



**KNOXVILLE  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA**

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# PRESS RELEASE

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## **A NIGHT WITH THE ARTS: A CONCERT IN CELEBRATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

*Performed in collaboration with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission, The Carpetbag Theatre Inc., and the Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestra*

**Knoxville, TN – January 2, 2020** – The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra in collaboration with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission and The Carpetbag Theatre Inc. will present ***A Night with the Arts: A Concert in Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*** on **Sunday, January 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Tennessee Theatre. [View Facebook event.](#)

This concert, **free and open to the public**, is sponsored by the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission of Greater Knoxville. **No tickets are required to attend this free performance.**

The concert's theme is "Let Freedom Ring: Through Social Justice, Economic Empowerment, Love, Peace & Unity." **KSO Resident Conductor James Fellenbaum** conducts the Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestra joined by the Celebration Choir directed by **Aaron Staple**. The KSCO will perform Saint-Georges/ Bologne's Symphony No. 2, Op. 11, William Still's "Serenade," and accompany soloists Carolyn Wilkerson, Preston Johnson, and Doris Talley. The performance will include drama and spoken word throughout the concert by members of the Carpetbag Theatre's Homegrown Ambassadors Youth Program, directed by **Jonathan Clark**. The Celebration Choir will perform gospel songs including "Great is Thy Faithfulness," "Praise," and "We Shall Overcome."

### **About the MLK Commemorative Commission**

Since 1982, the MLK Commission has been organizing a special celebration each year for the Knoxville area to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The week-long celebration focuses on providing education and leadership training for adults and youth and promotes reconciliation through peaceful conflict resolution. Part of the celebration also includes stories of racial struggles with emphasis on non-violence, equality, and love.

### **About the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra**

Led by Music Director Aram Demirjian, the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra consists of 80 professional musicians and performs 300 programs throughout the region each season, reaching audiences of more than 200,000 people. The KSO performs in traditional venues such as the Tennessee Theatre,

Bijou Theatre, and Civic Auditorium, as well as non-traditional places like hospitals, schools, city parks, and churches. For more information regarding the KSO, please visit [www.knoxvillesymphony.com](http://www.knoxvillesymphony.com) or call 865-291-3310.

**Social Media:**

**Twitter:** [@KnoxSymphony](https://twitter.com/KnoxSymphony) presents “Night with the Arts” - **A Concert in Celebration of MLK – FREE & open to the public.** Carpetbag Theatre, Celebration Choir, powerful music celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday, Jan. 19, @ 6:00 PM, @tntheatre.

**Facebook/Instagram:** The [Knoxville Symphony Orchestra](https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleSymphonyOrchestra) will presents “Night with the Arts” - **A Concert in Celebration of MLK – FREE & open to the public.** Sunday, Jan. 19, @ 6:00 PM, @tntheatre. “**If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.**”- MLK, Jr. #symphony #ksorocks #MLKDay