

## **For Immediate Release**

### **Experience the Evolution of “Pokémon: Symphonic Evolutions,” Feb. 5, 2016**

GRAND RAPIDS, MI, January 20, 2016 – For more than 20 years, millions of gamers have spent countless hours capturing and training wild Pokémon to do battle with Gym Leaders and become Pokémon tournament champions.

Now experience the thrill of a larger-than-life Pokémon adventure at “Pokémon: Symphonic Evolutions,” presented by the Grand Rapids Pops. The must-see, video-game concert of the year, which sold-out performances in Washington, D.C. and Pittsburgh and sold 5,000 tickets in Philadelphia, comes to DeVos Performance Hall at 8 p.m. February 5, 2016 as part of the Grand Rapids Symphony’s Nestlé Gerber SymphonicBOOM series.

The fuzzy tones and beeps of the game that originated on hand-held Game Boys now give way to big-screen images enveloped by the surround sound of the Grand Rapids Symphony, performing all-new musical arrangements, timed to the visuals from recent and classic Pokémon video games.

The concert produced by Princeton Entertainment spans the entire franchise, with memorable musical highlights such as the Pokémon Red and Blue Overture and the beautiful “Kiseki” from Pokémon X and Y, handpicked by Pokémon film composer Junichi Masuda for “Pokémon: Symphonic Evolutions.” The concert also features music from the Pokémon anime series and films such as “Gotta Catch ‘Em All” from the Pokémon TV show.

Special guest conductor Susie Benchasil Seiter, who was here two seasons ago with a similar show, “The Legend of Zelda: Symphony of the Goddesses,” with video and music from the Zelda game series, returns to lead your Grand Rapids Symphony in the one-night only event.

#### **Tickets**

Tickets start at \$32 and are available at the Symphony office, weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 300 Ottawa NW, Suite 100, (located across from the Calder Plaza), or by calling 616.454.9451 x 4. (Phone orders will be charged a \$2 per ticket service fee, with a \$12 maximum.) Tickets are available at the DeVos Place Box Office, weekdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., or on the day of the concert beginning two hours prior to the performance. Tickets may also be purchased through Ticketmaster, 800.982.2787, online at GRSymphony.org or in person at Ticketmaster outlets: select D&W Fresh Markets, Family Fare Stores and Walmart. Tickets purchased at these locations will include a Ticketmaster service fee.

– more –

## **Grand Rapids Symphony, “Pokémon: Symphonic Evolutions,” page 2**

### **About the Grand Rapids Symphony**

The Grand Rapids Symphony was officially organized in 1930 and is nationally recognized for the quality of its concerts and educational programs. Led by Music Advisor Larry Rachleff, Principal Pops Conductor Bob Bernhardt and Associate Conductor John Varineau, nine concert series are presented, featuring a wide range of music and performance styles. More than 400 performances are presented each year, touching the lives of some 200,000. Nearly half of those who benefit are students, senior citizens and people with disabilities reached through extensive education and community service programs. The Symphony’s Affiliated Organizations include the Grand Rapids Bach Festival, Grand Rapids Symphony Chorus, Grand Rapids Youth Symphony and Classical Orchestra, and Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Choruses. The Symphony also provides the orchestra for Opera Grand Rapids and the Grand Rapids Ballet Company. To learn more about the Grand Rapids Symphony please visit [GRSymphony.org](http://GRSymphony.org).

*This activity is supported in part by an award from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

###