

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
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SALINA SYMPHONY SEASON FINALE TO FEATURE PIKES PEAK RINGERS AND KWU PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The Salina Symphony will conclude its season with a spectacular performance featuring the Symphony, the Pikes Peak Ringers and the Kansas Wesleyan University Philharmonic Choir at the Stiefel Theatre on Sunday, May 3, at 4 p.m.

The concert will open with *Prairie Sunrise*, a piece written by Symphony music director and conductor, Ken Hakoda. The Kansas Wesleyan University Philharmonic Choir will then join the Symphony in presenting *Frostiana*, a seven-movement suite by Randall Thompson set to the words of Robert Frost poems.

Following intermission, the winner of the Symphony's Celebrity Conductor Contest will conduct a march. The Symphony will then be joined by the Pikes Peak Ringers for *Ring of Fire*, a concerto written for handbell choir and orchestra by Kevin McChesney, the group's founder and director.

In addition to performing with the Symphony, the Pikes Peak Ringers will perform a free concert Friday, May 1, at 7:00 p.m. at University United Methodist Church. The concert is part of the Kansas Wesleyan University/UUMC Family Concert Series and is open to the public. A handbell workshop will be offered by the Pikes Peak Ringers at University United Methodist Church on Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Pikes Peak Ringers is an auditioned community handbell choir. Founded in 1991 by McChesney, the group performs throughout the region and has been the featured group at

national handbell events. They recently won a contest that will allow them the opportunity to record with world-renowned cellist Yo Yo Ma.

Tickets to Sunday's concert may be purchased at the Stiefel Theatre box office, by calling 827-1998 or online at www.ticketmaster.com. The box office will open at noon on concert day. Single admission is \$19 for adults and \$12 for students. For more information, visit www.salinasymphony.org. For more information about the handbell workshop or to register, visit www.pikespeakringers.com.

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