

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **TBSO Announces Free Concert in Support of RFDA**

**THUNDER BAY, ON** — On Friday, the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra and the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium announced a free concert in support of the RFDA.

The Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra will be presenting a dazzling by donation concert titled Bhangra and Beyond at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. With the donation of a non-perishable food item, individuals will receive a free ticket to the November 24th concert.

As we head into the holiday season, giving becomes a priority in all of our lives. The TBSO recognizes that there is a significant need for food related support in our community so have partnered with the TBCA to help the RFDA provide that support. TBSO Board Chair, Andrea Sears said, "As a live performing arts organization, our mandate is to enrich the lives of everyone in our community so we are constantly striving to be actively engaged with as many people as we possibly can be. Creating ways to make programming accessible is a top priority for us. This is a really fun way for us to be able to offer support to our local food bank and give everyone in our community the opportunity to come see a great show."

Trevor Hurtig, General Manager of the TBCA said, "When the TBSO approached us with this idea, we immediately said yes. It's a great way to give back and we are more than happy to support our community as we head into the holidays."

All purchased tickets remain valid for this event. If you have tickets and would like the money paid to continue to go toward the cost of this show the TBSO expresses their gratitude for your support. However, if you choose, you may redeem your stubs from the concert for flex coupons that you can exchange for tickets for an upcoming show at an equal or lesser value later in the season - subject to availability.

"Fighting hunger is really a collective effort. The RFDA isn't on an island. We are so proud and grateful to have the symphony and its wonderful patrons to be in this fight with us. Both food and

music have the ability to heal, and to bring people together. Events like this truly show how powerful community can be," said Volker Kromm, Executive Director, RFDA.

The RFDA's work provides \$4.5 million worth of food each year to 5,500 households across the region, including 281 household deliveries to those with mobility and health issues each month, in addition to serving over 20,000 meals in their soup kitchen each month.

"We're thinking of it as a random act of kindness," says TBSO General Manager, Ryleigh Dupuis. "This concert was conceived as part of our regular schedule but it seemed like the perfect show to introduce people to how fun a night at the symphony can be so we decided to share it out to as many people as possible."

With the familiar face of Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, former TBSO Resident Conductor, at the Podium conducting a program featuring high energy music and incredible performers, this promises to be a fun night of music and dance celebrating and supporting community.

Donations can be dropped off in exchange for tickets at Memorial Home Hardware throughout the week beginning Saturday at the Santa Claus Parade Saturday November 18th, at the RFDA distribution centre throughout the week, or on the day of the show at the TBCA beginning at 4pm right up until show time.

This concert takes place Friday, November 24th at 7:30pm at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium.

For more information contact: Ryleigh Dupuis Executive Director and General Manager, TBSO 807-633-4258 / ryleighdupuis@tbso.ca