

MEDIA ALERT - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 3, 2019

Utah celebrates women's role in Baroque music at the Vivaldi by Candlelight concert.

EVENT: Would you believe that one of the most renowned orchestras in Europe in the 18th century was "manned" entirely by orphan girls? And that Antonio Vivaldi and other famous composers who worked and taught there wrote hundreds of masterpieces for this female orchestra?

The Vivaldi by Candlelight concert on December 7 at the First Presbyterian Church in Salt Lake City, conducted by Gerald Elias, will celebrate these young women with "The Brilliant Garden," a program of symphonies, overtures, and concertos composed for the orchestra of the Ospedale della Pietá in Venice.

It will feature two violin concertos Vivaldi composed for his two greatest protégés, Anna Maria and Chiara—they had no last names because they were left at the doorstep of the orphanage as infants—which will be performed by Vivaldi by Candlelight's concertmaster and assistant concertmaster, Leslie Henrie and Krista Utrilla, reprising the role of their colleagues three centuries ago.

WHEN: Saturday, December 7, 2019, concert starts at 8:00 pm

WHERE: First Presbyterian Church, 12 C Street, Salt Lake City

PRICE: Tickets range from \$50-\$125

TICKETS NOW ON SALE: <u>https://vivaldi2019.brownpapertickets.com</u> or call 801.832.3270

WHY: The Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy (UCCD) celebrates 37 years of Vivaldi by Candlelight concert. As Utah's only Baroque concert and UCCD's signature fundraiser, it has long been a beloved fixture of the holiday season.

The Vivaldi by Candlelight concert directly supports UCCD's mission of promoting respect and understanding between the people of Utah and other nations. Funds raised through this year's Vivaldi by Candlelight Concert will benefit <u>Young Diplomats of Utah</u>, a program that engages youth to grow as globally engaged citizens by enhancing their cultural awareness, developing leadership skills, and connecting to the community through volunteerism and service. Youth

participating in the Young Diplomats of Utah program gain an understanding of how we are a global community, create a sense of belonging to common humanity, and build a more peaceful and sustainable world.

Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy's executive director Felecia Maxfield-Barrett, shares, "Youth are not only the future of tomorrow, but they are the leaders and change-agents of today. Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy recognizes that engaging youth to learn about and participate with our global community are fundamental qualities that will guide how youth contribute to the broader community as adults." Maxfield-Barrett continues, "Vivaldi by Candlelight offers an evening of beautiful music played in a peaceful setting of candlelight, and funds raised from this event will welcome youth to be part of the solution for creating a more peaceful and prosperous world."

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About Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy (UCCD): UCCD is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting respect and understanding between the people of Utah and other nations through its guiding principle of citizen diplomacy – the concept that everyone has the right and responsibility to help shape foreign relations one handshake at a time. UCCD works with the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program and other exchange programs to welcome hundreds of emerging leaders from around the world to Utah to meet with like-minded professionals, businesses, government agencies, and organizations to exchange best practices and create networks while experiencing Utah's unique culture. Additionally, UCCD hosts the Ambassador John Price and Marcia Price World Affairs Lecture Series that provides insight on critical global issues, helping shape public discourse. UCCD convenes leading global voices and engages the public to explore ideas that will shape our global future, transcending borders and transforming how people, businesses, and governments engage the world. Citizen diplomacy is a powerful tool for creating sustainable economic and social relationships in a globally connected world. More information about UCCD is available at www.utahdiplomacy.org.