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300 UF Performers and Special Guest Ensemble Vocal de Medellín Appear in UF's Annual Holiday Concert, *Sounds of the Season: ¡el Festival!*, on December 4

Gainesville, Fla., Nov. 21, 2016 — The University of Florida (UF) College of the Arts and the School of Music are pleased to present the annual holiday concert, *Sounds of the Season*, on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Gainesville, Florida. With the theme of *¡el Festival!*, this year's concert, which is free and open to the public, will feature an array of holiday favorites such as an encore presentation of *O Holy Night* sung by Joshua Mazur as well as seasonal music from Latin America and Spain. The concert will open with the Christmas Processional and the ancient Spanish pilgrim's song *Stella splendens* (Splendid Star) and will close with Georg Friedrich Händel's *Hallelujah Chorus*. In between, audience members will be treated to toe-tapping music from around the Spanish speaking world: a seasonal salsa, samba, danza, bossa nova and more.

With generous support from UF President Kent Fuchs, *Sounds of the Season: ¡el Festival!* will feature more than 300 performers, including UF School of Music professors Welton Tremura and Scott Wilson with the UF Jazz Band, students from UF's Concert Choir, UF Women's Chorale and UF Symphony Orchestra, as well as area community members from the Gainesville Master Chorale.



"*Sounds of the Season* is a wonderful seasonal legacy, and it is particularly special this year as it will feature special guest artists Ensemble Vocal de Medellín, a professional Colombian choir, under the direction of Jorge Hernán Arango García," said Will Kesling, professor and choral program director in the UF School of Music. "This concert gathers the entire community and offers a time for us all to pause and escape from the hectic, and nowadays, frightful outside world into a delightful inner world of comfort and joy."

Ticket Distribution Information

Tickets to *Sounds of the Season* are free and will be distributed beginning Monday, Nov. 28 from the Phillips Center Box Office. Attendees are encouraged to get tickets early to secure a seat, as a full house is expected. For more information, contact the Phillips Center Box Office at 352-392-2787 or visit <http://performingarts.ufl.edu>.

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About the School of Music

The School of Music is one of the University of Florida College of the Arts' three institutionally-accredited schools. The School of Music plays an important role in the academic life of the University and the community. The school's programs provide broad-based instruction in performance, composition, history and literature and music disciplines, through a strong curriculum as well as through professional experiences such as ensembles and internships. UF students also have the opportunity to join more than a dozen music ensembles, including jazz bands, the University Choir, the University Symphony Orchestra and the "Pride of the Sunshine" Fightin' Gator Marching Band. To learn more, visit www.arts.ufl.edu/music.

About the College of the Arts

The College of the Arts is one of the 16 colleges and more than 150 research centers and institutes at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. The College of the Arts offers baccalaureate, master's and Ph.D. degree programs in its three institutionally-accredited schools — the School of Art + Art History, School of Music and School of Theatre + Dance. The college is home to the Center for Arts in Medicine, Center for Arts and Public Policy, Center for World Arts, Digital Worlds Institute, University Galleries and the New World School of the Arts in Miami. More than 100 faculty members and approximately than 1,200 students work together daily to engage, inspire and create. The college hosts more than 300 performances, exhibitions and events each year. Faculty and students also exhibit and perform at other local, national and international venues. To learn more, visit www.arts.ufl.edu.

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