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## **Charlotte Symphony and Carolina Voices Combine Longstanding Holiday Traditions**

**July 1, 2019 | Charlotte, NC**—Charlotte holiday concert traditions come together this holiday season as the Charlotte Symphony’s Magic of Christmas joins Carolina Voices’ beloved Christmas mainstay, The Singing Christmas Tree, which celebrates 65 years this season.

Forecasters predict that snow will fall inside Knight Theater as Charlotte Symphony Resident Conductor Christopher James Lees leads an all-new magical spectacular for 10 performances, December 13-15 and 20-22, 2019.

Emmy Award-winning composer Gary Fry, who wrote the instant-favorite Christmas carol, “Christmastime in Charlotte” last season, will collaborate with Lees and Carolina Voices’ Artistic Director Peter Leo to design a magical holiday spectacular.

“Partnering with Carolina Voices for this program is beyond exciting,” says Lees. “Collaborating with Gary and Peter on this program, we are looking to creating a concert Charlotte truly has never seen – the Singing Christmas Tree and Charlotte Symphony under one snow-filled roof! We are confident that this concert will bring joy and cheer to everyone who attends.”

The Singing Christmas Tree is a 32-foot-tall structure with about 80 singing choral “ornaments” on the tree. Musical selections will include holiday favorites, from “Sleigh Ride,” to “Silent Night,” singalongs, and much more.

“We’re so excited to celebrate our 65th anniversary by pairing the country’s first and continuous choral production of its kind, “The Singing Christmas Tree” with the city’s finest musical ensemble. It’s the best Christmas gift I can imagine!” says Peter Leo, Carolina Voices Artistic Director. “Like the tradition of

hanging ornaments on a Christmas tree, this year's production will come adorned with songs cherished for generations, memories of seasons past and a few new gifts to add a little sparkle. The combined production will embrace all of the best of each organization's traditions."

Santa and other holiday characters will, of course, join in the celebration. Dazzling lighting, visuals, and special guests all will add to Knight Theater's transformation into a holiday wonderland.

Tickets to all 10 performances, including three matinees, will go on sale on July 9 and start as low as \$19.

Chorus auditions continue on July 30, August 20, and August 24. To sign up for an audition, visit <https://carolinavoices.org/audition/>.

For more information, visit [charlottesymphony.org](http://charlottesymphony.org).

### **About the Charlotte Symphony**

Founded in 1932, the Charlotte Symphony is a longstanding nonprofit organization committed to connecting and strengthening the community through exceptional musical experiences. Led by internationally renowned Music Director Christopher Warren-Green, the Symphony upholds the highest artistic integrity and takes bold steps to engage the community through music. We employ professional full-time orchestra musicians, support two youth orchestras, and offer significant educational programming aimed at improving underserved sections of our community. The Charlotte Symphony is integral to the Charlotte area, serving its community through music that connects and inspires. [charlottesymphony.org](http://charlottesymphony.org)

### **About Carolina Voices**

Founded in 1954, Carolina Voices is a NC based arts organization which supports and promotes excellence in choral music. Known first and foremost as presenters of America's first Singing Christmas Tree production, Carolina Voices has grown into a vibrant choral organization embracing three ensembles, including [MainStage Chorus](#), [Festival Singers](#) and [Impromptu](#). Comprised of more than 130 auditioned, volunteer singers, these choirs perform a variety of music in venues throughout the region. Carolina Voices is supported, in part, with funding by the Arts & Science Council and is a member of Chorus America. [carolinavoices.org](http://carolinavoices.org)

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