



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Tony Award Nominee Christopher Jackson Is Guest Artist for Mormon Tabernacle Choir Pioneer Day Concert**

The singing and acting sensation who brought George Washington to life in the Broadway hit *Hamilton*, will be the featured guest artist for this summer's Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square's Pioneer Day Concerts. Christopher Jackson joins the Choir in two gala performances in "Music for a Summer Evening" on Friday and Saturday, July 14 and 15 at 8 p.m. in the Conference Center. The concerts will be conducted by Mack Wilberg, music director of the Choir, and Ryan Murphy, associate music director.

In addition to his Tony Award-nominated turn in the critically acclaimed *Hamilton*, Jackson has won a Grammy Award for *Hamilton* and an Emmy Award as a composer and song writer for Sesame Street. His Broadway credits include *The Bronx Bombers*, *In the Heights*, *Memphis*, and *The Lion King*. Jackson recorded an original song written by Lin Manuel Miranda for the Disney film *Moana* that premiered last year. Fans can also catch him on the small screen where he has a featured role in the hit CBS drama *Bull*.

"We are delighted to have Christopher Jackson join us for this year's concerts," said Mormon Tabernacle Choir president Ron Jarrett. "He is a multi-talented artist with an amazing stage presence. Combined with the Choir and Orchestra, he will create a magical experience for audiences."

The summer concerts are held in conjunction with community-wide Pioneer Day celebrations to celebrate the arrival of Mormon pioneers to Salt Lake City in the summer of 1847. Jarrett said, "The Choir will capture the courage of these early settlers by singing pioneer hymns as they unite listeners in harmonious appreciation for their sacrifice."

The concert will be live-streamed on [MormonTabernacleChoir.org](http://MormonTabernacleChoir.org) ([motab.org/pioneerday](http://motab.org/pioneerday)) at 8:00p.m. on Saturday, July 15. It will also be carried live over the Church satellite system and aired on BYU Television, both broadcasts on that same date and time.

These summer concerts featuring music by the Choir and Orchestra have been a long-standing tradition. Recent guest artists have included the King's Singers (2016), Laura Osnes (2015), Santino Fontana (2014), Nathan Pacheco and Lindsey Stirling (2013), Katherine Jenkins (2012),

and Linda Eder and Brian Stokes Mitchell (2011), Prior concerts have been filmed and later rebroadcast on BYU Television. The summer concert of 2012 with Katherine Jenkins won for the Choir its second Emmy Award. (The Choir has since added a third Emmy Award for its Tanner Gift of Music concert with James Taylor.)

Free tickets for these concerts are required. Tickets will be available on a first come, first served basis beginning on Tuesday, June 20 at 10:00 a.m. at [lds.org/events](http://lds.org/events), by calling 801-570-0080 or at the Conference Center ticket office. Admission to this event is limited to those ages eight and older.

Standby tickets for those without tickets will not be issued. However, patrons are invited to stand by for last-minute seating each evening. The standby line will form at the north gate on Temple Square at 6:30 p.m. for the evening performances.

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Contact for news media only. Please do not publish.

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