

Contact:
Bess Wallerstein Huff, Director of Marketing
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
(816) 994-7229 | bwh@kauffmancenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 2, 2018

**PIANIST GEORGE WINSTON RETURNING TO KAUFFMAN CENTER
AS PART OF THE 2018-2019 KAUFFMAN CENTER PRESENTS SEASON**

One of the most recognized solo pianists in the world will perform on Dec. 12 in Helzberg Hall

Kansas City, MO - The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts announced today that pianist George Winston will perform at the Kauffman Center on December 12 in Helzberg Hall, returning after his successful engagement in 2016. This event is part of the 2018-2019 *Kauffman Center Presents* series and is presented in partnership with Nitelite Promotions.

Inspired by the seasons and topographies, Winston's concerts feature a variety of styles including melodic folk piano, New Orleans R&B piano, and stride piano. For his concerts, Winston performs songs from his seasonal favorites *AUTUMN*, *DECEMBER*, *WINTER INTO SPRING*, and *SUMMER*, as well as Peanuts pieces from his Vince Guaraldi tribute albums *LINUS & LUCY – THE MUSIC OF VINCE GUARALDI* and *LOVE WILL COME-THE MUSIC OF VINCE GUARALDI, VOL. 2*. He has released 14 solo piano albums since 1972, including his latest album released in March 2017 titled *SPRING CAROUSEL – A CANCER RESEARCH BENEFIT*.

Tickets for this event range from \$27 to \$57 plus applicable fees and go on sale to the public at 10 a.m. Friday, April 13. Tickets will be available through the Kauffman Center Box Office at (816) 994-7222, via the Kauffman Center mobile app, or online at www.kauffmancenter.org.

ABOUT GEORGE WINSTON

George Winston brings his stunning brand of solo piano to audiences of all ages. Winston grew up mainly in Montana, spending his later formative years in Mississippi and Florida. His musical influences from instrumental rock and instrumental R&B include Floyd Cramer, the Ventures, Booker T & the MG's, Jimmy Smith, and many more. Inspired by R&B, jazz, blues and rock, especially The Doors, Winston began playing organ in 1967. In 1971, he switched to the acoustic piano after hearing recordings from the 1920s and the 1930s by the legendary stride pianists Thomas "Fats" Waller and Teddy Wilson. In addition to working on stride piano, Winston also came up with his own style of melodic instrumental music on solo piano, called folk piano. His main influences currently are the New Orleans R&B pianists Professor Longhair, James Booker and Henry Butler.

Since 1986, Winston has been raising money for food banks and service organizations in every community he visits while on tour. Attendees of his Kauffman Center performance are invited to support a local food bank by bringing a donation of canned food to the concert. There will be collection baskets at the entrances.

Learn more about George Winston on his [website](#).

[Download George Winston's press photo here.](#)

KAUFFMAN CENTER PRESENTS SERIES SCHEDULE*

The *Kauffman Center Presents* series features extraordinary and diverse artists from a variety of musical genres and performance styles. Upcoming events include:

2017-2018 Kauffman Center Presents events:

- Tuesday, May 1 – *National Geographic Live: NASA Astronaut Terry Virts – View from Above* – 7:30 p.m. May 1, Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Sunday, May 13 – *Alan Cumming: Legal Immigrant* – 7 p.m., Helzberg Hall
- Tuesday, June 5 – *National Geographic Live: Photographer/Filmmaker & Writer Pete McBride & Kevin Fedarko – Between River and Rim* – 7:30 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Thursday, June 7 – David Byrne: *American Utopia Tour* – 7:30 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Saturday, June 16 – Diana Krall: *Turn Up The Quiet World Tour 2018* – 7:30 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Friday, June 22 – Penn & Teller – 7:30 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre

2018-2019 Kauffman Center Presents events:

- Sunday, July 1 – *Red, White and Bluegrass: Lee Greenwood and Dailey & Vincent* – 7 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Monday, August 6 – *A Paranormal Evening with Alice Cooper* – 7:30 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Sunday, August 19 – *Happy Together Tour 2018* – 7 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Sunday, September 9 – Punch Brothers – 7 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Wednesday, October 3 – Black Violin – 7:30 p.m., Muriel Kauffman Theatre
- Wednesday, October 24 – Chanticleer – 7 p.m., Helzberg Hall
- Wednesday, December 12 – George Winston – 7:00 p.m., Helzberg Hall

*Events announced to date. Additional performances will be announced throughout the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 seasons. Updates are available at www.kauffmancenter.org/events-tickets/kauffman-center-presents/.

ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts – a major not-for-profit center for music, opera, theater and dance designed by Moshe Safdie – opened in 2011. Serving as a cultural cornerstone for Kansas City and the region, the Kauffman Center delivers extraordinary and diverse performing arts experiences. Honored as one of the World’s 15 Most Beautiful Concert Halls, the Kauffman Center attracts some of the world’s most renowned performers and entertainers.

Through educational outreach programs and community enrichment, the Kauffman Center supports Kansas City as a cultural destination. More information on the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is available at kauffmancenter.org.

Thanks to Kauffman Center Presents series sponsors for their generous support of the 2017-2018 season: Saint Luke’s Health System, PNC Bank, and Aristocrat Motors and Mercedes-Benz of Kansas City.

Visit the Kauffman Center’s online press room for media resources, multimedia library, press release archive and more: kauffmancenter.org/about/press-room/

Follow the Kauffman Center on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to get details about upcoming performances and behind-the-scenes access.

