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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Shreveport Symphony Orchestra Announces The Painted Violins Project

The Shreveport Symphony Orchestra (SSO) announces *The Painted Violins Project*, a yearlong project that will kick off on Saturday, September 20 at 6 PM in the RiverView Hall. The unveiling party is a festive start for the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra's Willis-Knighton Masterworks Series Season and will be held right before *Opening Night: Violin Spectacular*. Tickets to the party are \$25 for non-subscribers and free to season subscribers.

This effort is spearheaded by Jennifer Carsillo Buttermann (Painted Violins Co-Chair & Musician) and Marian Dehan (Painted Violins Co-Chair & Manager/Outreach at The Oaks of Louisiana). When asked about the project Jennifer responded; "I am truly excited about involving the community in this fun and colorful project that keeps music and art at the heart of our fundraising efforts for the Shreveport Symphony. I have wanted to implement The Painted Violins Project for a long time now, but the stars have finally aligned--this season the symphony is opening and closing with violin soloists, and we have a new concertmaster who will be featured in several orchestral solos this year, so this will be a particularly auspicious time for violins and visual art to combine."

The activities of the Painted Violins Tour is being supported by the efforts of the Shreveport Symphony Guild. The Guild will be conducting their Shopping Card Event October 16-25 and many of their Sponsors will serve as locations for the Painted Violins tour.

The Shreveport Symphony invited 17 regional artists to paint or collage a violin that would then be raffled or auctioned. Each violin tells a different story and is a unique vision of the artist. Raffle tickets are \$5 and will be available for purchase during the tour stops or at the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra Office (616 Jordan St.) Monday-Friday from 9-5 PM. Three of the violins will be reserved for an auction that will occur during the Symphony's annual gala event.

Proceeds will support the musical and educational mission of the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra allowing us to expand our impact on the community.

The violins will be on tour throughout the year, below is a list of Fall & Winter locations:

- Saturday, September 20: RiverView Hall, 6-7:30 PM (\$25 entrance fee)
- Friday, September 26: Lee Michaels, 4-7 PM (free event)
- Tuesday, October 7: Willis-Knighton Piermont Hospital Lobby, 4-6 PM (free event)
- Thursday, October 23: Moffitt Automotive, 5-7 PM (free event)
- Thursday, November 6: Pendley Piano, 5-7 PM (free event)
- Tuesday, November 18: Willis-Knighton Bossier Hospital Atrium, 4-6 PM (free event)
- Friday, December 12: Prevot Designs/601 Spring Event Center, 5-7 PM (free event)

Participating artists include:

- Joshua Chambers
- Woodrow Evans
- Karen Harrington
- Mary Virginia Hill
- Talbot Hopkins
- William Joyce
- James King
- Andrew Stovesand
- Vanessa Ortiz
- Stephen Miller
- Lynn Laird
- Catherine Nelson
- Francis O'Callaghan
- Martinis Stephens
- Jordan Evans
- Jade Kerouac
- Neil Johnson

For more information about the project or SSO, please visit our website at www.shreveportsymphony.com. To host a violin tour, please contact Leigh Anne Chambers, Director of Patron Advancement, at 318-222-7496 or lchambers@shreveportsymphony.com.