

CINCINNATI POPS TO PRESENT MEMORIAL CONCERT FOR ERICH KUNZEL OCTOBER 19 AT MUSIC HALL

Tickets available to the general public starting October 12

CINCINNATI - The **Cincinnati Pops Orchestra** announced details for the memorial concert celebrating the remarkable life of the Orchestra's founder **Erich Kunzel**, who died September 1 after a four-month battle with cancer. **The concert will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19 at historic Music Hall.** This will be a **free, ticketed event** featuring three of Maestro Kunzel's protégés on the conducting podium, Cincinnati Pops Associate Conductor and New York Pops Music Director **Steven Reineke**, Boston Pops Conductor **Keith Lockhart** and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Assistant Conductor **Vince Lee**. Additional conductors taking the podium to honor Maestro Kunzel are CSO Music Director **Paavo Järvi** and May Festival Director of Choruses **Robert Porco**.

Musical guests joining the Pops for the memorial concert include celebrated mezzo-soprano **Frederica von Stade**, the **May Festival Chorus** and students from the **School for the Creative and Performing Arts**. It will be an evening of great music and fond remembrances of Maestro Kunzel, including a video tribute put together by CET. Students from SCPA will also perform in the lobby before the concert.

"In the final weeks of Erich's life, he and I discussed a memorial concert and he provided a clear vision," said Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra President Trey Devey. "We are putting together a very special evening honoring this great American icon and our dear friend."

Tickets

Tickets will be first offered to special guests and current Cincinnati Pops subscribers through a direct invitation from the Orchestra. **Any remaining tickets will be made available to the general public on Monday, October 12.** Individuals requesting tickets will be limited to two general admission seats, and will be offered first-come, first-served, as-available at the CSO Box Office, located at Music Hall, or by calling (513) 381-3300 on that October 12 date.

To ensure broader community access, the memorial concert will be simulcast in the Music Hall Ballroom, thanks to the generosity of CET and WGUC. Free general admission tickets will also be required for this overflow seating.

Plans are underway to simulcast the memorial concert live on Fountain Square's video board. Details will be announced at a later date.

A Remarkable Legacy

The late Maestro Max Rudolf invited Mr. Kunzel, then a young conductor on the faculty of Brown University, to join the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra as an associate conductor in 1965. That October Maestro Kunzel conducted his first sold-out "8 O'Clock Pops" concert, marking his ascent as a modern orchestral legend. The Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, part of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, was then officially founded in 1977 with Maestro Kunzel at the helm. For decades he led the orchestra, packing houses in Cincinnati's Music Hall and Riverbend Music Center, most recently on August 1, and also gaining new fans the world over through tour performances, PBS television specials and millions of recordings sold.

More than 450 individuals have left tributes on a special Erich Kunzel memorial website, where the public is encouraged to view photos from Maestro Kunzel's celebrated career and post remembrances. The link can be found at www.cincinnatiopops.org. The Pops is also accepting cards and notes for Maestro Kunzel's family at the organization's Music Hall office located at 1241 Elm Street in Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202.

The Cincinnati Pops Orchestra is grateful to the many partner organizations generously providing support for this memorial concert including the May Festival, Cincinnati Arts Association, CET, Cincinnati Public Radio, the School

for the Creative and Performing Arts, Custom Mail Services, RPI Graphic Solutions, IATSE Local #5, The Phoenix, and 3CDC.