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## ***Star Wars, Star Trek on theme for Symphony Spooktacular: Out of this World!***

*Symphony's annual Halloween program invites children to dress up, trick-or-treat in Holland Center lobbies*

OMAHA, Neb., Oct. 19, 2018- Calling all Jedi and Sith Lords! Come trick-or-treat with the Omaha Symphony and find out who's strongest with the Force as the orchestra performs music from *Star Wars*, *Star Trek* and more in *Symphony Spooktacular: Out of this World!*, Sunday, October 28, 2 p.m., at the Holland Performing Arts Center.

Led by Principal Pops Conductor Ernest Richardson, *Symphony Spooktacular: Out of this World!* will include music from several *Star Wars* films, including John Williams' iconic main title, the Imperial March and Princess Leia's Theme from *A New Hope*, Parade of the Ewoks from *Return of the Jedi*, Duel of the Fates from *The Phantom Menace*, and March of the Resistance from *The Force Awakens*, as well as Michael Giacchino's *Star Trek* theme from *Star Trek Into Darkness*, Wagner's Ride of the Valkyries, and more. Local actors Ben Beck and Raydell Cordell III will be featured performers, and members of the 501<sup>st</sup> Legion will be available before the concert for photos with youngsters.

The interactive concert will feature the two performers trying to prove who is stronger with the Force: the Rebel Alliance or the Imperial Army. Audience members will be invited to play games along with them during the concert, and six area youth as the Kid Crew will be participating as "new recruits" helping to facilitate the "Truce Day" games between the two factions.

Children and families are encouraged to dress in costume for *Symphony Spooktacular*. In addition to a fun, family-friendly concert, *Symphony Spooktacular* always features trick-or-treating in the lobby before and after the performance, prizes provided by Oriental Trading Company, *Symphony Spooktacular's* Official Fun Sponsor™. Preconcert activities also include an instrument petting zoo. Audience members will also have the chance to take pictures with costumed *Star Wars* characters from the 501<sup>st</sup> Legion in the lobby before the concert.

*Symphony Spooktacular: Out of this World* marks the debut of the symphony's new sensory kits, created with Autism Action Partnership, to help audience members with sensory issues be better prepared to enjoy an Omaha Symphony concert. The kits include headphones, sunglasses, and manipulatives that keep hands busy, such as a silicone tube that can be stretched and chewed on, and an hour glass timetable. Each kit will also contain a "social story," which explains all of the facets of a symphony concert, including when to clap, who will take their tickets, etc., using simple language and pictures. The kits will be available for checkout at all Omaha Symphony concerts after *Spooktacular*.

*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](http://omahasymphony.org).*

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