



Dr. James Clemmons

## PRESS RELEASE

Panama City Symphony is pleased to present our inaugural Symphony Surprise Day on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, thanks to our HARMONY EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS, Florida Power & Light, ReliantSouth Construction Group, and Dr. James Clemmons. These sponsors donated \$20,000 worth of tickets to permit students in Bay, Gulf, and Washington counties enjoy a live symphonic concert!

On Symphony Surprise Day, administrators in each of the schools will be drawing names of lucky student winners during the morning announcements, live on CCTV. Winning students will receive two tickets (one for the student and one for a parent or guardian) to a symphony concert.

Students in public school are receiving tickets to Pops concerts: Mischief at the Masquerade Ball on October 12, 2024, Holiday by the Bay on December 14, 2024, and My Favorite Things, Music of Rodgers and Hammerstein, on March 15, 2025. Charter schools, private schools and colleges are receiving tickets to a matinee, Rachmaninoff and the Golden Age of Cinema, on Sunday, January 12, 2025.

*"We are incredibly grateful for this generous partnership, which plays a vital role in enriching the lives of our students through the arts. The arts inspire creativity, foster collaboration, and build critical thinking skills—qualities that are essential for success in and out of the classroom. Opportunities like this are invaluable, as they not only support our mission but help us put the 'A' back in Bay. Together, we're empowering our students to dream big and achieve their fullest potential." – Superintendent Mark McQueen.*

Sergey Bogza, Music Director and Conductor of Panama City Symphony, said, "One of the best ways to experience the symphony is with your parents and friends, and Harmony Educational Partnerships provide that opportunity, free of cost! Panama City Symphony and I are looking forward to seeing new faces at our next concerts and to experiencing the wonder of music together."

With music education a primary goal of Panama City Symphony, this program aims to give students and their families the experience of live symphonic music. This is not behavior or academic based as Panama City Symphony would like every student to have an equal chance of winning a ticket. A representative from Panama City Symphony will greet the students as they arrive at the concert hall and share information about the concert and take photos.

Panama City Symphony is pleased to perform in the beautiful new Barbara W. Nelson Fine Arts Center at Bay High School.

For more information and tickets to concerts by Panama City Symphony, visit [www.panamacitysymphony.org](http://www.panamacitysymphony.org).

If you would like to schedule a live interview, please contact:  
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