



February 1, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Save the Date for the *Festival of the River: Three Days of Music, Art and Environment Under the Big Tent and on Brown's Island June 8-10, 2018***

**(February 1, 2018 – Richmond, Virginia)** A unique coalition including The City of Richmond, Venture Richmond, the Richmond Symphony, VCU Institute for Contemporary Art, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, 1708 Gallery, James River Association, Capital Region Collaborative and other partners announces a special three-day event, *The Festival of the River*, which will take place on Brown's Island June 8-10, 2018. This one-time festival will showcase the very best of the James River, Chesapeake Bay and the Richmond Region. Festival highlights will include contemporary art installations, performances under the Symphony's "Big Tent," cleanups along and around the River and family-friendly environmental education activities including Back to the Bay in celebration of Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week.

The Festival planning committee includes over 30 partner organizations in addition to those listed above (see a full list below).

The current general schedule of activities is as follows:

**Friday, June 8, 2018:**

- Friday Cheers with soon-to-be announced guest artists in performances with the Richmond Symphony
- Special Lighting Installation from 1708 Gallery

**Saturday, June 9, 2018:**

- Morning activities including region wide cleanups along the James River and Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay presents Back to the Bay, family-friendly and educational activities in celebration of Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week
- Performances by contemporary artists are presented as part of the Institute for Contemporary Art's opening exhibition Declaration, in collaboration with the Richmond Symphony and Sound Arts Richmond
- Performances under the "Big Tent" throughout the day including a concert by the Richmond Symphony

- Day Two of Lighting Installation

**Sunday, June 10, 2018:**

- All are invited to a daytime picnic to create a 'Richmond Community Member Quilt' on Brown's Island
- Family concert by the Richmond Symphony

**Other activities and artists to be announced. Stay Tuned!**

**Current *Festival of the River* Partners Include:**

1708 Gallery  
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay  
American Civil War Museum  
Art on Wheels  
BridgePark  
Capital Region Collaborative  
City of Richmond – Department of Public Utilities  
City of Richmond – Department of Public Works  
City of Richmond – Public Art Commission  
Chesapeake Bay Commission  
Children's Museum of Richmond  
James River Advisory Council  
James River Outdoor Coalition  
James River Parks System  
Junior League of Richmond  
Keep Virginia Beautiful  
Pamunkey Indian Museum and Cultural Center  
Richmond Region Tourism  
Richmond Riverfront Plan  
Richmond Symphony  
Sound Arts Richmond  
Studio Two Three  
The Valentine  
Venture Richmond  
Virginia Canals and Navigation Society  
VCU – Department of Dance  
VCU– Institute for Contemporary Art  
VCU– Life Sciences Outreach  
Virginia Conservation Network  
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
WCVE

# # #

Contacts:

Erin Frye  
Marketing and PR Manager  
p. 804.788.4717 ext. 121  
e. [efrye@richmondsymphony.com](mailto:efrye@richmondsymphony.com)

Scott Dodson  
Director of Advancement and Patron Communications  
p. 804.788.4717 ext. 120  
e. [sdodson@richmondsymphony.com](mailto:sdodson@richmondsymphony.com)