

KIC PRESS RELEASE – 1/16/2023

KIDS IN CONCERT TO PERFORM NEW COMPOSITION WITH SEATTLE SYMPHONY IN BENAROYA HALL, APRIL 19TH 2024.

Kids in Concert is proud to announce that our young musicians have been selected to perform on stage with the Seattle Symphony. This concert is part of the Seattle Symphony's Side-by-Side concert series, and will take place at **Benaroya Hall on April 19th, 2024**. This is a **free concert**, open to all, part of a series showcasing young musicians from Seattle and surrounding communities.

Kids in Concert (KIC) is especially excited to participate in this program, because they will be playing a composition by a recent graduate of KIC, **Max Dawes**. Dawes is a member of the Suquamish tribe and a multi-instrumentalist, who showed an interest in composition while developing his musical skills with KIC. The KIC staff helped find him a composition teacher and assisted him with the transition to a college music program at Cornish College of the Arts.

"Kids in Concert organizes and facilitates music programs for students, irrespective of income, but that doesn't capture the full extent of what we do," says **Lorraine Glover**, Board Member of Kids in Concert. "Building community relationships and working with partners is at the heart of Kids in Concert and is essential for our success and the success of our students. We are excited to work with such excellent partners, mentors, teachers and families. When we all invest in a shared mission, we create more opportunities for students, benefitting our entire community."

This composition, called **Creation**, is based on the Suquamish origin story, developed in collaboration with **Suquamish** elder and storyteller **Barbara Lawrence**. The performance at Benaroya Hall will feature a violin solo, played by KIC musicians. On collaborating with Max, Laura Milleson, KIC's founder and Artistic Director, says, "It has been an amazing privilege to see Max grow as a musician and human over the years...his boundless talent, curiosity, and dedication to life and music are inspiring, and I can't wait to watch him conduct his composition at Benaroya!"

Kids In Concert is a free, after-school music education organization for students ages 6–18 in North Kitsap County. KIC is inspired by the Venezuelan El Sistema program that offers students the opportunity to learn an orchestral instrument, participate in musical ensembles and contribute to the lives of others, with the ultimate goal of leveling the playing field for all kids. KIC's program is available to students most school days and serves more than 70 students. While music is at the heart of KIC's mission, students also participate in the **Healthy and Whole** program that has been adapted from years of work with the **Suquamish** tribe, teaching emotional and social learning and providing tools for healthy communication and emotional regulation. KIC believes that every child has limitless possibilities and the ability to strive for excellence. "Trust the young" informs every aspect of the work.

For more information about Kids in Concert please visit www.kidsinconcert.org. For more information about the concert, please see this [Seattle Symphony press release](#).