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SUU'S SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OFFERS FREE PERFORMANCE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2014

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Autumn is always a time for **Southern Utah University's Department of Music** to offer a variety of musical performances showcasing our gifted students. On **Saturday, November 1, 2014, SUU's Symphony Orchestra** warms up an autumn evening with a concert in **Thorley Recital Hall** at **7:30pm**. Under the direction of **Dr. Xun Sun**, the performance includes works from the classic repertoire and more. The performance is **free and open to the public**. Thorley Recital Hall is located in the SUU Music Building.

The Symphony Orchestra's program includes Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Symphony No. 41 K 551, The Jupiter, Allegro Vivace," Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's "Themes from 'Scheherazade'" in an arrangement by Richard Meyer, selections from Antonín Dvořák's "Czech Suite Op. 39," and Rimsky-Korsakov's "Dance of the Tumblers" from the "Snow Maiden" in an arrangement by Sandra Dachow. An additional highlight will be two pieces for String Orchestra James Horner's "The Ludlows" in an arrangement by John Moss and "Rock'n'Roll" in an arrangement by John Reed.

Appointed to his current academic position in 2001, **Dr. Xun Sun** serves as Director of Orchestral Activities at Southern Utah University and conducts the SUU Symphony Orchestra and String Ensemble. In addition, he teaches courses in Advanced Instrumental Conducting and Applied Instruction of Violin at the Music Department. Dr. Sun has continually broadened his professional career as an orchestral conductor conducted the world premiere of *Dream of Helen*, a collaboration between SUU and China's Hubei Opera and Dance Drama Theatre. He conducted the world renowned China Philharmonic Orchestra in recording featuring the music of American composers Marshall McDonald and Steve Nelson. In 2007, he was invited to conduct the Lviv Philharmonic in the 8th International Contemporary Music Festival in Ukraine. Dr. Sun also conducted the operas Carlisle Floyd's *Susanna*, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and *Don Giovanni*.

Dr. Sun has served as the Music Director/Conductor of the Orchestra of Southern Utah since 2003, making many appearances over the years in concert series and educational programs. Under his leadership, the OSU world premiered the symphonic suite "Spanish Trail Suite" by Marshall McDonald and Steve Nelson. In June 2008, the League of American Orchestras presented OSU with an Award of Excellence in the Annual Gold Book Online competition and an Audrey Baird Audience Development Award, making OSU the only orchestra to receive these awards from the League of American Orchestras that year. Dr. Sun continues to teach the master classes in conducting in Hunan, China.

Born in the city of Taiyuan, China, Dr. Xun Sun manifested distinctive musical talent at an early age. He began his formal music training and violin studies at Wuhan Conservatory of Music in China at age 11 through the government's scholarship program for exceptional music students. This substantial music training led him to successful graduate studies in United States. Under the Evelyn Ryan Nelson Concertmaster Fellowship at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) Conservatory of Music, he earned his master's degrees in Instrumental Conducting and Violin Performance from the conservatory of UMKC, and Doctor Degree in Education from Teacher's College, Columbia University, New York.

Enjoy a free performance by SUU's Symphony Orchestra. This event is free and open to the public. For more information visit, www.suu.edu/pva/arts

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The **Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts** is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration and newly created Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean at (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: SUU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

WHAT: SUU's Symphony Orchestra warms up an autumn evening with a free concert. Under the direction of Dr. Xun Sun, the performance includes works from the classic repertoire and more.

WHO: Southern Utah University, College of Performing and Visual Arts, Department of Music

WHEN: Saturday, November 1, 2014 @ 7:30pm

WHERE: Thorley Recital Hall, Music Building, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT

INFO: www.suu.edu/pva/arts

PRICES: Free and the General Public is encouraged to attend.