



Whittier Union HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

To Achieve and Maintain Excellence...

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 1, 2019 **CONTACT:** Juliette Funes, William Diepenbrock **PHONE:** 909-445-1001

LA Philharmonic Performs Free Concert at Historic Whittier High School Auditorium

WHITTIER – Whittier High School’s historic Vic Lopez Auditorium transformed into a dazzling Hollywood-inspired concert hall when the [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) staged a one night-only, showstopping performance for over 2,000 students and members of the community on Sept. 27.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn partnered with Whittier Union and the Whittier Chamber of Commerce to bring the orchestra to Whittier for a free community concert. The Philharmonic was led by Associate Conductor Paolo Bortolameolli; the concert featured works by Beethoven, Duke Ellington, Aldemaro Romero and Leonard Bernstein, plus an LA Phil-commissioned work by Paul Desenne.

“We are honored to partner with Supervisor Hahn to bring this classical performance group to the Whittier community,” Superintendent Martin Plourde said. “To have Whittier High School serve as the hub for such esteemed entertainment as the Philharmonic is an honor for our school district and provides our student musicians the opportunity of a lifetime to listen to and learn from a world-class ensemble.”

The event – attended by the Whittier Union Board of Trustees, local dignitaries and elected officials – included a special demonstration of the auditorium’s newly restored 1926 Wurlitzer theater organ, which was donated to the school in 2016 by the Whittier High School Alumni Association and dedicated in 2018 during an installation celebration.

The performance was part of the Philharmonic’s free Neighborhood Concerts series across Los Angeles County. Other performances were held at Cal State Los Angeles and Morningside High School in Inglewood.

PHOTO CAPTION

100119_WUHS_D_PHILHARMONIC: Over 2,000 Whittier Union students and community members packed into Whittier High School’s Vic Lopez Auditorium, where the Los Angeles Philharmonic performed a free Neighborhood Concert on Sept. 27. Pictured are Whittier Union Superintendent Martin Plourde and performing arts students from California High School.

OUR MISSION:

The Whittier Union High School District provides all students with an engaging, quality standards-based instructional program delivered by a well-trained staff resulting in improved student achievement. Whittier Union High School District works to achieve and maintain excellence in providing a comprehensive education for all students.

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