



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 9, 2024

Media Contacts:

Jason Posnock, President & CEO, jposnock@brevardmusic.org, 828.862.2110

Cally Jamis Vennare, Strategic Marketing & Communications Advisor, publicity@brevardmusic.org

>>MEDIA ASSETS >> For high resolution images of BMC performance venues and 2024 guest artists, please visit our [Digital Press Kit](#) in the [BMC Media Room](#) at brevardmusic.org/media

Experience *Music That Inspires* All Summer Long at the 2024 Brevard Music Center Summer Festival

BMC Festival continues in July & August with more
symphony, opera, chamber, jazz, Broadway and bluegrass favorites!

Brevard, North Carolina—Although the 2024 Brevard Music Center (BMC) Summer Festival began in June, many exceptional concerts and events remain in July and August! Classical masterpieces include **Holst's *The Planets*, Copland's *Symphony No. 3*, Gershwin's *Piano Concerto in F*, and Strauss's *Ein Heldenleben*. *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back in Concert*, a film + live orchestra performance, is certain to delight families and children of all ages. Fully staged productions of *La Bohème* and *The Threepenny Opera*, plus *An Evening of Jerome Kern and Friends*, give opera and Broadway lovers much to celebrate. And the BMC Presents series of lighter concert fare continues its showcase of world-class artists including **Aoife O'Donovan, Béla Fleck, and Casey Driessen**, following three unforgettable performances by **Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** in June. Visit brevardmusic.org/tickets to view the entire summer festival schedule of performances.**

"The Festival brings our community together on the campus of the Music Center to celebrate the achievements of our students, the brilliance of the world's preeminent artists, the beauty and excitement of great music, and the creative spirit that gives us all a sense of hope and optimism now and in the future," said **BMC President & CEO Jason Posnock**. "Our approach to festival planning begins with our educational mission to teach the most talented young musicians from around the country and the world to prepare and perform great works at the highest artistic level. Our concert programming throughout the summer is their curriculum. The professional musicians, guest artists, and conductors are their teachers and mentors. The connections that exist between teaching and learning, and nature and music, create an electric atmosphere of creative energy that permeates our practice rooms, teaching studios, and concert halls."

Over 80 concerts and events — including **many free Community Concerts** — are offered each season at BMC with **most ticket prices starting at only \$25**. Primary BMC performance venues include the lakeside, 1800-seat, open-air Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium (with lawn seating) and the intimate 400-seat Parker Concert Hall. Bring a picnic or enjoy BMC's delicious selection of snacks and beverages prior to concerts and during intermissions. Experience *music that inspires* all summer long at the Brevard Music Center!

Single tickets to the 2024 BMC Summer Festival can be purchased at brevardmusic.org/tickets or by calling the **BMC Box Office at 828.862.2105**. The Box Office at Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium (Brevard Music Center Campus, 349 Andante Lane) is also open from 10:00AM – Intermission*, Monday through Saturday, and 12:00PM – Intermission* on Sundays. (*if no intermission, the Box Office closes at 5:00PM)

In a season filled with inspiring performances, these upcoming concerts are sure to become fan favorites.

Thursday, July 11 @ 7:30PM & Saturday, July 13 @ 2:00PM — Porter Center at Brevard College

La Bohème

Beloved the world over, *La Bohème* portrays the story of two young lovers who battle poverty and illness in their struggle to triumph against all odds. A classic tale of tragic romance, Puccini's score contains some of the most beautiful melodies, heart-wrenching arias, and famous moments ever seen on the operatic stage.

Saturday, July 13 @ 7:30PM

A Hero's Journey

Belize-born British composer Errollyn Wallen is featured in two works including *Spirit in Motion*, written for the 2012 Paralympic Games, and a premiere performance of a new violin concerto with Philippe Quint. Strauss's autobiographical tone poem *Ein Heldenleben* (A Hero's Life) is written for large-scale orchestral forces and casts the concertmaster in the role of Strauss's wild and flirtatious wife. Revolutionary or egotistical, it is a showstopper in the orchestral repertoire.

Sunday, July 14 @ 3:00PM

The Planets

Keith Lockhart conducts Brevard's gifted High School students in Gustav Holst's celestial orchestral suite. Holst assigns musical characters to each planet as they relate to their astrological descriptions and uses the richness and diversity of the large orchestra to paint "a series of mood pictures." Errollyn Wallen's *Mighty River* opens the concert, giving the program a decidedly British accent.

Saturday, July 20 @ 7:30PM

Copland 3

BMC alumnus André Raphel returns to conduct a program of works spanning three centuries. Dvořák's Violin Concerto, first played in 1883, is graceful, expressive, and folksy in nature. Jessie Montgomery's *Hymn for Everyone* was commissioned by the Chicago Symphony and premiered in 2022. Aaron Copland's 3rd Symphony, often regarded as the "great American Symphony," received its first performance by the Boston Symphony in 1946. Copland's famous *Fanfare for the Common Man* serves as the theme of the last movement.

Tuesday, July 23 @ 7:30PM

BMC Presents: Aoife O'Donovan in Concert with Orchestra

Grammy-award winner Aoife O'Donovan radiates with a timeless charm and contemporary allure that defies genre. Her distinctive sound weaves together intricate melodies and introspective lyrics. Along with favorites from throughout her career, Aoife performs *America, Come*, a new work for orchestra, choir, and vocals inspired by the lives, letters, and speeches of suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt, in which she explores the nation's evolution through her compassionate songwriting and voice.

Saturday, July 27 @ 8:30PM

Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back in Concert

“You must feel the Force around you ...” Experience the magic of this intergalactic epic like never before. The Brevard Sinfonia performs John Williams’s Oscar-winning score live as the film soars above on the big screen. Presentation licensed by Disney Concerts in association with 20th Century Fox, Lucasfilm Ltd. and Warner/Chappell Music. © 1980 & TM LUCASFILM LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED © DISNEY

Sunday, August 4 @ 3:00PM

SEASON FINALE: Brahms and Sibelius — A Destiny Fulfilled

The 2024 Orchestra Series comes to a rousing close with Jean Sibelius’s triumphant Symphony No. 5. At once mystical and majestic, one is forever moved by the iconic “Swan Theme” and the drama of the six final chords. Brahms’s *Schicksalslied* is often dubbed his “Little Requiem.” This timeless setting of Friedrich Hölderlin’s poetry features the Brevard Festival Chorus in a deeply personal commentary on existence, fate, and hope.

Saturday, August 17 @ 7:30PM

BMC Presents: Béla Fleck’s Blue Ridge Banjo Concert

Curated and hosted by 15-time Grammy winner Béla Fleck, the Blue Ridge Banjo Concert is our celebration of “all things banjo.” Hear banjo legend Béla Fleck and more at the most beautiful outdoor concert hall in Western North Carolina.

Produced in partnership with Mountain Song Productions

ABOUT BREVARD MUSIC CENTER | SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

Founded in 1936, the Brevard Music Center stands as one of this country’s premier summer classical music training programs and festivals. Each summer, over 700 gifted students come to the Music Center from across the United States and around the world to study with a distinguished faculty and renowned guest artists. Brevard’s hallmark is the powerful sense of community that re-emerges each year as faculty and students present remarkable concerts and events to summer audiences.

For more information visit brevardmusic.org, “like” the Brevard Music Center on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/brevardmusic), follow @brevardmusic on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/brevardmusic), stream season highlights via [SoundCloud](https://www.soundcloud.com/brevardmusic), and visit the Brevard Music Center [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/brevardmusic) channel to enjoy performance videos from previous festival seasons.

#