

FIFTH EDITION OF THE BAL DES ENFANTS
\$177,000 raised for the OSM's educational mission!



Top row: Karin Nagano, Marie-Louise Delisle, Committee member, Danièle Henkel, the Ambassador, and her spouse, Louis-Simon Ménard, Honorary co-chair, Maestro Kent Nagano, Eve Miron, Honorary co-chair, Caroline Montminy, François Pintal, Annie Paré, and Frédéric Béland, Committee members. *Bottom row:* Mari Kodama, Marie-Pier Germain, Honorary co-chair, Patrice Bélanger, Spokesperson, Madeleine Careau, Chief Executive Officer of the OSM

Montréal, March 19, 2018 – On the theme ***Little Red Riding Hood***, the fifth 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 **\$177,000** 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, **49 corporate donors allowed** the OSM to welcome at no cost more than **500 guests from 25 organizations** such as The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation, The Foundation Charles-Bruneau, La musique aux enfants, La Maison d'Haiti and CHU Ste-Justine, to name just these few, all of them dedicated to the cause of young people.

There is nothing quite as special as a child's fantasy. It is something so animated, fresh and devoid of cynicism. We feel fortunate every year during our Bal des enfants to have the opportunity to stimulate and free the imagination of children. It is an event we are proud to call an OSM tradition. - Kent Nagano

Little Red Riding Hood

This theatrical concert, directed by **Charles Dauphinais**, assisted by **Carol Clément** and scripted by **Elisabeth Sirois**, combined theatre and music in a program designed especially for the young audience (ages five and up). It included great works from the orchestral repertoire as well as contemporary pieces, all performed by the musicians of the OSM along with **Rashaan Allwood** (organist, laureate of the 2016 OSM Manulife Competition), under the direction of **Kent Nagano**. The show was preceded by entertainment and a snack in the lobbies of Maison symphonique, and was concluded with the artists taking part in an autograph session.

In the role of Little Red Riding Hood, the young actress **Alexandra Sicard**, surrounded by **Louise Turcot** (Grandmother), **Martine Francke** (Mother and Owl) and baritone **Dominique Côté** (Wolf). To symbolize the forest

and its mysteries, nothing else than four dancers: **Miranda Chan, Jessica Dupont-Roux, Alexandre Leblanc and Marie-Maxime Ross**, carried by the lighting design of **Nicolas Ricard**.

A pampered intergenerational audience!

Little Red Riding Hood 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, for which the actor Patrice Bélanger, OSM youth concerts ambassador, acted as spokesperson. The success of the event was also assured through the presence of the Ambassador, Danièle Henkel, Founder and President of Daniele Henkel Inc. and the honorary co-chairs, Marie-Pier Germain, Operations Director of Groupe Germain Hôtels, Louis-Simon Ménard, President, CEO & Executive producer of Digital Dimension and Eve Miron, Merchandising Director, Home Decor of Bouclair.

Giving children and young people from different backgrounds a first glimpse into the world of classical music, is a wonderful idea of the OSM. It gives me great pleasure, as the OSM Youth Ambassador, to be the spokesperson of this fundraising event today.

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

- Around 15 OSM youth concerts per season, for over 20,000 children and teenagers
- About 250 workshops of introduction to classical music in primary schools
- Teaching guides for schools, among which concert guides and general guides for primary and secondary students
- Production of learning resources for the Education section of the OSM website
- Partnerships with elementary schools, high schools with a musical orientation as well as universities

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

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, OSM Season Partner.

Customer service

Consult the details of the OSM's 84th season and reserve your tickets online at osm.ca or by getting in touch with OSM customer service at **514 842-9951**.

Youth at the OSM

34 and under: Special rates in dedicated sections

17 and under: 30% reduction on individual tickets or 50% on subscriptions.

\$10/ticket for Express Series concerts

Students: \$25/ticket (certain conditions apply)

MEDIA RELATIONS