Press release
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Creative Kids Education Foundation and Classical KUSC Team Up to Educate Young Listeners

Children and their families now have a new opportunity to immerse themselves in the magic of classical music through the Creative Kids Central website [www.kusc.org/kids/index.htm] hosted by Classical KUSC in Los Angeles.

"We are thrilled to provide this opportunity for children to experience the enchantment and power of classical music," said Dr. Jama Laurent, founding director of the Creative Kids Education Foundation. "Through our innovative and interactive website, we are opening a door onto a world that will engage kids and lead them, we hope, to want to learn more."

The Creative Kids Central website includes a number of ways for kids to interact with classical music:

Creative Kids Central [www.kusc.org/kids/] Site visitors can begin with an introduction to the many forms that classical music takes. A charming animated sequence set to Debussy's "Children's Corner" movement from *Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum* introduces the concept of symphonies, opera, solo voice, solo instrument, choral music, and chamber music. Children relate to Debussy's daughter ChouChou playing her piano exercises—and then flying from the room to play in the garden!

Scheherezade Interactive [www.kusc.org/kids/sche/] is an online musical education experience set to the music of Rimsky-Korsakov's symphonic suite. Parents can enjoy this game with their children, and explore the musical story and the accompanying musical education via listening guides on each screen and four music games for kids. Parents can access interesting and related information by clicking on the oil jars at the bottom of the screen. At the end of Scheherazade's story, kids can explore three related activities in the Royal Garden!

Scheherazade includes a complete lesson plan with downloads for your class. Cross curricular activities are presented as well as a complete list of learning objectives and concepts tied to state and national standards in music education.

Family Listening Activity [www.kusc.org/kids/familylistening/]. **Listening to Water Music** draws attention to the music itself and the ways composers have represented music in their works. This simple yet innovative hands-on demonstration requires no previous experience in music education, but steps site visitors through the activity. Listeners are immersed in works by Rimsky-Korsakov, Debussy, Britten, Ravel, and Smetana and can augment their experience with artwork and story-telling activities.

"The future of the arts depends on engaging children when they are young," says Brenda Barnes, President of KUSC Radio. "The Creative Kids Educational Foundation and

KUSC have been working together for several years to pioneer this important project, and we are thrilled to feature the excellent activities the Foundation has created on our newly launched website. We hope to begin development of another module soon."

"The *Scheherezade Interactive* is just the start," said Dr. Laurent. "The Foundation is now engaged in fundraising for future projects including an education module on Opera (Hansel and Gretel), solo instrument, solo voice, chamber music, and choral music. We are also in development to produce an educational experience for older kids/adults based on Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* and its controversial premiere in Paris in l913."

The Creative Kids Education Foundation was founded in 1996 to support innovative programs in classical music education for children. To find out more, contact:

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Classical KUSC

http://www.kusc.org

Creative Kids Central

http://www.kusc.org/kids/

Scheherazade Interactive

http://www.kusc.org/kids/sche/

Family Listening Activity

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