

January 18, 2018
Media Contact:
Savannah Whaley
Pierson Grant Public Relations
954.776.1999 ext. 225
Jan Goodheart, Broward Center
954.765.5814

BLACK VIOLIN BRINGS CLASSICAL BOOM TOUR TO THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

FORT LAUDERDALE – Classical music hits the street in a crackling performance by **Black Violin** in the Au-Rene Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts on **Thursday, January 25 at 8 p.m.** The concert is generously underwritten by Suzanne and Bernard Scharf.

The duo of Kev Marcus and Wil B, classically trained musicians from Fort Lauderdale, have created an entirely new sound, a “classical boom.” This distinctive combination of virtuosic string talent mixes with a driving beat, shattering stereotypes with electricity, energy and contagious enthusiasm.

Black Violin is currently writing and recording their next studio album, due out in 2018. The band’s most recent record, *Stereotypes*, debuted at no.1 on the *Billboard* Classical Crossover Chart and no. 4 on the *Billboard* R&B Chart. NPR praised the album and band, reporting “their music will keep classical music alive for the next generation.”

Black Violin has shared stages with top names including Kayne West, Aerosmith and Tom Petty and has creatively collaborated with the likes of Wu-Tang Clan, Wyclef Jean and Alicia Keys. The duo composed music for the television series *Pitch* which debuted on FOX in 2016, in addition to appearances on HBO’s *Ballers*, *The Tonight Show*, *Travis Smiley Show*, *The Wendy Williams Show* and *The Ellen Show*. After serving as the house band for the ESPN’s hosted 82nd Annual Heisman Memorial Trophy Presentation, the network selected Black Violin’s track “Stereotypes” to promote the 2017 U.S. Open.

In addition to their public concerts, Black Violin has performed for more than 100,000 students in the past 18 months throughout North America and Europe. The band is endorsed by Yamaha Music, and has partnered with the National Association for Music Manufacturers to continue their advocacy for accessible music education.

The duo has been named Turnaround Artists for Broward County and will be working students at Bethune, Lake Forest and Walker elementary schools. Broward County Public Schools is a partner in the Kennedy Center program and the Broward Center offers resources to support the initiative that aims to turn around low-performing schools, narrow the achievement gap, and increase student engagement through the arts.

Black Violin will perform a JM Family Enterprises Smart Stage Matinee at 11 a.m. on Thursday, January 25. In this shortened performance recommended for grades 5–12, Black Violin along with its DJ break all the rules to demonstrate to students that classical music is very much alive. The performance will also be attended by students in the Broward County Public Schools as part of the Student Enrichment in the Arts program.

All dates, times, programs, artists and ticket prices are subject to change without notice.

Tickets to the evening performance are \$16–\$59.50 with \$106 CLUB LEVEL seats and \$15 tickets available for students and teachers. Tickets to the morning performance are \$7.20 with \$3 lap seats for infants 12 months and under.

Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at BrowardCenter.org or Ticketmaster.com; by phone at 954.462.0222 or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

For more information visit BrowardCenter.org, like us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/BrowardCenter](https://www.facebook.com/BrowardCenter), follow us on Twitter and Instagram @BrowardCenter, subscribe to our channel at [Youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter](https://www.youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter) and join the conversation with #BrowardCenter.

The Broward Center 2017-2018 season is presented by the Broward Performing Arts Foundation. AutoNation, Bank of America, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, MasterCard, Paramount Refreshment Solutions and *Sun Sentinel* are proud sponsors of the Broward Center.

###

About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

One of America's premier performing arts venues, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts presents more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, showcasing a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events. Guest experiences at the Broward Center include the all-inclusive Club Level, spectacular riverfront views for special events in the Huizenga Pavilion, waterfront dining at Marti's New River Bistro and innovative classes and workshops for all ages at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center. With one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, the Broward Center serves more than 150,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit BrowardCenter.org.

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.