

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



## **VIRGINIA CELLO PRODIGY TO PERFORM AT THE SANDLER CENTER WITH BACH CELLO SUITES FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 23 IN A SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW OF NYC BOUND SHOW.**

*TICKETS ON SALE NOW EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH [YNOTTIX.COM](http://YNOTTIX.COM).*

**October 17, 2019 (Virginia Beach, Va.)** – Eddie Adams is a cello prodigy. Encountering the cello for the first time during seventh grade choir class, Eddie found the instrument that would help him defy the significant odds stacked against him. Despite a difficult home life, even being homeless at times, the cello became his lifeline. Eddie began playing the cello in high school, watching YouTube videos to help him learn. Later as high school neared an end his former high school orchestra teacher assisted with him applying to George Mason University. He was accepted academically but had to audition for the School of Music. In this audition, he played assigned excerpts from a Brahms's symphony. The committee was blown away and Eddie was accepted as the principal cellist in the school orchestra; however, at times he did not have enough money to buy college textbooks, food, or even rent a cello. Hearing about Eddie's dedication and challenges, one of his professor's private music students set up a GoFundMe campaign to benefit Eddie in place of receiving bar mitzvah gifts. That campaign reached its goal and then some when the [Washington Post](http://Washington Post) ran an article on the cellist. The campaign has since raised \$141,120!

The article caught the attention of the Bach Cello Suites Festival and after watching videos of his performances, they immediately contacted his professor. Eddie's talent and rich interpretations inspired them to invite him to join the group. The performance in Virginia Beach is not only an opportunity for Eddie to join the ensemble, but it is a special preview of the customizable mobile festival before it makes its full world premiere at Carnegie Hall in March of 2020. Cities like Chicago, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C. often get the privilege of hosting previews for world touring shows, but this time Virginia Beach was chosen, and it marks a first for Sandler Center! Join us on October 23 at 7 PM to witness Eddie Adams and 7 other spectacular performers.

Tickets can be purchased at [YnotTix.com](http://YnotTix.com), by calling 757-385-2787, or visiting the Sandler Center Box Office located at 201 Market Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23462. Tickets for this show are priced at \$50, \$40, and \$30. A military and group discount is available for this show. Along with a \$20 student and teacher tickets.

The Bach Cello Suites Festival is a dynamic and innovative experience of Bach's six suites for solo cellist. For cellists, playing all six is often seen as the 'Mount Everest' of the cello repertoire, but rarely are they performed by such a diverse collection of artists using a wide variety of approaches to the master's spectacular work. Three suites exemplify the beauty of traditional solo cello format, while three suites burst to life through innovative interpretations incorporating elements of dance, theater, jazz, or voice offering audiences a one-of-a-kind encounter with this timeless body of work. The Bach Cello Suites Festival begins with a traditional interpretation of a suite. You will also hear excerpts from Bach's personal letters read from the stage, illuminating the story of this magnificent music.

**Suite No. 4 in E flat major, BWV 1010** - classic interpretation

**Suite No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1008** - classic interpretation

**Suite No. 5 in C minor, BWV 1011** - cello and baroque dance reimagined

## Intermission

**Suite No. 1 in G major, BWV 1007** - the concert takes a theatrical turn as a humorous existential crisis of a cellist

**Suite No. 3 in C major, BWV 1009** - cello with voice and trombone

**Suite No. 6 in D major, BWV 1012** - virtuosic demands of this piece for 5 string cello, played on a 4 string antique instrument

### ABOUT THE ARTISTS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):

Cellist **Hannah Holman** grew up in a household of cellists, where the Bach Cello Suites were a part of everyday life. Today, Hannah performs on her grandmother's cello with the New York City Ballet; as the principal cellist of Quad City Symphony Orchestra; and in many solo and chamber engagements across the United States and globally. Hannah's recordings and jewelry made from cello strings are available at [www.HannahHolmanCello.com](http://www.HannahHolmanCello.com).

Cellist **Eddie Adams** taught himself to play the cello watching YouTube and eventually earned himself a full scholarship to George Mason University where he is now a student of Gerald Fowkes. Eddie is principal cellist of the Mason Symphony Orchestra and a winner of the MSO Concerto Competition. His journey from homelessness to being a university student is a testament to his passion, talent, and determination. Eddie loves playing Bach. Learn more about Eddie at [www.WashingtonPost.com](http://www.WashingtonPost.com).

Decades of touring led cellist **Stephanie Winters** to become passionate about leveraging the transformational power of music for positive change in the workplace. She now works in the realm of leadership, where she gives Listen Differently® workshops and keynotes, playing Bach and using movement to inspire people to go beyond their limitations and perform at their best. Learn more at [www.StephanieWinters.com](http://www.StephanieWinters.com).

**Julia Bengtsson** is a Swedish dancer and choreographer whose work ranges from silent film to performances at venues such as Alvin Ailey Dance Center, Lincoln Center, and Carnegie Hall. As a company member of the New York Baroque Dance Company, she enjoys the exploration of historical dance. Learn more at [www.JuliaBengtsson.com](http://www.JuliaBengtsson.com).

**Stephen Katz** is an award-winning cellist and composer whose theatrical style transcends the laws of classical cello playing by interweaving singing, narrative, and his innovative "Flying Pizzicato" cello strumming which informs his Bach performances. Find his recordings and internet-based cello lessons at [www.StephenKatzMusic.com](http://www.StephenKatzMusic.com).

Adventurous cellist, composer, and vocalist **Jody Redhage Ferber** performs genre-crossing chamber music and composes indie art songs. She first taught herself to sing and play simultaneously using Bach Chorales and began playing duo with her husband Alan Ferber by exploring Bach Inventions and Jazz Standards alike. Explore Jody's sound world at [www.JodyRedhage.com](http://www.JodyRedhage.com).

Three-time GRAMMY-nominated trombonist-composer-arranger **Alan Ferber** is one of the jazz world's premier artists. Jazz Times magazine describes Ferber's compositions as "inspired and meticulous". Alan says: "for me as a composer and improviser, I find endless inspiration in the challenge that Bach's mastery of counterpoint presents." Find Alan's big band sheet music and albums at [www.AlanFerber.com](http://www.AlanFerber.com).

GRAMMY Award-winning cellist **Sara Sant'Ambrogio** first performed solo Bach at Carnegie Hall at the age of 16 and has gone on to perform thousands of concerts on 6 continents as a soloist and with the Eroica Trio, recorded multiple award-winning solo and trio CDs, while never forgetting her first love, Johann Sebastian Bach. "Technically

formidable and intensely communicative,” Gramophone Magazine Sara’s recording of the six suites is available at [www.SaraSantAmbrogio.com](http://www.SaraSantAmbrogio.com).

**ABOUT THE GREAT PERFORMANCE SERIES:** The mission of the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts is to enrich the lives of residents and guests by providing great and diverse performances, experiences, and educational programs for the arts. The Great Performance Series (GPS) is a curated collection of culturally diverse, world-renowned performers that ignites creative exploration in the arts and enriches the cultural life of Coastal Virginia.

**ABOUT THE SANDLER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS:** The Sandler Center for the Performing Arts opened on Nov. 3, 2007. With 1,308 seats and a soaring glass façade, the building is located in the heart of Virginia Beach’s Town Center, a hub for cultural entertainment. With local and international talent visiting the Sandler Center, performances are perfect for audiences of all ages. Patrons will experience an intimate environment when visiting the Sandler Center, as no seat is further than 100 ft. from the stage. The Sandler Center is also home to various art installations. Learn more at [SandlerCenter.org](http://SandlerCenter.org).

**ABOUT SPECTRA:** Spectra is an industry leader in hosting and entertainment, partnering with clients to create memorable experiences for millions of visitors every year. Spectra’s unmatched blend of integrated services delivers incremental value for clients through several primary areas of expertise: Venue Management, Food Services & Hospitality, and Partnerships. Learn more at [SpectraExperiences.com](http://SpectraExperiences.com). Follow Spectra on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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