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# PRESS RELEASE

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## KNOXVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORMS FOR OVER 3,000 YOUTH IN VERY YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS

**Knoxville, TN – February 18, 2020** – Do you feel the beat? The **Knoxville Symphony Orchestra** will perform [“Drumming and Dancing”](#) for more than 3,000 elementary students as part of the **Very Young People's Concerts** next week. There are **three** performances:

- [Wednesday, February 26](#) at the Clayton Center for the Arts in Maryville (9:30 & 11:00 a.m.)
- [Thursday, February 27](#) in Knoxville at the Tennessee Theatre (9:30 a.m.)

**This is an excellent photo opportunity.**

**Who:** The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra led by Music Director **Aram Demirjian** will perform THREE concerts as a part of the [KSO's Education & Community Partnerships](#) offerings. These **Very Young People's Concerts** are performed for audiences of young children from Knox County and surrounding counties including Anderson, Blount, Campbell and Loudon. The concert will explore the rhythm section of the orchestra, the percussion section and feature guest artists The West African Drum and Dance Ensemble from Austin East High School. Students will learn about march and waltz rhythms through music from Beethoven to contemporary composer Mason Bates. The concert also features music by many composers of color. **The KSO's Very Young People's Concerts serve over 3,000 students in East Tennessee annually.**

**What:** The theme **“Drumming and Dancing”** explores drumming and dancing- through music, movement, and more.

Musical highlights include: Wilson's "Seventy Six Trombones" from *The Music Man*, W.C. Handy's *St. Louis Blues March*, Rosas' *Sombre las Olas (Over the Waves)*, Mason Bates' *Warehouse Medicine*, Sam Hyken's *Fifth Symphony Remixed* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*.

Audience Participation: Learn the difference between march and waltz rhythms, experience many different styles of West African and Contemporary Dance.

Very Young People's Concerts are imaginative concert programs created for students in pre-school through second grades. These concerts are presented for over 3,000 students annually in two venues. The VYPC's are sponsored by The Boyd Family, The Jay Family, Titanic Museum and Attraction, Rotary Club of Knoxville, and Connor Concepts.

**Visuals:** These concerts are attended by school and home schooled groups from Knox and surrounding counties (pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and are open to the general public.

**When:** Wednesday, February 26 - 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. at the Clayton Center for the Arts.  
Thursday, February 27 - 9:30 a.m. at the Tennessee Theatre

**Social Media:** "*Drumming and Dancing*" - THREE ***Very Young People's Concerts*** in Knoxville & Maryville on **Feb. 26 & 27** show children Pre-K – 2nd grades how drumming and dancing goes hand-in-hand. [Follow @knoxsymphony on Twitter](#) and [Like KSO on Facebook](#).

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