

The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra announces new club2030 Concert Membership program

- SPCO audience members ages 18–39 can attend unlimited SPCO concerts for only \$5 per month with a club2030 Concert Membership
- Expands upon the current SPCO Concert Membership program by offering an even more affordable option for young people

SAINT PAUL, MN, FEBRUARY 13, 2020 — The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) announces today a new Concert Membership program for participants of its club2030 program (young audience members ages 18–39). This new club2030 Concert Membership will allow participants of the SPCO's club2030 program to attend an unlimited number of SPCO concerts for only \$5 per month.

The new club2030 Concert Membership expands upon the current SPCO Concert Membership program, launched in 2012, by offering an even more affordable option for young people. Currently, regular Concert Members pay a fee of \$9 per month, which gives them access to see an unlimited number of SPCO concerts for no additional cost. Since its launch, the Concert Membership program has been a great success, serving more than 2,000 members per season, with members attending more often than any other SPCO audience group at an average of eleven concerts per season.

club2030 Concert Membership Benefits

- Attend an unlimited number of regular SPCO concerts for only \$5 per month
- Good for seats in our scale 2 and scale 3 sections at the Ordway and Ted Mann or any seat at our Neighborhood Series venues (these seats are green or purple in our online seating charts and represent over 80% of all SPCO tickets)
- Good for scale 1 seats at the Ordway and Ted Mann for an additional \$10 per ticket
- Choose your own seats online in advance whenever you want to attend a concert or just show up at a concert to see if seats are available
- No need to renew your membership every year you'll continue to have access to every regular SPCO concert year after year, unless you contact us to stop your membership

"We're excited to add the club2030 Concert Membership as another affordable option for young people in our community to experience the SPCO," said SPCO Managing Director and President Jon Limbacher. "This new step in affordable pricing aligns with our mission to make our world-class orchestra available to all people in our community."

"For only \$5 per month, people in their 20s and 30s can now attend as many SPCO concerts as they'd like." said SPCO Chief Patron Development Officer Lindsey Hansen. "We are proud to offer the most affordable ticket prices of any professional orchestra in the United States, including free tickets for children and students all season long, and we hope that this new option will allow even more young people to attend our concerts more often."

The SPCO introduced its club2030 program in 2007. Today, club2030 is a thriving group of over 5,600 people in their 20s and 30s who get special benefits from the SPCO — including \$10 best available seats to SPCO concerts and access to exclusive club2030 after parties. After today's announcement, club2030 participants now have the option to become a club2030 Concert Member for the low fee of \$5 per month to attend an unlimited number of concerts in scale 2 or 3 seating for no additional cost, or club2030 participants still have the option to purchase a \$10 scale 1 (or best seat available) ticket if they so choose.

The SPCO is committed to serving the broadest possible audience in the Twin Cities community and announced its New Generation Initiative in the 2016.17 season. The New Generation Initiative is a series of programs designed to expand access to classical music for young people, making it easier than ever to bring the whole family to experience SPCO concerts. This initiative provides free tickets for children and students all season long, special discounted prices for people in their 20s and 30s through the club2030 program, as well as a series of concert experiences geared toward young people like concerts at the Turf Club and Happy Hour Concerts.

ABOUT THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Renowned for its artistic excellence, remarkable versatility of musical styles and adventurous programming, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world. Now in its 61st season, the SPCO has recently undergone transformational change with the opening of its new home, the Ordway Concert Hall, the addition of a new generation of players, and significant changes in its artistic vision. The SPCO is primarily an unconducted ensemble that performs a broad range of repertoire from Baroque to new music and works in close collaboration with a dynamic roster of Artistic Partners, currently including British Baroque specialists Jonathan Cohen and Richard Egarr, American pianist Jeremy Denk, American composer and musical commentator Rob Kapilow, and Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto. Past Artistic Partners include Roberto Abbado, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, Joshua Bell, Douglas Boyd, Martin Fröst, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Nicholas McGegan, Stephen Prutsman, Dawn Upshaw, Christian Zacharias and Thomas Zehetmair.

The virtuoso musicians of the SPCO present more than 130 concerts and educational programs in the Twin Cities each year. The orchestra's free online Concert Library receives more than 80,000 visits annually and offers both live and on-demand videos of concerts that can be viewed anytime, anywhere, completely free of charge. Through its partnership with Classical Minnesota Public Radio, the SPCO is regularly heard on public radio programs that reach nearly 1 million listeners each week on over 250 stations. Additionally, the SPCO has released 67 recordings, including the 2018 Grammy Award-winning recording of Schubert's Death and the Maiden with violinist and Artistic Partner Patricia Kopatchinskaja. The SPCO has commissioned 150 new works and tours nationally and internationally, including recent engagements in Europe and New York City, and a prestigious residency with Cal Performances at the University of California, Berkeley.

The SPCO is nationally recognized for its commitment to broad community accessibility, its innovative audience outreach efforts, and its <u>educational and family programming</u>. Regular subscription series are performed in a <u>variety of different venues</u> across the Twin Cities metropolitan area each season, a unique

commitment to geographic accessibility for a major orchestra. The SPCO offers the most affordable tickets of any major orchestra in the United States, with over 50 percent of tickets available for \$15 or less, and has expanded accessibility even further by offering free tickets for children and students starting in the 2016.17 season as a part of the New Generation Initiative. The orchestra also offers an innovative ticket membership model in which members pay \$9 per month to attend unlimited concerts. The SPCO's award-winning CONNECT education program reaches over 3,000 students and teachers annually in 10 Minneapolis and Saint Paul public schools, and its Target Free Family Music program provides engaging and educational experiences for thousands of Twin Cities children and families each year.

MISSION OF THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Our mission is to sustain a world-class chamber orchestra at the highest standards of artistic excellence that enriches the Twin Cities community by sharing dynamic, distinctive and engaging performances. We are actively committed to accessibility and intentional inclusivity in all aspects of our work and continually strive to provide all people in our community with opportunities to connect with the music we perform.

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