



PROCLAMATION



Celebrating Linc Smelser Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra Conductor

In celebration of the exceptional achievements and dedication of Mr. Linc Smelser, it is with great pride that we acknowledge his musical journey.

WHEREAS, in 2003, Mr. Smelser was appointed as the conductor and music director of the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra in DeKalb, Illinois, embarking on a transformative journey with the orchestra that has continued for two decades. His remarkable leadership led to a well-deserved recognition in 2009 when he was awarded Conductor of the Year by the Illinois Arts Council.

WHEREAS, in addition to the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Smelser is the conductor and music director of area youth orchestras: NIU Symphonette, NIU Sinfonia, and the Rockford Symphony Youth Orchestra, nurturing the talents of young musicians and fostering their love of symphonic music.

WHEREAS, in recognition of his invaluable role in music education, Mr. Smelser has been enriching the lives of student cellists and pianists through private lessons offered by the NIU Community School of the Arts since 1988. And his dedication to education extends across the Midwest as a faculty member of both the Chicago Suzuki Institute and the American Suzuki Institute.

WHEREAS, Mr. Smelser's virtuosity as a cellist has graced numerous stages, where he has appeared as a soloist with Camerata Chicago, the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra, the NIU Philharmonic, and the Rockford Symphony Orchestra.

WHEREAS, Mr. Smelser's dedication to the Chicago music scene is further exemplified by his membership in the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra cello section since 1992. And where he has also been an active substitute with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra since 1997, amassing a wealth of experience, including embarking on his 12th international tour with the symphony.

WHEREAS, the City of DeKalb commends Mr. Linc Smelser for his unwavering commitment to music, education, and the enrichment of our community's cultural tapestry. It is with great anticipation and heartfelt appreciation that we propose a special proclamation in honor of Mr. Smelser on May 4, 2024, coinciding with the last concert of the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra's 47th season.

THEREFORE, this proclamation seeks to recognize the profound impact of his musical contributions on our community and to express our gratitude for his tireless efforts in the world of music and education.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of DeKalb to be affixed this 22nd day of April 2024.




Cohen Barnes, Mayor