

KWJC – Classical KC Issues and Programs List

Q1 2024: January 1 – March 31, 2024

Issues Covered: Local Arts & Culture, Diversity, Music Education, and Reaching Audiences

Classical KC (KWJC) addresses issues and topics relevant to the Kansas City region, through interviews and special programming. Below is a list of issues and topics covered this quarter, the broadcast date/time and length, and a summary of the program.

Kansas City Local Feature – Saturday 8-9 pm, Sunday 1-2 pm; 60 minutes

January 6, 7 2024

Joyce DiDonato returns to Kansas City: 'I love singing for my hometown'

Opera sensation Joyce DiDonato joined Classical KC to share reflections on the past year and her excitement on returning home to Kansas City to perform with Michael Stern and the Kansas City Symphony. We'll hear Joyce sing works by Charles Ives, Gustav Mahler, Jake Heggie and more.

January 13, 14 2024

Two of America's premier chamber music groups converge for a Kansas City concert

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center musicians are collaborating with the Friends of Chamber Music Kansas City for a performance at The Folly Theater. Classical KC's Brooke Knoll speaks with Friends co-artistic director and Society cellist, Dmitri Atapine, and Society pianist Gloria Chien about joining forces for this concert. We'll hear music by Johannes Brahms, Frédéric Chopin, Antonín Dvořák and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor.

January 20, 21 2024

This world class orchestra is bringing the 'royal' treatment to Kansas City

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra is one of Europe's great ensembles. Brooke Knoll speaks with Royal Philharmonic violinists Erik Chapman and Sali-Wyn Ryan about the history of the orchestra, its "royal" name and coming to Kansas City to perform with renowned pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason. We'll hear music by Maurice Ravel, Ernő Dohnányi, Sergei Prokofiev and Sergei Rachmaninoff.

January 27, 28 2024

From Radiohead to Mozart, the musical stars align for WindSync

From the fun to the formal, renowned wind quintet WindSync has been entertaining audiences of all ages for 15 years. Ahead of their performance in Kansas City, Brooke Knoll speaks with group members Kara LaMoure and Graeme Steele Johnson about WindSync's origins, innovative educational programs and recordings. We'll hear music by Marc Mellits, Miguel del Aguila and Ivan Trevino.

February 3, 4 2024

Jeremy Denk is bringing Bach's joyful 'mix tape' of music to Kansas City

Acclaimed pianist and writer Jeremy Denk speaks with Brooke Knoll about his early life as a self-proclaimed "weird kid," overcoming musical obstacles and coming to Kansas City to perform. We'll hear Jeremy's recordings of music by Johann Sebastian Bach and Camille Saint-Saëns.

February 17, 18 2024

This local organization brings the folk music world to Kansas City

Located in Kansas City's Crossroads neighborhood, Folk Alliance International has been bringing together folk musicians, fans and industry professionals since its founding in 1989. This work includes an annual conference, often taking place in Kansas City, that brings thousands to the city. Brooke Knoll speaks with Folk Alliance Development and Partnership Director Alex Mallett about the organization, plus we'll highlight some of the classical-crossover artists performing at this year's conference.

March 2, 3 2024

'An amazing full circle experience:' Tenor star Ben Bliss returns home to be Kansas City's Romeo

Born in Prairie Village, tenor Ben Bliss has a very busy international performing career, including performances at the Metropolitan Opera and the great opera houses of Europe. He will be starring in the Lyric Opera of Kansas City's upcoming production of "Romeo et Juliette." Brooke Knoll speaks with Bliss about his journey from Kansas to the great concert halls of the world, meeting his Juliet and what's on the horizon for him.

March 9, 10 2024

The Kansas City Symphony's next music director, Matthias Pintscher, is ready to 'explore the community'

The globe-trotting, multi-disciplinary musician and composer Matthias Pintscher will take over the reigns of the Kansas City Symphony from Michael Stern this summer. Brooke Knoll speaks with him about his early life, how he got the gig in Kansas City and what his plans are for the orchestra. We'll hear his original compositions, plus music by Sergei Rachmaninoff.

March 16, 17 2024

The Midwest Chamber Ensemble is cultivating a musical community in Kansas City

Kansas City's Midwest Chamber Ensemble has been presenting diverse concert programs and eclectic performance opportunities for over a decade. Brooke Knoll speaks with artistic director and violist Kathryn Hilger about the group's mission, recording projects and upcoming season. We'll hear music by Claude Debussy, Igor Stravinsky, Joan Tower and Robert Schumann.

March 23, 24 2024

Powerful women, powerful music: Celebrating Women's History Month with listener requests

Throughout classical music history, women composers have been creating right along with the men, but they weren't given the flowers they were due. In honor of women's history month, we're sharing a program of music from some of our favorite women and female-identifying composers, including listener requests.

Classical KC Spotlight: Original content spotlighting Kansas City artists from 91.9 Classical KC. The selected features below aired multiple times on and around the date listed below.

January 30, 2024

From classical clarinet to hip-hop beats, this Overland Park teen is exploring different musical perspectives

Overland Park teenager Kevin Li has diverse musical tastes including playing his clarinet, listening to hip-hop and making beats. Christy L'Esperance speaks with Kevin about how he got started in music and his transition to a more serious player. We'll also learn how he balances

practice time and school work, and finding common ground between classical music and hip-hop.

January 30, 2024

Rediscovering music was an unexpected, but exciting journey for this Kansas City teen

Christian Won is a talented pianist and composer from Grandview, MO. Christly L'Esperance speaks with Christian about his musical inspirations, finding balance between practice and teenage fun, his next steps and more.

March 1, 2024

The Irish Tenors bring meaningful music and hearty laughs to Kansas City

Celebrating 25 years as one of Ireland's most acclaimed musical ambassadors, the Irish Tenors are set to perform in Kansas City on March 6. Christy L'Esperance speaks with all three about their early inspirations, Irish culture in America and what makes their performances unique.

January 4 to March 31, 2024

Thursday 8-10 pm, Sunday 4-6 pm

120 Minutes

The Kansas City Symphony on Classical KC

Weekly two-hour broadcast of recordings from the Kansas City Symphony. Features interviews with Symphony conductor Michael Stern, host Dan Margolies and musicians from the orchestra.

January 6 to March 31, 2024

Saturday 11 am – 12 noon, Sunday 6-7 pm

60 minutes

From the Archives hosted by Frank Byrne

One hour weekly curated tour of the world's greatest composers, conductors and performers, captured in distinctive and memorable audio recordings.

January 1 – March 30, 2024

Monday-Saturday, 5-7 pm

120 minutes

Performance Today hosted by Fred Child

Two hour daily classical music performance showcase featuring concerts from across the globe, including daily conversations with musicians about inequities in performance of music by minority composers and performances by musicians of color.

January 1 – March 29, 2024

Monday-Friday, 7-8 pm

60 minutes

Exploring Music with Bill McLaughlin

Weekday music education and appreciation program. The program undertakes expedition through the world of classical music, selecting a theme each week that focuses on a particular genre, music festival, or classical theme.

January 6 – March 31, 2024

Saturday 10-11 am, Sunday 7-8 pm

60 minutes

From the Top

Showcase program of young musicians about their education, challenges as young musicians and hopes for performance careers.

January 7 – March 31, 2024

Sunday 2-4 pm

120 minutes

Concierto

Two-hour program featuring music composed, conducted or performed by Hispanic and Latinos from around the world.