

Classical IDOL

MUSIC TRANSFORMS US

A Benefit for the Charlotte Symphony

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For Immediate Release

2ND ANNUAL CLASSICAL IDOL ON APR. 12 TO SHOWCASE LIFE-CHANGING IMPACT OF MUSIC TO BENEFIT CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY

Audience will text votes to determine their favorite performers

Charlotte, NC, Feb 6, 2013...THIS, again, is Classical Idol.

Classical Idol, the one-of-a kind musical benefit for the Charlotte Symphony, sponsored by Time Warner Cable, returns for a second year to pay tribute to the depth, vitality and power of music in the daily life of the community. The event will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Apr. 12, at Spirit Square's McGlohon Theater, 345 N. College St., in Uptown Charlotte with a pre-concert reception beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Produced by the Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Classical Idol will present a broad scope of non-traditional music, performed by both adults and children, in a festive and fun variety show. Musicians, singers, other artists and local celebrities will engage and entertain the audience through a stirring mix of live performances, personal testimonies and videos about how music has made a difference for them. The musical genres will range from jazzy brass, Celtic fiddle, and percussion to cello, electric violin, and choral music.

In the spirit of friendly competition, the audience will use their cellphones to text votes for their favorite performers, with a grand winner chosen. A live auction will feature exclusive items for audience bidding.

Tickets are \$60 for general admission, which includes the pre-concert reception. Reserved tickets are \$125 and include both the pre-concert reception and the post-concert reception at 9:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the Charlotte Symphony box office (704 972 2000) and through CarolinaTix at <http://www.carolinatix.org>.



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Emcees are Jennifer Foster Roe of Berklee College of Music in Boston, and Matt Rogers, announcer on WDAV 89.9 fm Classical Public Radio.

"Music is part of our society's foundation," says Jackie Slaugenhouette, Classical Idol chair and Symphony Guild board member. "It literally transforms individual lives and helps foster both social and cultural changes and economic growth."

"With its \$15 million annual economic impact on the Charlotte region, the Charlotte Symphony is a significant driver of the economy," she adds. "It also holds high stature as the largest employer of professional artists, with more than 100 musicians annually on its payroll. These musicians do more than play on stage - they are an integral part of our everyday community."

Other event sponsors are WDAV 89.9 fm Classical Public Radio and WTVI PBS Charlotte, both media partners, and Bragg Financial Services.

The Symphony Guild of Charlotte will use the proceeds to support both the Charlotte Symphony and the Guild's music enrichment programs, which include youth orchestra summer music camp and scholarships.

As the Guild's signature fundraiser, Classical Idol not only garnered an enthusiastic response locally last year, but also earned national acclaim. The organization received the 2012 Award of Excellence for fundraising from League of American Orchestras in recognition of Classical Idol's innovative and successful concept.

For more information, contact 704 525 0522, office@symphonyguildcharlotte.org or http://www.symphonyguildcharlotte.org/classical_idol.htm.

About Symphony Guild of Charlotte: The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc., creates, develops and promotes an interest in symphonic music in the community of Charlotte and the surrounding metropolitan area. The nonprofit organization also provides financial and volunteer support to the Charlotte Symphony, the Charlotte youth symphonies and symphonic educational activities. The organization was founded in 1950 as the Charlotte Symphony's Women's Association. Through its fundraisers, the Symphony Guild of Charlotte has given more than \$4.6 million to the Charlotte Symphony. For more information, visit www.symphonyguildcharlotte.org

About the Charlotte Symphony: Founded in 1932, the Charlotte Symphony aspires to serve the whole community through music that educates, entertains and enriches. As the largest arts organization in Charlotte, the Symphony plays to 200,000 audience members each year in 90 concerts featuring classical music to pops. The Symphony also reaches more than 12,000 students in 55 schools throughout the area in pursuit of its mission to provide musical education. As the largest employer of individual artists in Charlotte, the Symphony generates an annual economic impact exceeding \$15 million. The Symphony welcomes contributions; as with most performing arts organizations, ticket revenues cover only about one-third of expenses. For more information, visit [www.charlottesville.org](http://www.charlottesymphony.org).