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## Sarasota Concert Association Presents The Sofia Philharmonic on January 15

**Sarasota, FL (November 18, 2023)** – Praised as “Bulgaria’s most illustrious musical institution” by Gramophone Magazine, the acclaimed **Sofia Philharmonic** makes its Sarasota debut to open the Sarasota Concert Association’s Great Performers Series on **Monday, January 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.**

The **Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra** is the national orchestra of Bulgaria and has long established itself as one of the leading cultural institutions, representative of the overall contemporary musical culture of the country. The orchestra’s high artistic achievements have attracted collaborations with many esteemed conductors. The repertoire of the Sofia Philharmonic comprises works from the entire historically available range of music – from classical to contemporary, including premiere performances of numerous works by Bulgarian composers.

Since 2017, **Nayden Todorov** has been the general director of the Sofia Philharmonic and will lead the orchestra in an **All-Beethoven program** includes the composer’s *Egmont* Overture and Symphony No. 7 as well as Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 5, *Emperor*, featuring the extraordinary 16-year-old Bulgarian pianist **Ivaylo Vassilev**, who has earned an impressive collection of more than 30 prizes from international competitions from around the world.

**Single tickets** start at \$30 and can be purchased online at **SCAsarasota.org**, or through the box office at **(941) 966-6161**. The box office is open Monday through Friday, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. **Full 5-concert subscriptions as well as 3-concert Choose your own subscriptions** and **group discounts** for groups of 10 or more are available by calling (941) 966-6161.

### About the Sarasota Concert Association

The Sarasota Concert Association (SCA) is a nonprofit organization that fosters greater appreciation for world-class classical music by offering the community two engaging concert series. The Great Performers Series, in its 79th season, brings world-renowned orchestras, recitalists and chamber groups, Music Matinees feature outstanding regional artists in free community concerts, and Special Events are

presented in venues throughout the region. For more information about SCA, visit [www.scasarasota.org](http://www.scasarasota.org) or call the Box Office at 941-966-6161.

**Photos courtesy of the artists, attached.** Please contact [Linda@scasarasota.org](mailto:Linda@scasarasota.org) for additional concert information, full biographies, or photos.

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