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Omaha Symphony to perform free Hispanic Heritage Month concert

Marichi Luna Y Sol to perform, Enrico Lopez-Yañez conducts

OMAHA, Neb., Oct. 4, 2018- The Omaha Symphony will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a free concert Thursday, Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m. at Omaha South High Magnet School, 4519 S. 24th Street, featuring Omaha-based mariachi ensemble Luna Y Sol and classical music by Hispanic composers.

The concert will be led by Enrico Lopez-Yañez, former Omaha Symphony assistant conductor. Program highlights include Moncayo's *Huapango*, a classical work based on a traditional Mexican dance; De Falla's Ballet Suite from *The Three-Cornered Hat*, a classical repertoire favorite based on Spanish settings and dances; Chavez's *Sinfonia India*, a single movement symphony celebrating folk melodies from Northern Mexico; and Marquez's *Danzon No. 2*, one of the most popular pieces in the orchestra repertoire.

In addition to Luna Y Sol, guest artists include vocalist Jorge Lopez-Yañez, Enrico's father, and Jeff Nevin, trumpet.

"Omaha is home to an incredible Hispanic population with their own rich, musical traditions," said Jennifer L. Boomgaarden, Omaha Symphony President and CEO. "The Omaha Symphony is honored to partner with Luna y Sol to celebrate the countless ways the Hispanic community enriches our city."

Enrico Lopez-Yañez is currently the assistant conductor of the Nashville Symphony, a position he held with the Omaha Symphony after being appointed conducting fellow of the Omaha Symphony in 2015. This season, Lopez-Yañez will make debuts with the Detroit Symphony, Sarasota Symphony, and the Oklahoma City Philharmonic. Additionally, Lopez-Yañez has served as assistant conductor to Christoph Eschenbach and Valeri Gergiev for the National Youth Orchestra's Carnegie Hall, New York state, and European tour performances.

Mariachi Luna Y Sol is recognized as the premier mariachi in the Midwest. In 2007, the group won the title of Best Ethnic Group in the Live Music category at the Omaha Entertainment Awards. Luna Y Sol is the only complete mariachi in the region that has a full ensemble of violins, guitars, vihuela, guitarron, trumpets, and vocals. With their beautiful harmonies and soloists, members of the band have stunned crowds with unforgettable performances across the country.

Jorge Lopez-Yañez has distinguished himself as a leading tenor on operatic stages throughout the world. He has appeared with the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Los Angeles Opera, Canadian Opera, San Diego Opera, as well as the leading opera houses of

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Amsterdam, Berlin, Munich, Paris, and more. A native of Mexico, Mr. Lopez-Yañez regularly returns to his home country to appear in Mexico City, Monterrey, Guadalajara, Aguascalientes, and Jalapa.

Jeff Nevin is an award-winning classical composer and the founder and artistic director of Mariachi Champa. He is principal trumpet of the La Jolla Symphony, a frequent substitute with the San Diego Symphony and has performed with artists including Charlotte Church, Kenny Loggins, The Moody Blues, and Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan.

This concert will take place in Omaha South High Magnet School's auditorium. It is free and open to the public.

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, Movies, Symphony Joslyn, and Family series concerts, the Omaha Symphony's nationally recognized education and community engagement programs touch the lives of more than 40,000 people each year. For tickets or information regarding the Omaha Symphony, call 402-345-0606 or visit omahasymphony.org.

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