

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Chris Duffy 612-599-7982 duffy@goffpublic.com

# The Ordway announces 24th annual Flint Hills Family Festival's headline acts

First-time festival performers B2Wins and Cirque Kalabante join returning NOOMA to kick off summer in downtown Saint Paul May 31-June 1

ST. PAUL, Minn. (Feb. 8, 2024) — The Flint Hills Family Festival, produced by the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, marks the start of summer in downtown Saint Paul May 31-June 1. The 24th annual festival will feature a star-studded lineup of family friendly headliners including B2Wins, Cirque Kalabante and NOOMA, an Opera for Babies. All outdoor activities at the festival are free, and tickets for indoor performances are now on sale at Ordway.org/Festival.

This year's diverse array of performances are for all ages. Festival first-timers <a href="B2Wins">B2Wins</a> bring charismatic, genre-bending dance music originating from Brazil. <a href="Cirque Kalabante">Cirque Kalabante</a>'s interdisciplinary performances blend circus acrobatics with powerful African music for a truly unique experience. On Saturday, June 1, <a href="NOOMA">NOOMA</a>, an Opera for Babies returns to the Flint Hills Family Festival, making space for wonderful interactive play that's equally enjoyable for infants and adults. These headliners, plus performances from <a href="Davina & the Vagabonds">Davina & the Vagabonds</a> and <a href="123">123 Andrés</a> round out a memorable weekend, aptly themed "Dance. Discover. Dream." Click here to watch a promo video about the Flint Hills Family Festival.

"We are so excited to bring together audiences of all ages and backgrounds with this diverse line-up of performances and activities," said Ordway Vice President of Programming and Community Impact Tanya Gertz. "The Flint Hills Family Festival is the perfect way to make lifelong memories with family and community in the vibrancy of downtown Saint Paul."

The festival is the largest and longest-standing event of its kind in the country. Since its inception in 2001, more than one million people have experienced the event. The festival is made possible thanks to a 24-year partnership between the Ordway and Flint Hills Resources.

"With this year's Flint Hills Family Festival, the Ordway has lined up a truly special list of performances that can be enjoyed by anyone," said Flint Hills Resources Director of Community Affairs Heather Rein. "This event lets families across the region experience a full day of fun at low or no cost. We're proud to partner with the Ordway and can't wait to join our friends at this year's festival."

From May 29-31, approximately 10,000 Minnesota students will take field trips to the Ordway for sneak peeks of the performances before the weekend festival begins on Friday evening.

## Free activities and performances

Attendees of the Flint Hills Family Festival will enjoy free entertainment and performances on stages in Rice Park and the Landmark Plaza. Attendees will enjoy music, dancing, food trucks, art-making activities hosted by Twin Cities organizations, face painting and balloon artists, and much more. Free outdoor performances will include a performance from <a href="B2Wins">B2Wins</a> on Saturday, June 1, at 12 p.m.

# Low-cost options inside the Ordway throughout the weekend:

- Performance from <u>Davina & the Vagabonds</u> on Friday, May 31, at 7 p.m. (tickets start at \$39)
- Performance from NOOMA on Saturday, June 1, at 9:15 a.m. (tickets are \$5)
- Performances from <u>Cirque Kalabante</u> on **Saturday**, **June 1**, at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. (tickets are \$5)
- Performances from <u>123 Andrés</u> on Saturday, June 1, at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. (tickets are \$5)

Tickets for indoor performances are available for purchase at Ordway.org/festival.

## **About the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts**

The Ordway is the arts epicenter of Saint Paul, Minnesota, and one of the leading nonprofit performing arts centers in the country. Founded on the belief that performing arts should be wide-ranging and accessible to all, the Ordway is home to a variety of performances that encompass the finest in Broadway musicals, concerts, dance and vocal artists. The Ordway serves thousands of children each year through its education programs and presents the annual Flint Hills Family Festival. Known as the most comfortable place to catch a show in Minnesota, the Ordway includes a magnificent 1,900-seat Music Theater, a state-of-the-art 1,100-seat Concert Hall and spacious lobbies. The Ordway is a proud member of the Arts Partnership, a collaboration comprising the Ordway, Minnesota Opera, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Schubert Club. The Ordway aims to reflect the communities it serves and address barriers to ensure everyone can experience the power of the performing arts.

### **About Flint Hills Resources**

The Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery produces transportation fuels used throughout the Midwest, including most of Minnesota's gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, as well as other products people rely on such as propane and asphalt. Located 17 miles southeast of Minneapolis, Pine Bend has a refining capacity of 375,000 barrels per day and is among the most efficient and safest oil refineries in the country. Flint Hills Resources directly and indirectly supports more than 4,000 Minnesota jobs and has invested nearly \$1.7 billion in upgrades and improvements to its Minnesota facilities since 2010. With 1,000 full-time employees, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery is one of the largest employers in Dakota County. More information about the Pine Bend refinery is available at <a href="PineBendRefinery.com">PineBendRefinery.com</a>.

