



LYNCHBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

621 COURT STREET LYNCHBURG, VA 24504 434-845-6604 lso@ntelos.net lynchburgsymphony.org

CONTACT:

Erika Mork

(434) 845-6604

info@lynchburgsymphony.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Lynchburg Symphony to Perform Holiday Concert in Renovated Historic Theatre**

LYNCHBURG – The Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra will perform its “Home for the Holidays” concert at the Academy Center of the Arts Historic Theater on December 9 at 4 p.m. The LSO will be the first orchestra to perform in the newly renovated facility.

Featured with the Lynchburg Symphony at the afternoon’s festivities will be a 100-voice LSO Festival Chorus, the choir from the Ramp Church, a 50-member children’s choir from John L. Hurt Jr. Elementary School, and soloists Daryl Duff and Emma Gwinn.

“I looked at designing the concert from the viewpoint of the audience,” says Conductor Hugh Ballou. “It includes snippets of different music styles, from fast-paced to selections people will know, but in fresh settings.”

Selections will include a piece from Handel’s *Messiah*, music from African-American culture, 19th century plains music, and a familiar Psalm performed in a contemporary setting. “There is something for everybody,” says Ballou.

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Attendees will have a chance to participate by singing their favorite Christmas songs with the performers at certain times during the concert. Ballou says it allows the audience to be completely immersed in the experience.

“Being at the Academy in the center of Lynchburg is a real honor,” Ballou says. “They have been very gracious in helping us put together all the parts.”

Tickets for the concert may be ordered through the LSO’s website at [lynchburgsymphony.org/events-concerts](http://lynchburgsymphony.org/events-concerts).

### **About Hugh Ballou**

Mr. Ballou earned an MMu degree in conducting and studied with Robert Shaw, John Nelson, and Joseph Flummerfelt, among others. In his 40-year career, Mr. Ballou collaborated with local orchestras, community arts organizations, and churches to enrich the artistic and cultural life in St. Petersburg, FL, Atlanta, GA, and Huntsville, AL.



## **About the LSO**

The Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra was started in 1983 as a way for local musicians to use their skills, while enhancing the community's arts programs. The LSO is a key contributor to Lynchburg's cultural, intellectual and creative vibrancy, helping to keep Lynchburg an attractive center for economic development – essential for businesses seeking to recruit and retain investors and employees. Beyond the price of a ticket, spending by arts organizations and their audiences supports jobs and generates government revenue. LSO musicians live and work in the Lynchburg area keeping attendee's investment in our community.

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