DES MOINES SYMPHONY LAUNCHES “DMSO AT HOME”

DES MOINES – The Des Moines Symphony today announced the launch of DMSO at Home, an innovative new series of videos and streaming content aimed at creating connection with the community during this period of closures and concert postponements.

This ongoing musical offering for Central Iowa audiences—to be linked on the Orchestra’s social media channels with #DMSOatHome—will include regular self-produced videos from musicians; a weekly score study series with Music Director & Conductor Joseph Giunta; and “mini-concerts” streamed from the homes of Orchestra musicians and broadcast live on Facebook.

“The arts have the ability to comfort and bring hope; something we could all use a little more of right now,” said Giunta. “In times like these when so many are struggling, we want to do our part to help enrich our community through great music. All of us at the Symphony hope that these ‘DMSO at Home’ videos can brighten spirits and bring us together.”

Starting Sunday, April 5, musicians will stream concerts from their homes on the Des Moines Symphony’s Facebook page; recordings of these broadcasts will be archived on the Des Moines Symphon’s website. Among the musicians currently scheduled to perform are Principal Trombone Casey Maday, accompanied by his wife, Dr. Erin Bodnar; Principal Harpist Erin Brooker-Miller; Principal Flute James Blanchard; and the “Dueling Fiddles,” violinists Hanna Wolle and Genevieve Salamone.

DMSO at Home’s weekly series of musician-produced videos will include a humorous look at violinist Robert Espe’s day-to-day isolation routine; Concertmaster Jonathan Sturm and Principal Cello Julie Sturm performing together in their home; a behind-the-scenes tour of Principal Bassoon Kevin Judge’s studio, along with a reed-carving demonstration; and Associate Concertmaster Julie Fox Henson performing with her family quartet. The page will be updated regularly with new videos from Orchestra musicians, as well as contributions from Des Moines Symphony Academy faculty and students.

“We miss making great music for our audiences, and our musicians can’t wait to perform for you all at the Civic Center once again,” said Executive Director Richard Early. “During this time when we are unable to present concerts at the traditional sense, it is important to all of us to stay connected with our community through new and exciting channels to continue to share the excitement and joy of great orchestral music.”
Please visit dmsymphony.org for further information and updates.

For questions or to interview Joseph Giunta, please contact Megan Helmers at megan@dmsymphony.org or 515.280.4000, ext. 4011. Visit us at Facebook.com/DMSymphony and Twitter.com/DMSymphony.

The Des Moines Symphony is a not-for-profit, professional orchestra formed in 1937 to enrich, educate and inspire the community by performing great orchestral music. The Symphony Association, governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees and operating on an annual budget of more than $4.2 million, supports the Symphony Academy and its numerous music education programs including four youth orchestras, and supports the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra which performs seven pairs of Masterworks concerts, a Pops series including the traditional New Year’s Eve Pops, education, outreach and family concerts, and other special events in its home at the Des Moines Civic Center. The organization also produces and performs the Des Moines Symphony’s annual Yankee Doodle Pops concert in July on the grounds of the Iowa State Capitol, which attracts more than 100,000, the largest single day attendance of any concert event in the State.

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