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Omaha Symphony and Maha Music Festival partner for  
*A Night of Symphonic Hip Hop featuring Wyclef Jean*  
*Second year of Omaha Symphony and Maha partnership*

OMAHA, Neb., Nov. 6, 2017- The Omaha Symphony and Maha Music Festival have partnered for a second year in a row to present *A Night of Symphonic Hip Hop featuring Wyclef Jean*, a special concert conducted by Music Director Thomas Wilkins, on Friday, January 19, 2018, 8 p.m., at the Holland Performing Arts Center. Presenting media sponsor is Power 106.9.

A ticket presale to Omaha Symphony subscribers and Maha Music Festival followers began today. Tickets will go on sale to the general public on Monday, Nov. 13, at 10 a.m.

Over his long career, Wyclef Jean has blended the lines of hip hop with other musical styles and for the first time, the “hip hop guitarist” will perform live with a full symphony orchestra. Conducted by Music Director Thomas Wilkins, this special concert will feature performances of songs from throughout Wyclef Jean’s career. In addition to the concert, the evening will also include local artists selected by Maha performing in the Holland Center lobbies before *A Night of Symphonic Hip Hop featuring Wyclef Jean*, and a hip hop party featuring local DJs afterward.

From his time with the chart-topping band The Fugees to his long solo career, Wyclef Jean is one of the top hip hop artists of this generation. In addition to his hits, Wyclef is a GRAMMY-winning producer, actor, and author. He has also been an active voice in his home country of Haiti.

The music that Wyclef Jean has written, performed, and produced — both as a solo superstar and as founder and guiding member of The Fugees — has been a consistently powerful, pop cultural force for over two decades. Wyclef co-wrote and is featured on Shakira’s chart-topping 2006 single “Hips Don’t Lie,” which climbed to No. 1 in 20 countries including the U.S. — a crowning achievement atop a nearly unprecedented run of hits that includes Wyclef’s own “Gone Till November,” “Ghetto Superstar” (Pras, featuring Wyclef Jean), Carlos Santana’s No. 1 single “Maria, Maria” (featuring Jean and Product G&B) and the late Whitney Houston’s “My Love is Your Love.” Wyclef has been rewarded for his creativity and adventurousness with three GRAMMY Awards, a spot on the cover of *Rolling Stone*’s special “Top 50 Hip Hop Players,” and the opportunity to make music with such legends as Michael Jackson, Queen, Mick Jagger, Paul Simon, Earth, Wind & Fire, Kenny Rogers, and Tom Jones. As a solo artist, he has released six albums that have sold nearly nine million copies worldwide, including his 1997 debut *The Carnival* and 2000’s aptly titled *The Eclectic: 2 Sides II a Book*.

Maha Music Festival is a nonprofit organization with a mission to showcase the unique heart and soul of the Midwest, collaborate with community to provide unforgettable experiences, and position the region as the premier place to put roots down and grow. By highlighting emerging local artists and pulling in big national talent, their annual festival has grown steadily over the past decade, drawing attendees from 46 states and

counting. Their vision is to push beyond the parameters of a traditional music festival and continue to attract fans from all over the country, while celebrating the local community—the people and what they do, what they create and build, and the causes they champion.

Tickets to *A Night of Symphonic Hip Hop featuring Wyclef Jean* with the Omaha Symphony start at \$29 and will go on sale to the public at 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 13. Omaha Symphony subscribers and patrons of Maha Music Festival began purchasing tickets to this concert today. Tickets can be purchased by visiting [www.omahasymphony.org](http://www.omahasymphony.org), or calling Ticket Omaha at 402.345.0606.

Power 106.9 is the Presenting Media Sponsor of this concert.

*The Omaha Symphony is a non-profit organization that presents more than 100 live orchestral performances from September through June. In addition to MasterWorks, Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks, Movie Music, Symphony Joslyn, and Family series concerts, the Omaha Symphony's nationally recognized education programs touch the lives of nearly 30,000 schoolchildren each year. For tickets or information regarding the Omaha Symphony, call 402.345.0606 or visit [omahasymphony.org](http://omahasymphony.org).*

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