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SEASON FINALE WEEKEND AT BREVARD MUSIC CENTER

BMC Summer Festival Ends Its 2023 Season on August 4-6 with The Moldau, Les Préludes, and Verdi Requiem!

Brevard, North Carolina—It's **Season Finale Weekend** at Brevard Music Center (BMC)! From August 4th through 6th, BMC's 2023 summer festival season will come to a dramatic close with a weekend of inspiring performances highlighted by Smetana's *The Moldau* (8/4), Liszt's *Les Préludes* (8/5), and the Season Finale: *Verdi Requiem* (8/6). All performances will be held at BMC's Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium. Tickets can be reserved online at brevardmusic.org/tickets or by calling the BMC Box Office at **828-862-2105**.

Friday, August 4 @ 7:30 PM, Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium — Lockhart Conducts The Moldau

Brevard's High School Division students shine in a program featuring **Kraig Alan Williams** with the Brevard Symphonic Winds, and **BMC Artistic Director Keith Lockhart** with the Brevard Concert Orchestra. Maestro Williams presents Philip Sparke's unifying and elemental first symphony, "**Earth, Water, Sun, Wind.**" Maestro Lockhart conducts two orchestral masterpieces including Smetana's rolling depiction of the river Moldau, and Prokofiev's film music for the movie of the same name, *Lieutenant Kijé*. Every section has the chance to stand out in this final high school program of the season.
Lead Sponsor: The Jerome Family

Keith Lockhart shares his admiration for Smetana's The Moldau:

"I love this piece, but I should start off by saying that we should really refer to it by the title Bedrich Smetana would have ... "Vlatava" instead of The Moldau. Smetana is revered in the Czech music world as a great musical nationalist ... "Vlatava" is the second movement of a huge programmatic work entitled Ma Vlast (My Country), in which Smetana set out to portray the beauty of the Czech landscape and the resolution and bravery of the Czech people in music, at a time when the Czech people were chafing under the yoke of Austro-Hungarian domination. "Moldau" is the German word for the great river that flows from the Czech highlands into Prague, so Smetana would not have been amused!

"Vlatava is one of the most perfect miniature tone poems I can think of. It describes a great river beginning as tiny rivulets in the mountains, which weave together, eventually, to form a mighty river. The river passes by scenes of Czech life ... a peasant wedding, a hunt in the forests ... before passing through the great St. John's Rapids and continuing on past the High Castle (Vsayherad) and through Prague in all its glory, carrying the hopes and dreams of the Czech people with it. And you can hear all of that in the music!"

Saturday, August 5 @ 7:30 PM, Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium — Les Préludes

World-renowned violist, Brevard alumnus and President of the Curtis Institute **Roberto Díaz** joins **Maestro Ken Lam** in a performance of Bright Sheng's brand new viola concerto written exclusively for Mr. Díaz entitled: **Of Time and Love – Concerto for Viola and Orchestra**. The program continues with two orchestral showpieces, Listz's **Les Preludes** and Strauss's **Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks**, that feature every member of the orchestra in this rousing season finale for the Brevard Sinfonia.

Sunday, August 6 @ 3:00 PM, Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium — Season Finale: Verdi Requiem

BMC concludes its season with the glorious **Verdi Requiem** presented by the Brevard Music Center Orchestra and Chorus, conducted by **Artistic Director Keith Lockhart**. This enthralling large-scale work is scored for double choir, full symphony orchestra and features four soloists. Verdi's Requiem is one of the world's most beloved choral works, bringing drama and grandeur to the concert stage with over 200 performers, soloists, and musicians.

Keith Lockhart comments on why Verdi Requiem was chosen for the Season Finale

"We have nearly five hundred students on campus during our primary Brevard Music Center season. For the Season Finale, we try to utilize as many of these talented students as possible, as well as our superb artist faculty and musicians from the larger Brevard community. In other words, we like to make grand gestures on this occasion!"

"The Verdi Requiem is a glorious and huge choral/orchestral work ... it's a grand gesture of the greatest sort. Standing on the podium in front of 250 or so of our wonderful musicians, I can only hope that there is a 14 year-old out there in the chorus, as thrilled to be involved in such a glorious gesture as I was in 1974, when we closed the season with the same work."

BMC TICKET INFORMATION

Individual tickets for all 2023 BMC Summer Festival performances are available for purchase at **brevardmusic.org/tickets or by calling 828.862.2105**. The Box Office at Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium – on the Brevard Music Center Campus at 349 Andante Lane – is open from Monday through Saturday, 10:00 AM to Intermission and also Sundays from 12:00 PM to Intermission.

Children and Student Tickets*: Tickets are available for children ages 6-17 for \$15. Children under 6 are not permitted inside Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium. Students 18 and older receive a 50% discount for tickets inside Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium. Children (17 and under) and students (18 and over) can sit on the lawn free of charge* with a paying adult. *Does not apply for BMC Headliner events — Opening Night, Season Finale, BMC Presents, Legendary Artist Series.

ABOUT BREVARD MUSIC CENTER | SUMMER INSTITUTE & 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 inspiring concerts and events to summer audiences. For more information, visit brevardmusic.org, "like" the Brevard Music Center on [Facebook](#), follow [@brevardmusic](#) on [Instagram](#), stream season highlights via [SoundCloud](#), and visit the Brevard Music Center [YouTube](#) channel to enjoy performances from previous festival seasons.

FOR MEDIA ONLY: For high resolution images of BMC performance venues and 2023 guest artists, BMC logos and other important information, please visit our [Digital Press Kit](#) in the [BMC Media Room](#) at brevardmusic.org/media.

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