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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### AMERICAN EVOLUTION FANFARE TO DEMOCRACY FREE CONCERT COMMEMORATES 400 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY

*Enjoy an evening of music with family, friends and food trucks July 30 at Historic Jamestowne*

Jamestown, Va. July 18, 2019 – Virginia’s [2019 Commemoration, American Evolution](#) invites the public to come enjoy a one-time-only performance the [American Evolution Fanfare to Democracy Concert](#) featuring the [Richmond Symphony](#) on July 30 at 8 p.m at Historic Jamestowne at Jamestown Island. The concert is free and open to the public and is presented by Riverside Health System with support from Colonial National Historical Park, Jamestown Rediscovery and Preservation Virginia. Food trucks will be on site, exclusive “America: Made in Virginia” merchandise will be available for purchase, and guests are encouraged to bring their own small camping chairs, blankets, family and friends to enjoy the concert.

The concert is a part of the [400th anniversary of the meeting of the first assembly](#) that took place from July 30 through August 4, 1619, and was comprised of two male settlers representing each of the 11 major settlement areas in Virginia. Governor Sir George Yeardley presided over the first convening of this new form of government in the church in Jamestown, VA, forming the basis of today’s representative system of government in the United States of America.

“We are pleased to invite everyone in Virginia to join us for the American Evolution Fanfare to Democracy Concert featuring the Richmond Symphony,” said Kathy Spangler, Executive Director of the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution. “Come one, come all and share in this ode to American democracy in Jamestown, the birthplace of representative democracy in America.”

In honor of the 400th anniversary of American democracy, the concert will feature works that evoke the spirit of American democracy, including pieces from revered American composers such as Charles Ives and Duke Ellington, as well as contemporary legends such as John Williams, who has received more Academy Award nominations than any other living person.

“The Richmond Symphony is grateful to be presenting the July 30 Fanfare To Democracy Concert and to partner with American Evolution,” says Richmond Symphony Executive Director David J.L. Fisk.

“Conductor Mark Russell Smith has created an extraordinary program of music that showcases American

composers and celebrates the spirit of American democracy. It will be a memorable performance in the extraordinarily special setting of Jamestown Island. We thank the 2019 Commemoration for the opportunity to bring people together through the power of music.”

No self-drive will be permitted to Jamestown Island for the American Evolution Fanfare to Democracy Concert. Complimentary Shuttle buses will transport concert attendees starting at 5 p.m. from two designated parking lots located at Jamestown Settlement (2110 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185) and the Neck-o-land satellite parking lot (1335 Colonial Parkway, Williamsburg, VA 23185.) For more information about the concert, including a list of prohibited items, visit [www.AmericanEvolution2019.com/event/fanfare-to-democracy-concert/](http://www.AmericanEvolution2019.com/event/fanfare-to-democracy-concert/)

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**NOTE TO EDITOR: PDF attached - American Evolution Fanfare to Democracy Concert.PDF**

#### **About the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution**

The 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution highlights events that occurred in Virginia in 1619 that continue to influence America today. Featured programs, events and legacy projects will position Virginia as a leader in education, tourism and economic development. American Evolution commemorates the ongoing journey toward the key ideals of democracy, diversity and opportunity. Dominion Energy is an American Evolution Founding Partner and Altria Group and TowneBank are Virginia Colony Partners.

#### **About the Richmond Symphony**

Founded in 1957, the Richmond Symphony is the largest performing arts organization in Central Virginia. The organization includes an orchestra of more than 70 professional musicians, the 150-voice Richmond Symphony Chorus and more than 260 students in the Richmond Symphony Youth Orchestra programs. Each season, more than 200,000 members of the community enjoy live concerts and radio broadcasts. The Richmond Symphony is partially funded by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.