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CONTACT: Amy Demuth, RAD Strategies Inc.
media@radstrategiesinc.com / 775-323-6333

CLASSIX FIVE CELEBRATES YOUNG TALENT IN MUSIC

Reno Phil Classix Five Performances March 20 and 22, 2016

RENO, Nev. (March 7, 2016)—Highly celebrated young Davidson Fellow Laureate, Ray Ushikubo performs with the Reno Philharmonic during the **Classix Five concert set, March 20 and 22, 2016** at the Pioneer Center for Performing Arts in Reno, Nevada. Also featured are the talented young musicians of the Youth Symphony Orchestra who will play side-by-side with the Reno Phil musicians during the performance of Stravinsky's *The Firebird: Suite (1919 version)*.

Ushikubo, 14, is an accomplished pianist and maintains a musical resumé well beyond his years. At his young age, he has already performed at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Concert Hall in New York City, as well as appeared on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno. Ushikubo made his featured soloist debut at age 10 at the Young Musicians' Foundation Gala concert in Los Angeles. His many awards and recognition include a \$50,000 Davidson Fellows scholarship awarded by the Davidson Institute for Talent Development for his music project, "Circle of Life in Music." The Davidson Institute, a sponsor in this concert set, is a national non-profit organization based in Reno, Nevada, whose mission is to support profoundly gifted young people. Each Classix season, the Reno Phil features a Davidson Fellow to highlight young talent as a part of the Reno Phil's goal to support youth arts education.

"We are truly lucky to have such amazingly talented young artists perform with us," Laura Jackson, music director and conductor, said. "Grieg's *Piano Concerto* is a beautifully strong piece to showcase Ray's capacity, and *The Firebird Suite* will be magnificent with our gifted Youth Symphony musicians adding to the excitement."

The Classix Five program also includes Mussorgsky's *Night of Bald Mountain*, Grieg's *Piano Concerto in A Minor, op. 16*, and Ravel's *Mother Goose- Five Children's Pieces: Suite*.

Performances are Sunday, March 20 at 4 p.m. and Tuesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts. Pre-concert talks take place March 20 at 3 p.m. and March 22 at 7 p.m. The preview provides attendees a background and historical context to the music to be performed.

Tickets are available online at RENOPHIL.COM or by calling 775-323-6393.

About the Reno Phil

The [Reno Phil](http://RENOPHIL.COM) is northern Nevada's largest performing arts organization. In its 47th season, the orchestra, led by music director Laura Jackson, is comprised of more than 80 professional musicians who perform more than 30 concerts annually throughout the Reno-Tahoe region. Musicians of the professional orchestra, youth orchestras, various ensembles and education programs offer more than 60

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performances each year, playing to more than 50,000 people. The flagship of the Reno Phil is its concert series offering six classic music series, *Classix*, performed on Sunday afternoons and Tuesday evenings at the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts. To learn more about the Reno Philharmonic and its events, and to discover all that the Reno Phil has to offer, visit RENOPHIL.COM.

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