



July 16, 2025

**For Immediate Release:**

## **ARIZONA MUSICFEST CELEBRATES 35 YEARS WITH STAR-STUDDERED 2025-26 CONCERT LINEUP AND EXPANDED NORTH SCOTTSDALE FOOTPRINT TO INCREASE COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING**

**SCOTTSDALE, AZ.** — Arizona Musicfest proudly announces its milestone 35th Anniversary Season for 2025–2026, featuring an exciting lineup of Grammy, Tony, and Oscar Award winners, the return of its nationally recognized Festival Orchestra week, and a wide array of world-class musicians.

“From its humble beginnings as a small chamber music festival, Arizona Musicfest has grown into a major cultural destination, drawing top-tier performers and enthusiastic audiences from across the Valley and beyond,” says Allan Naplan, Executive & Producing Director, CEO. “Following last season’s record-setting attendance of over 50,000 ticket buyers, we’re thrilled for what this milestone year will bring.”

The 2025–26 season will open in late October and run through the end of April 2026. The lineup includes iconic artists such as **Kenny G**, **David Foster & Katharine McPhee**, **The Righteous Brothers**, **Garrison Keillor**, and rising jazz sensation **Samara Joy**. As one of many highlights of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Academy Award winner and film legend **Morgan Freeman** will join Musicfest on stage in January to present his ***Symphonic Blues Experience***.

Broadway fans will enjoy performances by three-time Tony Award winner **Patti LuPone**, Tony winner **Laura Benanti** with Tony nominee **Norm Lewis**, and a return to the Herberger Theater Center in April with a full-scale production of the modern musical classic, ***Ragtime***. Additional theatrically themed concerts include **Michael Feinstein’s Big Band Broadway** with **The Carnegie Hall Big Band**, and the return of London’s **The Barricade Boys** with their brand-new show, *Broadway at the Movies*.

Other season favorites include international vocal sensation **Il Divo**, **Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents The Crooners**, **The Texas Tenors** with their new show *Let Freedom Sing*, and a diverse lineup of jazz ensembles, nostalgic rock, and classic tribute acts. The acclaimed **Festival Orchestra Week**, led by Maestro **Robert Moody**, returns with a special tribute to America’s 250th birthday and performances of works by Holst, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Brahms, and more.

“Our 2025-26 anniversary season features an exciting variety of concerts—from legendary entertainers to today’s leading artists, and from intimate performance settings to our large-scale production of the Tony-winning musical *Ragtime*, there’s truly something for everyone,” says Naplan.

Musicfest’s growth isn’t just happening on their concert stages.

“In anticipation of the new milestone season, Musicfest is excited to announce that we have greatly expanded the size and functional capability of our North Scottsdale headquarters,” says Naplan. “Last season, over 5,000 people attended our *Music Alive!* lifelong learning and creative aging programs, all of which take place in our wonderful facility. Now, with newly added space, we will be able to offer our



community even more incredible opportunities to take part in these free classes, seminars, lectures, music-making opportunities and intimate performances at Arizona Musicfest.”

Arizona Musicfest is one of Arizona’s fastest-growing nonprofit organizations in the state. Be sure to secure your tickets early, as many concerts sold out quickly last season.

To learn more about Musicfest concerts and *Music Alive!* programming, or to purchase tickets, visit **azmusicfest.org** or call the box office at **480.422.8449**

=====

**Website:** azmusicfest.org

**Box Office** 480.422.8449

**Office** 480.488.0806

**Office Address:** 7950 E. Thompson Peak Parkway, Scottsdale, AZ, 85255

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 25455, Scottsdale, AZ, 85255

**Media Contact**

Brian Kunnari, Director of Marketing & Communications

**briank@azmusicfest.org | 602.695.5709 (cell) or 480.488.0806 (office)**

Click here to find hi-res photos for the season: [AZMusicfest.org/PR-Assets](https://azmusicfest.org/PR-Assets)