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THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA RESCHEDULES SYMPHONY BY THE SEA CONCERT DUE TO COUNTRY THUNDER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Free concert at The BayCare Sound will bring the community together to celebrate America 250

ST. PETERSBURG, FL — The Florida Orchestra has moved its free *Symphony by the Sea* concert to **Saturday, June 6**, at The BayCare Sound in Clearwater, shifting from the original May 8 date due to scheduling impacts from the Country Thunder Music Festival.

Sponsored by the Clearwater Downtown Development Board, the orchestra's waterfront concert is part of the nationwide America 250 celebration — a chance to come together and salute the American spirit through music. The program mixes patriotic favorites like *Armed Forces Salute* and *America the Beautiful* with Tchaikovsky's explosive *1812 Overture*, plus John Williams' movie themes from *Star Wars* and *Jaws*, Broadway hits and classical crowd-pleasers. Resident Conductor Chelsea Gallo leads the evening.

"This concert is about bringing people together," said Ignacio Barrón Viela, The Florida Orchestra President & CEO. "Whatever the date, our commitment remains the same: to unite our community through music and celebrate the enduring spirit of America."

This concert is free and open to all. Guests also may choose Preferred Seating for $21, all fees included, which reserves seats in a prime covered section and allows early entry at 5:30 pm to beat the crowds. **Preferred Seating is limited and will be available starting May 11** at FloridaOrchestra.org.

The event features a **Salvation Army food drive** supporting local families and a lineup of community partners, including **Suncoast Primate Sanctuary**, **Florida Wind Band**, **Hope Villages of America** and **Community Dental Clinic**. Families can enjoy the free **TFO Instrument Petting Zoo**, where anyone can try instruments hands-on.

The new date ensures audiences can enjoy the full concert experience without the logistical challenges created by the County Thunder Music Festival's move to Coachman Park. The festival's venue change followed concerns over sea turtle/seabird nesting and permitting issues at the original St. Pete Beach site.

Symphony by the Sea
Sponsored by the Clearwater Downtown Development Board
Sat, June 6 | The BayCare Sound, Clearwater
Gates open: General public, 6 pm; Preferred Seating, 5:30 pm
Pre-concert activities: 6 pm. Includes TFO Instrument Petting Zoo and more
Concert: 7:30 pm
Chelsea Gallo, conductor
A celebration of America 250, the program mixes patriotic favorites, movie music, Broadway hits and classical standards. No need to bring a picnic or chairs – the gated waterfront venue in Clearwater provides covered seating and local food trucks, concessions and bars. Bring donations for Salvation Army food drive.
Admission: Free; Preferred Seating $21 – on sale May 11 at FloridaOrchestra.org.
Full program and details at FloridaOrchestra.org

About The Florida Orchestra

The Florida Orchestra's mission is to INSPIRE | EDUCATE | UNITE to build community through the power of music. Celebrating our 58th season in 2025-26, The Florida Orchestra is the largest professional orchestra in the state and the only arts organization that bridges the bay. TFO employs 70 full-time professional musicians and conductors, under the artistic leadership of internationally acclaimed Music Director Michael Francis. Each season, the orchestra performs more than 100 concerts in venues throughout Tampa Bay, including a wide range of classical, popular, film and family-friendly music, as well as performances with global stars such as Wicked star Cynthia Erivo. Beyond the concert halls, TFO programs bring the transformative power of music to schools, youth and senior centers, to underserved areas and to those who would not have such opportunities otherwise. Through concerts and education/community programs combined, TFO serves more than 150,000 residents each year – nearly half through free or low-cost programs. For tickets and information: FloridaOrchestra.org. The Florida Orchestra is a non-profit 501(c)3 EIN: 59-1223691 CH#1830. To learn more about how you can support the power of music in building community, contact: sweymouth@floridaorchestra.org To donate now: FloridaOrchestra.org/donate