

Pacific Symphony Volunteer Challenge #29 - Ellis Island Special July 3rd on PBS,
Virtual July 4th Spectacular and KUSC Upcoming Concerts

Yahoo/Inbox

Christine Zhang <czhang@pacificsymphony.org> Wed, Jul 1 at 4:06 PM

Hello, Pacific Symphony Volunteers!

I hope you are doing well! I am writing to let you know about two upcoming Pacific Symphony events scheduled for this coming weekend and how you can listen to our amazing Symphony on KUSC later this month! Please feel free to share the following information with your family and friends!

The first concert is in honor of Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and everything for which they stand. **On Friday, July 3rd at 9:00PM, Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America" will be broadcast nationally on PBS. You can find it on PBS SoCal KOCE.**

The second concert, which is virtual, will take place on **Saturday, July 4th at 6:00PM and is Pacific Symphony's Virtual July 4th Spectacular, complete with fireworks, patriotic music and more!** You can locate this event on the Pacific Symphony website: <https://www.pacificsymphony.org/tickets/virtual-concerts>.

Lastly, **beginning on Sunday, July 26th at 7:00PM, KUSC 91.5FM will start broadcasting Pacific Symphony performances from the 2019-2020 Classical Series.** These concerts will run every Sunday evening at 7:00PM through September 6th. Learn more: https://www.pacificsymphony.org/enhance_your_experience/watch-listen/symphony-on-the-air

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- Sunday, July 26th – Carmina Burana
 - Sunday, August 2nd – Tchaikovsky's "Pathetique"
 - Sunday August 9th – Rhapsody in Blue
 - Sunday, August 16th – Beethoven's Seventh
 - Sunday, August 23rd – Beethoven's Violin Concerto
 - Sunday, August 30th – Berlioz's Fantastical Symphony

- Sunday, September 6th – Hadelich Plays Paganini
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And now here is A Little Night Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart for you to enjoy today! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVTXIRxVdEY>

Until we see you again, please stay well. Stay safe. Know how much we miss you.

Warm regards,

Abby

Abby Edmunds

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Reception: (714) 755-5788 | **Tickets:** (714) 755-5799

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For Immediate Release



**SPECIAL INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND NATIONAL BROADCAST OF PETER BOYER'S
"ELLIS ISLAND: THE DREAM OF AMERICA**

WITH PACIFIC SYMPHONY" ON PBS' GREAT PERFORMANCES

Tune in Friday, July 3 at 9 p.m. (PDT)

Program Made Possible by Generous Support from The Ellis Island Honors Society

Orange County, Calif.—June 29, 2020—PBS's Great Performances and Pacific Symphony, led by Music Director Carl St.Clair, pay tribute to America's history and celebrate the historic American immigrant experience with a special Independence Day weekend program of composer Peter Boyer's Grammy-nominated contemporary classical work "Ellis Island: The Dream of America," broadcast nationally on PBS on Friday, July 3 at 9 p.m. (PDT).

Using texts from the Ellis Island Oral History Project and historic Ellis Island images in combination with an original orchestral score, "Ellis Island" features seven, first-hand stories of immigrants dramatically interpreted by guest stars Barry Bostwick, Camryn Manheim, Michael Nouri, Lesley Fera, Lucas Near-Verbrugghe, Samantha Sloyan and Kira Sternbach. Over 40 percent of the U.S. population can trace their ancestry through Ellis Island and immigration remains at the forefront of global news. "Ellis Island" captures the emotions, elation and uncertainties of America's epic immigrant experience.

Pacific Symphony's President and CEO, John Forsythe said, "Great music has often been the medium for sharing important stories. There is, perhaps, no more timely or emotional reminder of our country's immigrant roots than Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America." Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the Ellis Island Honors Society and its Chairman, Nasser Kazeminy, Pacific Symphony has been able to share this important message with a national audience on PBS's Great Performances. We are deeply grateful for their support in making this program possible."

Nasser Kazeminy, chairman of The Ellis Island Honors Society commented, "Since 1986, the Ellis Island Honors Society has recognized outstanding Americans through bestowing the cherished Ellis Island Medals of Honor. The Medal commemorates the indefatigable spirit of those who immigrated to the United States during the Ellis Island era. It is presented annually to those who have shown an outstanding commitment to serving our nation either professionally, culturally or civically, among other criteria." He continued, "We are honored that the historic place Ellis Island played in our country's history has been re-told in Peter Boyer's thrilling orchestral masterpiece, and we are delighted to support both the creation and national broadcast of this moving tribute on the national PBS Network."

The special was recorded by Great Performances at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall in 2017 during Pacific Symphony's 17th American Composers Festival, before capacity audiences, including nearly 40 recipients of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America" premiered in 2002 to great acclaim. It has since received nearly 200 performances by more than 80 orchestras and earned a Grammy nomination for Best Classical Contemporary Composition in 2005.

A co-production of Pacific Symphony and THIRTEEN Productions LLC for WNET in association with PBS SoCal, Great Performances, "Ellis Island: The Dream of America with Pacific Symphony" was directed for stage and television by Matthew Diamond and produced by John Walker; with Shawn Murphy as audio producer, production design by Matt Steinbrenner, lighting design by Bob Barnhart and projection design by Perry Freeze. For Great Performances, Bill O'Donnell is series producer and David Horn is executive producer.

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Funding

The production was originally underwritten by The Ellis Island Honors Society, The Hal and Jeanette Segerstrom Family Foundation, the Jewish Federation and Family Services of Orange County, Nasser and Yvonne Kazeminy, and Seth & Yasuko Siegel and Blossom Siegel. Major funding for Great Performances is provided by the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Arts Fund, The Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation, the Irene Diamond Fund, the LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust, The Agnes Varis Trust, The Starr Foundation, the Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, The Philip and Janice Levin Foundation, Ellen and James S. Marcus, The Abra Prentice Foundation, Rosalind P. Walter and PBS. Great Performances is produced by THIRTEEN Productions LLC for WNET, one of America's most prolific and respected public media providers. Throughout its more than 40-year history on public television, Great Performances has provided viewers across the country with an unparalleled showcase of the best in all genres of the performing arts, serving as America's most prestigious and enduring broadcaster of cultural programming.

About Pacific Symphony

Pacific Symphony, led by Music Director Carl St.Clair since 1990, has been the resident orchestra of Orange County's Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall since 2006. Currently in its 41st season, the Symphony is the largest orchestra formed in the U.S. in the last 50 years and is recognized as an outstanding ensemble making strides on both the national and international scenes, as well as in its own community of Orange County. In April 2018, Pacific Symphony made its debut at Carnegie Hall as one of two orchestras invited to perform during a yearlong celebration of composer Philip Glass' 80th birthday, and the following month the orchestra toured China. The orchestra made its national PBS debut in June 2018 on Great Performances with Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America," conducted by St.Clair. Pacific Symphony presents more than 100 concerts and events each year and a rich array of education and community engagement programs, reaching more than 300,000 residents of all ages.

Under Carl St.Clair, celebrating his 30th anniversary this season, Pacific Symphony has achieved new heights of musical excellence while also diversifying its programming and expanding its community engagement activities. Through commissions, premieres, and recordings, the orchestra has become a champion of contemporary American music, with a discography devoted almost entirely to 20th- and 21st-century music by American composers, including William Bolcom, John Corigliano, Richard Danielpour, Michael Daugherty and Philip Glass. The orchestra has recorded for Harmonia Mundi, Naxos, Koch International Classics, Reference Recordings, and Sony Classical, among other labels.

Pacific Symphony has been recognized with multiple ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming and included among the country's five most innovative orchestras by the League of American Orchestras. The Symphony's education and community engagement activities have also been recognized by the League, as well as the National Endowment for the Arts. These initiatives include community and youth concerts and ensembles, interactive events, masterclasses with guest artists, and classroom and summer programs for children.

About The Ellis Island Honors Society

The Ellis Island Honors Society was created on the conviction of its founders that the diversity of the American people is what makes this nation great. Its mission is to honor and preserve this diversity and to foster tolerance, respect and understanding among religious and ethnic groups. Additionally, the Ellis

Island Honors Society continues its commitment to the restoration and maintenance of Ellis Island, a living tribute to the courage and hope of all immigrants. Since 1986, the Ellis Island Honors Society has sponsored the Ellis Island Medals of Honor which are presented annually to American citizens who have distinguished themselves within their own ethnic groups while exemplifying the values of the American way of life. This year the Ellis Honors Society celebrates its 35th anniversary.

About PBS SoCal

PBS SoCal and KCET are the primary PBS stations for more than 19 million people across six diverse Southern California counties, and content channels of the Public Media Group of Southern California, formed by the 2018 merger of PBS SoCal and KCETLink Media Group. They provide content and experiences that inspire, inform and entertain, over the air, online, in the community and in the classroom. A local, member-supported non-profit organization, nearly 50% of their funding comes from more than 100,000 members. They offer the full slate of beloved PBS programs including MASTERPIECE, NOVA, PBS NewsHour, Frontline, Independent Lens, a broad library of documentary films including works from Ken Burns; and educational PBS KIDS programs including Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood and Curious George. Our programs are accessible for free through four broadcast channels, and available for streaming at pbssocal.org, on the PBS mobile apps, and via connected TV platforms Android TV, Roku, Apple TV, Samsung and Amazon Fire TV.

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