



From left to right : Martin Carrier, Madeleine Careau, Caroline Montminy, Kent Nagano, Patricia Châteauneuf, Sandy Vassiadis, Alain Côté, Clara Pelletier, Frédéric Béland, Érika Duchesne et Patrice Bélanger.

**FOURTH EDITION OF THE BAL DES ENFANTS**  
**\$176,000 raised for the OSM's educational mission!**  
**Close to 1000 children attended the event**

Montréal, March 25, 2017 – On the theme *What Is Maestro Puss-in-Boots Up To?*, the fourth edition of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal's **Bal des enfants** once again enjoyed a huge success. The benefit event made it possible to raise **\$176,000** net, an amount the OSM is proud to be able to devote to its mission of education and accessibility.

**Generous donors**

In addition to generating funds in support of the OSM'S mission of education and accessibility, the **Bal des enfants** encourages businesses and donors to sponsor a cause close to their hearts by inviting children and their families to enjoy the event free of charge. This year, **37 corporate donors allowed** the OSM to welcome at no cost **538 guests from 24 organizations** such as Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Montréal, La Tablée des Chefs, Une école montréalaise pour tous, La musique aux enfants and Regroupement Partage, to name just these few, all of them dedicated to the cause of young people.

I've conducted many balls all around the world, but just one devoted to children, the OSM Bal des enfants. And it's a source of great pride to me. **Kent Nagano**

### **What Is Maestro Puss-in-Boots Up To?**

This theatrical concert, directed by **Charles Dauphinais** and scripted by **Elisabeth Sirois**, combined theatre and musician in a program designed especially for the young audience (aged five and up). It included great works from the orchestral repertoire along with contemporary pieces, all performed by the musicians of the OSM under the direction of **Kent Nagano**. The show was preceded by entertainment and a snack in the lobbies of Maison symphonique, and concluded with the artists taking part in an autograph session. The plot, inspired by Charles Perreault's tale, came to life via the acting of **Didier Lucien** as the comical Maestro Puss-in-Boots, **Marc St-Martin** in the role of the young Miller, **Marianne Fortier** as the Princess, **Antoine Vézina** playing the King and baritone **Geoffroy Salvat** as the Ogre.

### **A pampered intergenerational audience!**

Under the honorary presidency of Patricia Châteauneuf, director of national multiplatform sales and customer innovation at CBC & Radio-Canada Media Solutions, and Sandy Vassiadis, vice-president, corporate communications, at Saputo Inc., *What Is Maestro Puss-in-Boots Up To?* visibly delighted the children, parents and grandparents invited to this grand celebration conceived with kids of all ages in mind. **In total, close to 1,000 children**, many of them at their first orchestral experience, attended the event under the honorary patronage of actor Patrice Bélanger, OSM youth concerts ambassador.

As OSM youth concerts ambassador, it gives me great pleasure to be sponsoring today's benefit event. Because the OSM truly cares about providing children and teenagers with opportunities to discover and enjoy classical music. **Patrice Bélanger**

### **Education and accessibility: a flagship mission of the OSM's**

Since 2014, funds raised as part of the **Bal des enfants** have been judiciously invested in projects that embody the OSM's mission of education and accessibility. That way, each year the Orchestra can offer a host of activities involving an introduction to classical music and a fine selection of free events:

#### Introduction

- 14 OSM Youth Concerts per season, for over 20,000 youngsters
- More than 240 sessions of introduction to classical music in primary schools
- Six teaching guides for schools: four concert guides and two general guides (for primary and secondary students)
- Workshops with OSM musicians in a school setting
- Production of teaching tools for the section of the website devoted to education
- Partnerships with schools having a musical orientation

#### Accessibility

- 30 concerts starting at \$10 for the OSM Classical Spree Festival
- Webcasting of certain concerts
- 20 preconcert talks during the regular season
- Free concerts in metropolitan-area parks
- And numerous other activities

[www.baldesenfants.osm.ca](http://www.baldesenfants.osm.ca)

### **Indispensable partnerships for the OSM**

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal wishes to thank the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and Ville de Montréal for their generous support.

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by Hydro-Québec.

BMO Financial Group is partner of the 2016-2017 season.

Air Canada is official carrier of the OSM.

### **Customer service**

Consult the details of the OSM's 83<sup>rd</sup> season and reserve your tickets online at [osm.ca](http://osm.ca)  
or by getting in touch with OSM customer service at **514 842-9951**.

### **A special place for the young**

34 and under: Special rates in dedicated sections  
17 and under: 30% reduction on individual tickets  
Students 18-25: \$25/ticket (certain conditions apply)

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