

PORTLAND

SYMPHONY

Gregory Vajda, Music Director

Lajos Balogh, Music Director Emeritus, Founder

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Portland Festival Symphony Celebrates 36 Years of FREE Music in the Parks!

This summer, Maestro Gregory Vajda, Music Director Emeritus Lajos Balogh, and the Portland Festival Symphony celebrate 36 years of presenting free, live classical music in Portland parks. Concerts are funded by generous donations from local foundations, corporations, small businesses and thousands of local residents. We are proud to continue our media sponsorship with The Oregonian/OregonLive.

This summer's repertoire includes the music of Vivaldi, Mozart, Beethoven and the best of America, plus a special piece where children can participate. Other features of the 2017 season include the world premiere of a special composition by Maestro Gregory Vajda.

PFS concerts have become a summer tradition for families who want to introduce their children to the mind-expanding world of music while having fun in a natural park setting. Neighbors come together in their nearby park to enjoy the beauty of classical music and attend concerts in parks they haven't visited before. Opportunities for children to play an instrument and "be part of" the concerts make the series a big hit with parents and grandparents.

Founder Balogh has a strong connection to Portland area audiences. After emigrating from his native Hungary in 1967, he honored his newly found freedom by founding Portland Festival Symphony, offering free classical music outdoors in the European tradition. The series began with two concerts at Washington Park in 1981 and has grown into an annual summer series with a history of more than 160 performances, entertaining over 400,000 Oregonians and visitors from all over the world.

2017 concert dates are as follows:

- July 29, Cathedral Park, 6:00 pm
- July 30, Laurelhurst Park, 6:00 pm
- August 5, Peninsula Park, 6:00 pm
- August 6, Grant Park, 6:00 pm

For additional information, contact info@portlandfestivalsymphony.org or 503.610.3233.