of musical exploration. Free to the public.
- **Discover the Symphony Concert – Monday August 10**
Benham Hall at Sunriver SHARC, 4:00 p.m. – This afternoon performance was designed to introduce people of all ages to the magic of orchestral music. It presents Young Artists Scholarship soloists with the full Festival Orchestra in a one-hour educational and entertaining concert.
- **Classical Concert I – Friday August 14**
Tower Theatre in downtown Bend, 7:30 p.m. – The Grammy-nominated Eroica Trio, a sought-after, world-renowned trio, performs Beethoven's Triple Concerto for Violin, Cello, and Piano. The Festival Orchestra will also perform Beethoven's *Eroica* Symphony.
- **Classical Concert II – Sunday, August 16**
Sunriver Resort Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. – This special evening will present the return of violinist Steven Moeckel as featured soloist in Beethoven's Violin Concerto. This powerful program concludes with Brahms Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, Op. 68.
- **Solo Piano Concert – Monday, August 17**
Sunriver Resort Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. – Cliburn medalist Daniel Hsu, recognized for his easy virtuosity and bold musicianship, presents a powerful, thoughtful, and sensitive solo performance.
- **Piano Master Class – Tuesday, August 18**
Sunriver Resort Great Hall, 2:00 p.m. – Cliburn medalist Daniel Hsu returns to share his talent with some of Central Oregon’s most advanced piano students. The public is invited to watch, free of charge.
- **Classical Concert III – Wednesday, August 19**
Sunriver Resort Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. – Cliburn medalist Daniel Hsu joins the Festival Orchestra to perform Beethoven's *Emperor* Piano Concerto. Then the orchestra fills the Great Hall with the iconic Beethoven Symphony No. 5 in C Minor, Op. 67.

- **Classical Concert IV – Saturday, August 22**

Mountain View High School, 7:30 p.m. – The 43rd Summer Festival concludes with the Festival Orchestra, the Central Oregon Mastersingers, and a vocal quartet from the esteemed Ravinia Steans Music Institute, presenting Beethoven's beloved 9th Symphony.

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