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The Jacksonville Symphony Performs with Mambo Kings to Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month

Jacksonville, FL (September 13, 2017) --- The Jacksonville Symphony will celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month with Mambo Kings in concert on September 22, 23 and 24.

WHO: Conducted by **Nathan Aspinall**, the Jacksonville Symphony will perform with the Afro-Cuban group **Mambo Kings**. Mambo Kings, together since 1995, are one of the world's foremost Latin jazz ensembles. They have earned a national reputation for their blend of Afro-Cuban rhythms and jazz improvisation. Mambo Kings made their orchestral premiere in 1997 with the Rochester Philharmonic and have since appeared in festivals and pop concerts across the country.

WHAT: Afro-Cuban jazz first emerged in the early 1940s. Its true birth is often credited to trumpeter-arranger Mario Bauza who headed a band in New York. When Bauza introduced fellow trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie to famed Cuban percussionist Chano Pozo, a match was made that would change the course of the musical genre. With the introduction of bongos and congas Afro-Cuban jazz hit the East Coast Jazz scene in the US. The program features different types of Afro-Cuban Jazz including the popular dance types of Mambo, Milonga and Danzón.

This season, the Jacksonville Symphony is conducting an extensive search to find a new concertmaster. The process will bring in eight candidates to perform with the Symphony throughout the course of the season. For this concert, **Nigel Armstrong** will take the stage with Conductor Aspinall and the Symphony. Armstrong is an up-and-coming solo violinist who has experience serving as concertmaster.

WHEN: The concert will take place on September 22, 23 and 24. On September 22/23 the concert time is 8:00pm. On September 24, the concert time is 3:00pm.

National Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

"As part of the First Coast Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, we are delighted to participate in this celebration," says Robert Massey, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Jacksonville Symphony.

WHERE: Jacoby Symphony Hall, the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.

SPONSORS: This concert is part of the Fidelity National Financial Pops Series.

TICKETS: Tickets are available at JaxSymphony.org, by calling the Ticket Office at 904.354.5547 or by visiting the Times-Union Center Ticket Office Monday thru Friday between 10am and 4pm.

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The Jacksonville Symphony is North Florida's leading music nonprofit offering live performances at Jacoby Hall in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts and other venues throughout the area. In addition, the Symphony provides music instruction for youth and operates the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra. For more information about the Symphony, visit JaxSymphony.org, like

them at facebook.com/JaxSymphony, follow them on @jaxsymphony, on Instagram at JaxSymphony and on YouTube at JacksonvilleSymphony.