FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BYU Wind Symphony dazzles with mighty sound

Wind Symphony is Brigham Young University’s premier concert band. It consists of 50 of the best woodwind, brass, and percussion players. BYU Wind Symphony is also one of America’s most traveled collegiate concert band. Led by director Don Peterson, the band performs a variety of genres that appeals to most audiences. The band's extensive repertoire includes pieces from classical and modern composers such as John Philip Sousa, Dmitri Kabalevsky, Leroy Anderson, and Bruce Broughton.

BYU Wind Symphony provides an exhilarating experience with the sounds of mighty brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. It will carry you to the wondrous world of instrumental music as it washes over your. Their performance is not to be missed at (PLACE) on (DATE) at (TIME).
Wind Symphony

Being one of America’s most traveled university concert band, BYU Wind Symphony has performed in Asia, Europe, South Pacific, and the Baltic states. In 2018, the band will travel to Australia for the first time since 1991.

Wind Symphony’s most recent tour was to Mongolia, South Korea, and Japan in 2015. Band members learned that music transcends differences in culture and language, having the ability to form connections and memories that will last a lifetime. During that tour, Wind Symphony performed folk songs that were dear and familiar to each country, and they were all well received. In Mongolia, BYU’s concert band enjoyed sharing the stage with other artists, including the Mongolian LDS Choir, Busan Wind Orchestra, Eighth U.S. Army Band, and Camarata Chorale.

Previous to that tour, BYU Wind Symphony traveled to Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, and France in 2012. They were invited to perform in the 850th anniversary of Freiberg, Germany as well as the Liberation Celebration in Netherlands. They shared the stage with Orkest Orventus at a performance titled, “Hands Across the Sea.” The group enchanted audiences, who called for as many as three encores in some cities. The professional quality of Wind Symphony’s performances has resulted in prestigious invitations to perform for the College Band Directors National Association and for The American Bandmasters Association. The ensemble has been given a “recommended” rating from the American National Endowment for the Arts.

New Zealand newspaper, North Eastern Telegraph, once commented, “The faultless precision and control of the players… almost made one gasp with incredulous wonder.”
Artistic Director

Brigham Young University’s Wind Symphony is led by director Dr. Donald L. Peterson, who has held the position for more than ten years.

Dr. Peterson received both his BM and MM degrees in music education from Brigham Young University. Later, he completed a DMA degree in instrumental music and conducting from Arizona State University. Prior to accepting his current position, Dr. Peterson served as Associate Director of Bands, Professor of Music Education, and Director of the BYU Marching Band. During his 21-year tenure as the BYU Cougar Marching Band director, Dr. Peterson performed for thousands each year, including performances at 14 postseason bowl games.

In addition to his conducting, Dr. Peterson has published in leading journals, including in Bandworld Magazine and Band Director’s Guide. He has also been involved extensively in the research of Russian band music. In 2005, he published an interactive DVD for the study of “Instrumental Rehearsal Techniques” that is designed to aid in the development of both prospective music educators and younger professionals. An interesting mesh of profession and hobby, which began when he hand crafted batons for his graduating students, has grown into a custom baton service, “Don’s Batons.” Dr. Peterson hand crafts and balances each individual baton and his designs are used by a number of conductors from across the country and in Europe.

Dr. Peterson is a member of National Band Association, College Band Directors National Association, and Music Educators National Conference. He also maintains a very active schedule as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor throughout the United States, while continuing to mentor many of his graduates teaching in public schools. He and his wife Diane reside in Provo, Utah and are the parents of six children.
Upcoming Performances

Australia

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Wind Symphony
originates in the School of Music of the
College of Fine Arts and
Communications at Brigham Young
University in Provo, Utah.