



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MUSIC WITH A MISSION – STRIKING A CHORD SINCE 2010**

**WHAT:** Music With A Mission (MWAM) – Street Symphony’s *Messiah Project Workshop*

**WHEN:** **Tuesday** – November 21, 2017 – 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm (MWAM is usually held on Thursdays.)

**WHERE:** The Midnight Mission, 601 S. San Pedro St., LA, CA 90014

**WHO:** **STREET SYMPHONY**  
(<http://streetsymphony.org/>)

The Midnight is thrilled to welcome Street Symphony back for their 36th visit. Street Symphony, directed by LA Philharmonic Violinist Vijay Gupta, brings live musical outreach and educational workshops to audiences without access to the arts, throughout Southern California. Street Symphony ensembles perform at LA County Jails and homeless shelters in downtown Los Angeles, as well as public events for the community-at-large, aimed to raise awareness for issues of mental health, incarceration, and homelessness. Their mission at large is to bring music to the most underserved communities throughout L.A.

This program will be a workshop to prepare our community for the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Messiah Project** set for **Friday, December 8, 2017, from 2 pm to 4 pm** in our Gym. Everyone is invited to lend their voices to this unique event where residents of the Skid Row community will sing alongside the Street Symphony Chamber Singers, comprised of members of the LA Master Chorale. We are also pleased to have partnered with the Urban Voices Project, a Skid Row singing project, as well as the City of Angels Community Choirs. The Messiah project will also feature vocal soloists and a composer from the Skid Row community, Midnight Mission Alumnus Ben Shirley, and a world-premiere of a new work developed with the homeless community.

**WHY:** The Midnight hosts Music With a Mission (MWAM) to entertain and inspire those living on Skid Row. Music is a survival tactic for many people in dealing with life’s difficulties. MWAM is aimed at bringing our community together through music. MWAM is quite simple. Musicians bring their instruments and play for our homeless and near-homeless guests. It is an intimate setting, so musicians have the opportunity to interact with our guests, answer questions and/or talk about music and its history. We encourage musicians to invite their fan base so they can engage and enjoy music with individuals they would not normally encounter in their daily lives. **We are currently looking for sponsors for this ever-growing community event. If you are interested, please contact Georgia Berkovich at 213-624-4588 or [gberkovich@midnightmission.org](mailto:gberkovich@midnightmission.org).**

**About The Midnight Mission:** Founded in 1914, The Midnight Mission offers paths to self-sufficiency to men, women and children who have lost direction. Our emergency services and 12-step recovery, family living, job training, education and workforce development programs offer a compassionate bridge to achieve and maintain healthy, productive lives. We remove obstacles and provide the accountability and structure that people who are experiencing homelessness need to be productive in their communities. Our conviction and commitment to their success define us. For additional information, please visit [www.midnightmission.org](http://www.midnightmission.org).