

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **New Gift from Thunderbirds Charities Allows The Phoenix Symphony to Expand Successful Educational Outreach Program**

PHOENIX (March 3, 2020) —The Phoenix Symphony is proud to announce a recent \$15,000 grant initiative from Thunderbirds Charities – the hosts of the Waste Management Phoenix Open – towards their Mind Over Music™ program. This generous gift from Thunderbirds Charities exemplifies their mission to assist children and families and improve the quality of life in the State of Arizona. The funds from this gift will enable The Phoenix Symphony to reach additional students and schools by bringing music concepts to classrooms paired alongside Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

Mind Over Music™ is an educational forerunner and one of the first programs of its kind in the country. Recognized nationally by publications such as Forbes Magazine, Mind Over Music™ is a groundbreaking collaboration with symphony musicians and teachers to integrate musical concept and theories into lesson plans teaching STEM concepts.

Curriculum created in this unique collaboration between Phoenix Symphony musicians and Arizona teachers enriches the learning and development of local students, as well as producing tangible evidence of increases in retention, logic, and aptitude of students.

### **About The Phoenix Symphony**

The Phoenix Symphony is Arizona’s largest performing arts organization presenting classical and pops concerts at Symphony Hall in downtown Phoenix as well as concerts in Scottsdale, Mesa and throughout central Arizona from September through the beginning of early June. Founded in 1947, The Symphony provides unparalleled civic value to the community by performing for more than 125,000 students and children annually as well as touching the lives of tens of thousands of adults through its health and wellness programs, including the nationally acclaimed Alzheimer’s Research Initiative through the B-Sharp Music Wellness, A W.O.N.D.E.R Project. For more information, visit [phoenixsymphony.org](http://phoenixsymphony.org)

### **About The Thunderbirds/Thunderbirds Charities**

Thunderbirds Charities is a non-profit organization formed in 1986 to distribute monies raised through the Waste Management Phoenix. The Thunderbirds Charities Board consists of 15 board members from varying professional backgrounds. The mission of Thunderbirds Charities is to assist children and families, help people in need and improve the quality of life in our communities. The organization’s giving is directed toward organizations based or with a significant presence in Arizona. The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. The Thunderbirds consist of 55 “active” members and more than 285 “life” members. For more information on the Thunderbirds or the 2021 Waste Management Phoenix Open, visit [www.wmphoenixopen.com](http://www.wmphoenixopen.com). For more information on the Thunderbirds Charities, visit [www.thunderbirdscharities.org](http://www.thunderbirdscharities.org).

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