



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 27, 2018 – 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 52nd visit. This program will be a special workshop to prepare our community for the 4th Annual Messiah Project set for Friday, December 7, 2018. It will feature a singalong workshop of Handel's beloved "Hallelujah" Chorus presented by world-class vocalists from the Los Angeles Master Chorale, as well as the assembly of over 300 hygiene kits (amenity bags for the Skid Row community, containing feminine hygiene products, socks/hats, shampoo, and other essentials) in our Board Room. All are welcome to lend their voices and hands to this special Street Symphony event, in celebration of the Skid Row community, and the power of music to illuminate and uplift the voices and humanity of all people.

The Messiah event being held on December 7, 2018 is designed for our homeless and near-homeless community and will not open to the general public. The VIPs for this event will be members of the Skid Row community, including clients and residents from our community partner organizations. Residents of the Skid Row community have been invited to sing alongside the Street Symphony Chamber Singers, comprised of members of the LA Master Chorale and Urban Voices Project - a Skid Row singing project. They will be featuring musicians from the Skid Row community including vocal soloist Simone "Sugga" Neal, DJ Sir Oliver, composer and TMM Alumnus Ben Shirley and musician and TMM Alumnus Malek Vossough.

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.

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.**

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.