



# 50 YEARS

Oakland Youth Orchestras



## 2024-25 SEASON



*Educating and Enriching Youth Through MUSIC*

# M Manhattan School of Music



**MSMNYC.EDU**  
NEW YORK, NY  
admission@msmnyc.edu



**BE A PART  
OF IT IN  
THE HEART  
OF IT.**

# Welcome!



It is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to this exciting 50th season of the Oakland Youth Orchestras! I also extend a warm welcome to alumni and past OYO Presidents, Administrators, Managers, and Board Members, who have returned to join us for this landmark season. I look forward to sharing the story of this incredible organization, with its unwavering dedication to inspire young people, through the power of music, to become outstanding musicians, individuals, and leaders. The combination of talented conductors, students, the dedicated and generous support of parents and community members, and the leadership of key individuals has kept this program alive and growing. As the season unfolds, we will hear from some of the key players that have shaped OYO into the premier orchestral experience it is today.

I offer my gratitude to the many individuals who support the performances of our orchestras. The OYO Board of Directors give of their talents to provide sound direction for our organization. To our many parent volunteers who contribute their time throughout the year to enable everything from auditions to rehearsal and concert logistics, I am deeply appreciative. I invite all of you to thank our inspiring conductors, whose dedication and passion for music fuel this organization, and who have worked diligently to make the performances of this season unforgettable. The energy of the students in eager preparation of the music is much enjoyed and appreciated, and their journey of growth, teamwork, and accomplishment shows with the progress at each rehearsal and in each concert throughout the season.

Our programs are made possible by our Donors, Endowments, Program Advertisers, and Corporate Sponsors. We offer a special thank you to the Michigan Arts and Culture Council and the National Endowment for the Arts for their generous support since 2010, and to the Oakland University Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance for the ongoing in-kind support for facilities, faculty, and mentors over the past 50 years. To our generous hosts for rehearsals and performances, we are grateful to the Oxford Community Schools, Detroit Country Day School, Rochester Community Schools, and the University Presbyterian Church.

This season's concerts are a celebration of the music, talent, and creativity that has permeated OYO's history. Each performance is an opportunity to bring together music lovers to enjoy the talents and toil of our students, and to share a diverse and captivating lineup of compositions. As we celebrate our 50th year, I invite you to be instrumental in securing the future of OYO, by supporting the programs that enrich your students.

It is your support and participation that makes it all possible. Thank you all for being here. Let's immerse ourselves in the beauty of music, celebrate the talent of our performers, and create unforgettable memories together. You have all played a role in the history of this organization, whether for a single season or for decades, and we encourage you to **Play a Part in Our Future** as we celebrate and usher in the next 50 years of OYO.

With Gratitude,  
**Nicole Shogren**  
Executive Director

# Oakland Youth Orchestras Board of Directors

Executive Director – Nicole Shogren  
President – Clarke Bonten  
Vice President – Kamal Shukla  
Treasurer – Brenda Papp  
Secretary – Aman Brar  
Development - Olivia Marsh  
Member at Large – Sarah Leight  
Member at Large – David Yarnall  
Symphony Orchestra /Senior Director – Zeljko Milicevic  
Philharmonia Orchestra – Wendy Stuart  
String Orchestra – John Kennedy  
Studio String Orchestra – Nick Karpinsky

## Additional Personnel

Symphony Orchestra Manager – Sarah Maurice  
Symphony Orchestra Assistant Manager – Qingling Zhang  
Philharmonia Orchestra Manager – Gosia DeRycker  
Philharmonia Orchestra Assistant Manager – Susan Long  
String Orchestra Manager – Roberta Grondin  
Studio String Orchestra Managers – Jamie Tenbusch, Elizabeth Kreiner  
Studio String Orchestra Assistant Manager – Bernadette Borla  
Studio String and String Orchestra Coaching – Nyssa Rabinowitz  
Philharmonia and Symphony Orchestra Percussion Mentor – Josh Fuzi  
Music Librarian – Nicole Shogren  
Assistant Treasurer and Enrollment Coordinator – Christina Miller

***Thank you all for your vision and dedication  
of time and support throughout the year.***

## Special Thanks

***In gratitude to our faithful partner, Oakland University  
Department of Music, Theatre and Dance:***

Elisabeth Honn Hoegberg, Ph.D. – Director, School of Music, Theatre, and Dance  
Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Professor of Music

Jeffrey Heisler, DMA – Chair, Department of Music, Professor of Music

Gregory Cunningham, Ed.D. – Professor of Music, Instrumental Conducting,  
Instrumental Music Coordinator

Katherine Boersma – Production and Facilities Manager

***Thank you for coordinating spaces for us to rehearse and perform:***

Ann Book – University Presbyterian Church

Elizabeth Kelley – Facilities Operations and Scheduling, Rochester Community Schools

John Schmidt – Theater Coordinator, Oxford Community Schools

Jim Davis – Executive Director of the Visual, Performing, and Communication Arts,  
Detroit Country Day School

# OYO History

In 1975, the Oakland Youth Symphony was established with a vision to offer students an opportunity to enrich their musical education. Through the combined efforts of Joan G. Berndt, Lecturer, Music Department, Oakland University; and Dr. Raynold Allvin, Oakland University Department Chairman, the Oakland Youth Symphony was founded. The group was envisioned as “regional orchestra” for high school students in Oakland County. The founding board of trustees was comprised of area arts advocates and educators. “[Many of the early board members] gave unstintingly of their time, efforts and even money to help the orchestra become viable and successful,” Joan Berndt reflected in her account of the organization’s history. In-kind contributions from Oakland University were arranged for rehearsal spaces, equipment, and office headquarters; a partnership that still exists today. Through partnerships with area schools, summer camps, and grants, the organization gained traction in recruiting students to audition for the group.



*Erv Monroe*

Ervin Monroe, Detroit Symphony Orchestra retired Principal Flutist, was appointed as the first Music Director/Conductor of the Oakland Youth Symphony, drawing 50 students for the inaugural concert. He was an inspiring conductor for several years, offering unique ways to interpret music and challenging students to perform at the highest levels. Following Ervin Monroe were several other conductors, most notably James Hohmeyer, Robert

Phillips, and Andrew Dabczynski.

It was in the initial two years of the program that our own String Orchestra conductor, John Kennedy, played bass in the Oakland Youth Symphony, providing him with the spark to pursue a career in music.

In the 1980s, Zeljko “Bill” Milicevic, began his journey as a student in the symphony. His experience as a student in OYS shaped who he wanted to be as a person and what he wanted to do professionally. Today, he is a highly sought after musician and educator.

In 1994 Zeljko Milicevic returned to OYO, this time as the conductor of the orchestra. With a group of 67 musicians, ranging in age from 8-19, Zeljko set forth a new path for the organization developing a 5-year plan for growth. In 1998, the String Orchestra was added, and Anthony Krempa was hired as its conductor. Four years later in 2002, the Philharmonia Orchestra was added. With the expansion, John Kennedy returned to OYO, this time as the conductor of the String Orchestra. With increasing enrollment numbers, the Studio String Orchestra was added for the 2009-2010 season with Nick Karpinsky hired as its inaugural conductor. In 2011, Wendy Stuart joined as the Philharmonia Orchestra’s second conductor.



*Student John Kennedy in 1975*



With the growing interest in OYO, additional enrichment programs were introduced. In 2011, the Chamber Ensembles program was launched. In 2014-15, sectional coaching with university and area music professionals was added throughout the season to augment the orchestra experience. That same year, Outreach Recitals brought young musician performances to senior living facilities throughout the area.



Bill Milicevic in 1995

Our current team of OYO conductors, Zeljko Milicevic, Wendy Stuart, John Kennedy, and Nick Karpinsky, have collectively shared over 80 years of expertise and inspiration with our students, bringing them together each week to fulfill their desire to deepen their musical experience. Their continued dedication to this organization has enabled a camaraderie that ensures students are welcomed into OYO wherever their

journey begins. The conductors have been joined over the years by several directors and board members who have contributed to the success of OYO. Significant leadership was provided by Joanne Walle, who was hired as Executive Director in 2002 to oversee the development of the growing organization. After 20 years of dedicated service, Joanne retired, with a legacy of enthusiastic students, parents, and supporters.

Over the years, OYO has collaborated with acclaimed international artists to expose students to a variety of musicians and musical styles. In 1977-78, concert violinist Ani Kavafian visited the group, performing with the orchestra and offering master classes to violinists. In 1998, OYO, with the support of the Chrysler Corporation, commissioned noted composer James Hartway to write *Car Trek*. For OYO's 30th anniversary season in 2006, jazz bassist Rufus Reid held a workshop for students and performed in concert with the OYO conductors and String



Catherine McMichael

Orchestra. To commemorate its 40th anniversary season in 2014-15, OYO commissioned Catherine McMichael to write a piece for the organization. In May 2015, all four orchestras collectively premiered *Symphony of the Ages*. For the 50th anniversary season, we once again have invited Catherine McMichael to compose a piece for our orchestras. *Elemental Powers* will premiere at our final concert of the season, each movement crafted to highlight the personalities and abilities of each of the orchestras.

As we reflect on the 50-year journey of this highly valued organization, we thank those who have dedicated their time and energy to enable this incredible opportunity for our students. Parents, alumni, community members, educators, and supporters have all played a crucial role in the success of OYO, contributing resources that fund and populate our orchestras. We hope you will **Play a Part in our Future** this 50th anniversary.



**For more on OYO's history, scan the QR code to see additional photos, links to past repertoire, programs, and more memorable moments.**

# Our Conductors

## Zeljko Milicevic Symphony Orchestra



Zeljko Milicevic earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education and Violin Performance from Wayne State University and his Master of Music in Education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In 2007, he completed the Certificate in Orchestral Studies from Wayne State University with an emphasis in Conducting and Violin Performance.

A sought-after clinician and adjudicator, Milicevic began his service in public education in 1990 and has taught music to students at all grade levels. He has led orchestra programs in Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools, Utica Community Schools, and Farmington Public Schools. He retired from Oxford Community Schools in 2015 where he was Director of Orchestras and District String Coordinator, grades K-12. Additionally, he has been Adjunct Professor of String Pedagogy at Oakland University in Rochester, MI since 2005.

A member of the Flint Symphony Orchestra since 1987, Milicevic was appointed to the position of Associate Concertmaster in 2011. His role as Concertmaster of the Bijou Orchestra, a select 13-member salon theatre orchestra located in Bay City, MI, has afforded him numerous memorable performances in the mid-Michigan area including the revival of silent movies set to live music, performing as soloist, and presenting period reviews in concert specializing in music from the 1920s, 30s and 40s. He has also performed with many of Michigan's regional orchestras including the Michigan Opera Theatre, Saginaw-Bay Orchestra and The Midland Symphony Orchestra.

An avid chamber musician, his career includes engagements with numerous ensembles. He performs with the Ivybrooke Strings where he engages in a variety of chamber music settings including trios and quartets and specializing in violin and piano duo. The duo enjoys performing recitals and performing for community groups in the Rochester area. Milicevic is also a violinist with the Classic Impressions String Quartet comprised of principals of the Flint Symphony Orchestra. His most recent recording projects include a musical portrayal based on the book Einstein's Dreams with the Bijou Orchestra, and the piano trios of Mendelssohn and Haydn recorded with the Ivybrooke Strings. As an outreach of the Flint Symphony Orchestra, he is a violinist with the Troubadours ensemble.

Milicevic has previously directed the Lake St. Clair Symphony and Symphony of the Lakes. Presently, he is Music Director and Conductor of the Rochester Symphony Orchestra; the Detroit Medical Orchestra at the Medical School at Wayne State University, and the Oakland University Chamber Orchestra. Milicevic has been a part of the OYO family since 1994, serving as Senior Conductor with the Oakland Youth Orchestras directing the Symphony Orchestra.



## Wendy Stuart Philharmonia Orchestra

Wendy Stuart is the Orchestra Director at Troy High School. Before the start of the most recent chapter of her career in Troy in fall of 2021, she taught for 21 years in the Clarkston Community Schools, where she developed the then newer Orchestra program from its third year of existence (with only three grade levels) to the current program that features three high school Orchestras and multiple middle school/junior high orchestras. Under her direction, the Clarkston Orchestra program was featured at the Michigan Music

Conference, traveled extensively, and performed at consistently high levels at MSBOA Festivals. For her final decade in Clarkston, she directed five Orchestras, grades seven through twelve. Prior to joining the music faculty in Clarkston and Troy, she spent a year beginning a new string program in a district east of Cincinnati, OH.

Wendy Stuart serves as the conductor the Philharmonia Orchestra, one of the four ensembles that comprise the Oakland Youth Orchestras. She has been with OYO since 2011.

Ms Stuart is an advocate for music education in Michigan. In addition to her school program and youth orchestra, she works with many levels of Orchestras as a clinician; from day long workshops to pre-festival clinics. She enjoys giving presentations at conferences for music educators and mentoring student teachers. She is also an adjudicator for MSBOA Solo and Ensemble festivals throughout the state, where she can use her experience gained from more than twenty years as a cello teacher. She has taught at many summer music camps, including serving as music director for the past two summers at MASTA String Camp, Session III, conducting at the Interlochen Summer Arts Camp, Troy Sound Power Camp, and serving many times in the past as Cello Coach for MASTA Camp, Session III.

Ms. Stuart earned a Bachelor of Music Degree in Cello Performance from Eastern Michigan University and her teaching certification and Masters of Music in Music Education from the University of Michigan. In addition to her degrees, she studied orchestral conducting while attending the ASTA International Workshops in Norway and France. Ms. Stuart was the Director of the MASTA String Camp, Session III, for six years and was an Adjunct Professor of String Methods for four years at Concordia University in Ann Arbor. She was MSBOA District IV's Orchestra Teacher of the Year in 2014 and 2021.

Ms. Stuart is committed to continuing her own ability, growth and experience as a musician and regularly brings new ideas from her own performing to student orchestra rehearsals. She is the principal cellist for the Oakland Symphony Orchestra, the assistant principal cellist for the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, and performs with other orchestras and ensembles throughout the year.





## **John Kennedy String Orchestra**

John Kennedy has had a 30-year career in public school music education, directing orchestras in the Farmington Public Schools, Detroit Public Schools, and in Iowa City, Iowa. He now is an active clinician in schools throughout the area, and is instructor of Bass at Oakland University and the University of Michigan Flint. He has been conductor of the String Orchestra here at OYO since 2002.

John is internationally recognized as a bassist, clinician and teacher of young string bassists. He is Past-President of the International Society of Bassists, the largest worldwide organization dedicated to the upright bass. He is also a veteran clinician at the Univ. of Michigan Bass Bash, the Golden Gate Bass Camp, the Richard Davis Workshop in Madison, Wisconsin, the Michigan Bass Fest, the Oberlin Bass Workshop and the Milt Hinton Bass Workshop. Mr. Kennedy is a regular performer with many local and regional orchestras. He was formerly Associate Principal Bass of the Honolulu Symphony, and has performed with the Detroit, Ann Arbor, Flint, Toledo, Kalamazoo, New Mexico, and Cedar Rapids symphonies.

As a composer and arranger, John has written dozens of works, both arrangements and original compositions, for youth orchestras and for young bassists. He holds his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in String Bass Performance from the University of Michigan. He lives in Troy.



## **Nick Karpinsky Studio String Orchestra**

Nick Karpinsky graduated from Wayne State University in 2009 receiving a Bachelor's degree in instrumental music education and in 2015, Nick received his Master's Degree from Marygrove College in education with a focus in curriculum, assessment, and instruction. He has studied with various violinists over the years including Geoffrey Applegate and Jim Waring. As a violinist, Nick has performed with several community orchestras in the metro Detroit area. He has also performed with artists including; Il Divo, Mannheim Steamroller, Aretha Franklin, and Eddie Daniels at venues such as the Fox Theater, Orchestra Hall, DTE Energy Music Theater, and Joe Louis Arena.

In addition to performing, Nick enjoys composing and arranging music. He has arranged several pieces for small chamber groups to large combined works for full orchestra and choir. Nick also enjoys conducting and performing in pit orchestras for musicals and has been involved in many productions throughout his career. He is the pit orchestra conductor for Rochester Community Schools' Summer Music Theater Program.

Nick's public school teaching career began in the fall of 2009 with Warren Consolidated Schools. He taught general music and beginning band there for two years. Following that, Nick moved to the Waterford School District where he conducted the orchestras at Mott High School for seven years. Nick then moved to Birmingham Public Schools for five years as the orchestra director for Derby Middle School and Seaholm High School. Nick is currently the orchestra teacher at North Hills Middle School, Way Elementary School, and Eastover Elementary School in the Bloomfield Hills School District. In addition to public school teaching, Nick has conducted youth orchestras with the Oakland Youth Orchestras (2009-present) and Detroit Civic Youth Ensembles (2009-2013).

# Symphony Orchestra

## 1st Violin

Isabelle Bonten ++  
Mason Chiew  
Michael Cho +++  
David Collier  
Aanya Deol  
Junee Kim  
Minjun Kim ++  
Naeun Kwon  
Chloe Ma  
Andrew Park  
Ania Popovski  
Gaeun Shin  
Kyra Shogren ++  
Anmol Shukla  
Cora Solmes  
Chris Song  
Jennifer Song  
Aidan Sun  
Kieran Venugopal  
Franny Wang  
Luke Zhang  
Retta Zhou

## 2nd Violin

Livia Baker  
Sophia Barjuca  
Alice Bonten \*  
Isabel Cabrera  
Oscar Catarino  
Sophia Cervantes  
Selina Chang  
Agastya Chaturvedi  
Daniel Cho  
Alison Doka  
Meisha Ferguson  
Caroline Fernandes  
Ana Sofia Hernandez  
Gomez  
Lauren Jenkinson  
Yujin Jung  
Grace Kashiwagura  
Jerry Mao

Kate McIntosh  
Gabriella Murphy \*\*\*\*  
Dania Neiroukh  
Sameer Pai  
Devraj Pandey  
Daniel Park  
Sehan Park  
Georgia Talbot  
Davy Wang  
Isabel Wilinski  
Brian Zhang

## Viola

Julia Amato  
Garrett Brockman  
Samuel Collier \*\*  
Yeriel Kim \*\*\*\*  
Yitong Li  
Jing-yi Ma \*\*  
Divya Sovani \*\*  
Hyein Yang  
Michael Zheng

## Cello

Giulia Ardanese  
Alvin Cai \*\*\*\*  
Megan Cashatt  
Sharon Chang  
Jack Ganezer  
Daniel Kim  
Junghwan Kim \*\*  
Seojin Lee \*\*  
Owen Osterbur  
Delphine Schowalter  
Elaina Socha  
Grant Song \*\*  
Claire Tantengco

## Bass

Carter Ellis  
Danielle Leight \*\*  
Lila Tasdemir \*\*

## Harp

Anastasia Leahy



**1st Flute**

Joanna Ouyang \*\*

**2nd Flute**Marilou Cerru  
Raegan Dallaire  
Sookyung Kwak \*  
Chaerin Park**Piccolo/Flute**

Ozea Deon Policarpio

**1st Oboe**

Josie Ethier \*\*\*\*

**2nd Oboe**

Avee Lamba

**English Horn/Oboe**

Idris Freijy \*

**1st Clarinet**Lewen Feng \*\*  
Jeheon Lee \*\***2nd Clarinet**Robert (Bobby) Ayotte  
Junseo Byun \*  
Frank Lulgjuraj \*\*\*\***1st Bassoon**

Walter Thompson

**2nd Bassoon**

Maeve Maurice

**Contra Bassoon/  
Bassoon**

Siddh Sheth

**Horn**

Ha-Yun Kim

**1st Trumpet**Michael McMartin \*\*  
Kathleen Padula \*\***2nd Trumpet**Junhyeong Ha  
Kyle Kirklin \***1st Trombone**

Jaden Singer

**2nd Trombone**

Benjamin Eber

**Tuba**

Jalen Toyee

**Percussion**

Ayaan Deol

- ++ Co-Concertmaster
- +++ Associate Concertmaster
- \* Principal
- \*\* Co-Principal
- \*\*\*\* Asst. Principal



# Philharmonia Orchestra

## 1st Violin

Ananya Anand ++  
Nishad Bhide  
Ivy Dao  
Hayun Jeong ++  
Chloe Kim ++++  
Eunah Kim ++++  
Jun Kim  
Doye Kwak  
David Lee  
Maya Nagy  
Manisha Pednekar  
Blair Qi  
Suhana Reddy  
Zachary Reynolds  
Ariel Song  
Yubeen Song  
Nainika Valoor  
Aiden Yang  
Matthew Yang  
Raphael Yarnall

## Violin 1/2

Rabeya Adler  
Isabella Brooks  
Matina Green  
Alex Rajcevski  
Isaac Stroia  
Lucas Walker \*  
Elizabeth Wydeven

## 2nd Violin

Agnish Adhya  
Choyeon Ahn  
Vishnu Balagatte  
William Chen  
Sara DeRyckere  
Sanika Gadre  
Charlotte-Louise Gaillard  
Michael Harding  
Emilia Jaros  
Max Jaros  
Hasini Kalagara  
Olivia Kalil  
Alexander Knecht  
Elora Lee  
Yewon Lee  
Kaitlyn Li \*\*  
Owen Long  
Olivia Miller  
Valli Nagamalli \*\*  
Abigail Ritzenhein  
Jinju Suk  
Camila Sumcad  
Marina Super  
Jiyun Woo

## Viola

Hayden Choi  
Isaac Collier \*\*  
Natalie Kortge  
Sei Park \*\*  
Mark Yabut

## Cello

Sienna Calcut  
Eryn Choi  
Avery Farcas  
Octavian German  
Anna Maria Hila  
Addison Kurtin  
Jonah Lee  
Sharon Lim  
Katherine Park \*\*  
Angelina Sun \*\*  
Olivia Wang  
Sophia Xydas \*\*

## Bass

Elliot Bayer \*\*\*\*  
Taliana Merritt  
Jaxon Szkatulski \*



## Flute

Hyunjin An  
Borry Chu \*\*  
McKenna Cox  
Saanvi Duruvasan  
Sacheth Hegde \*\*  
Jueon Kim

## Oboe

Alexander Greig

## English Horn/Oboe

Thomas Hill \*

## Clarinet

Leslie Bahk  
Seongmin Choi  
Harley Cox  
Kashvi Prabhakar  
Claire Reinhard \*\*

## Bassoon

Jackson Hengstebeck  
Allison Lockwood  
Elyse Wallace

## Horn

Ryan Corpuz  
Clara Cunningham \*  
Abigail Graham \*\*\*\*  
Emery Krzeszak

## Trumpet

Zachary Glass \*  
Noah Weller

## Tuba

Karl Ronmark \*

## Percussion

Seth Ingram \*\*\*\*  
Juha Lee  
Preston Potter \*  
Smayan Sharma

++ Co-Concertmaster

\*\*\*\* Assistant Concertmaster

\* Principal

\*\* Co-Principal

\*\*\*\* Assistant Principal





# String Orchestra

## 1st Violin

Seungwon Ahn  
Eli Barjuca  
Elizabeth Foutz  
Shoken Han  
Emmanuel Hindi  
Sabrina Iovannitti  
Chloe Kim  
Gus Kish  
Maria Lee  
Seungmin Lee  
Seungwoo Lee  
Emily Li  
Alex Ma  
Audrie Miller  
Isabelle Nowlin  
Helena Park  
Victoria Pfauth  
Alexia Phillips  
Rachna Rao  
Olivia Scally  
Evan Seo  
Erin Shim  
Julianna Socha  
Rebecca Sun  
Riley Tenbusch  
Sabrina Wilinski

## 2nd Violin

Lana Abbo  
Maria Abdelmessih  
Estelle Borla  
Preston Brewer  
Ahvi Carter  
Qianyu Chen  
Heather Choi  
Ethan Fustin  
Sally Huang

Patrick Ionut  
Jaein Kim  
Yerik Kim  
Emma Kocher  
Juchan Lee  
Jacqueline Miller  
Paige Nickerson  
Ethan Wang

## 3rd Violin

Joyce Cao  
Cassie Chen  
Sunwoo Cho  
Daniel Chou  
Leah Geppert  
Tanner Koontz  
Juhan Lee  
Sohyun Park  
Madelyn Robinson  
Marco Sumcad  
Shreyas Tripathi  
Athena Yung

## Viola

Hayul Lee

## Cello

Aryanna Anderson  
Vivienne Brown  
Mia Cashatt  
Sarah Cho  
Cora Grondin  
Callie Hruska  
Alina Ju  
Cindy Lee  
Irene Moon  
Isabella Mui  
Dan Park  
Amelia Putz  
Ryan Taegyun Yoon

## Bass

Robert Caescu  
Miles Kreiner  
Emily Oleszkowicz



# Studio String Orchestra

## 1st Violin

Nicole Bolvari  
Lydia Borla  
Abraham Brandenburg  
Yewon Cho  
Benjamin Ha  
Avni Kaarthick  
Jax Kathawa  
Juwon Kim  
Owen Kreiner  
Hizkiah Lanac  
Jeongjun Lee  
Kangwoo Lee  
Nathan Li  
Kristen McFadden  
Kara Nickerson  
Hyerin Park  
Zachary Steusloff  
Adyoth Sural  
Yashvini Venkatesh  
Marcus Vingarzan

## 2nd Violin

Jae Choe  
Seungwoo (Steve) Choi  
Eason Jing  
Joowon Lee  
Layla Lee  
Unsu Lee  
Sophia Li  
Lucas Lin  
Ami Olkhovsky  
Henry Osterbur  
Tiana Patterson  
Jack Polderman  
Gabriel Sumcad  
Scarlett Tenbusch  
Andrew Zhao

## 3rd Violin

Sofie Dhar  
Ciel Gersky  
Balca Gurtekin  
Kaiyin Han  
Shosei Han  
Shaylan Kalkhande  
Yane Kim  
Ziggy Kish  
Ariana Lin  
Elliott Parker  
Kavin Sabarish  
Mia Sgalia  
Everett Shen  
Benjamin Walklet  
Eric Wright  
Caleb Zhang

## Viola

Lucas Calviti  
Swara Deshpande  
Lea Gaunt  
Pari Gowda  
Aiden Moon  
Alden Swallow

## Cello

James Cho  
Seongwoo Choi  
Miles Guilbault  
Jueun Huh  
Seungchan Hyun  
Doyoon Kwak  
Dageom Lee  
Thomas Oldham  
Nathan Shin  
Hayoon Song  
Ella Thomas  
Asher Woolf  
Lucy Wu  
Evelyn Yoo

## Bass

Evelyn Kill





# ENTRANCE and SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS

FOR FALL 2025 ADMISSION

[oakland.edu/smtadmissions-and-auditions](http://oakland.edu/smtadmissions-and-auditions)

January 18 - Theatre

February 8 - Music, Theatre and  
Dance

March 8 - Music

March 22 - Music, Theatre and Dance



## MUSIC DEGREE PROGRAMS

[oakland.edu/smtadprograms-and-majors](http://oakland.edu/smtadprograms-and-majors)

- B.A. in Music
- B.M. in Music Performance; Music Education; Music Technology
- M.M. in Conducting; Music Education; Performance; Pedagogy
- Ph.D. in Music Education
- Minors in Music
  - Auditioned: Jazz Studies; World Music; Music Technology; Theory
  - Non-auditioned: Liberal Arts; Music Technology Liberal Arts

## MAJOR FOR A DAY

[oakland.edu/smtadmajorforaday](http://oakland.edu/smtadmajorforaday)

Come and tour OU's beautiful campus, observe classes, meet the faculty and students, and when possible, have a mini private lesson with our faculty.

# Supporters



## In-Kind Partner



---

## Donations

### Platinum \$500 +

Bonten Family  
Charboneau Family  
Hruska Family  
John Kennedy\*  
Dan and Kristine Ma  
Socha Family  
Maria and Andrew Oleszkowicz

### Gold \$250 - \$499

Thomas and Gabrielle Contino  
Horatiu and Cristina German  
Steven and Marcie Weissner

### Silver \$150 - \$249

Catarinos Family  
Michael Cho  
Collier Family  
Steven Green  
Jeheon Lee  
Murphy Family  
Farzin and Linda Namei  
Shogren Family  
Wendy Stuart  
Walker Family  
Franny Wang's Family

### Bronze \$149 and less

Anonymous  
Bernadette Borla  
Choi Family  
Chunheng Chou  
Abhinav Deol  
Hayun Jeong Family  
Joel Kortge  
Haeseong Lee  
Lin Family  
Richard McFadden  
Ananda Pandey  
Putz Family  
Timothy Sterbenz\*  
Take Sushi  
Diane Winder  
Dong Woon Yang

### Matching Gifts

Ally Financial  
Bank of America  
General Motors

\*Alumni or Alumni Family



## Play a Part in Our Future

### How Your Support Helps

Because we believe that music education and enrichment should be accessible to all, OYO keeps tuition affordable for families and offers need-based tuition aid through SCORE. Tuition income, however, only covers about 60% of operating expenses so we rely on the generous support of our donors to continue educating and enriching our students' lives through music.

Every contribution supports this mission, makes participation accessible, and provides these program opportunities:

- Seasonal rehearsal and concert venue rentals
- Sectional rehearsals with coaching
- Community Outreach Recitals
- Chamber Ensemble classes and concerts
- Solo/Concerto Competition and Merit Scholarships
- Tuition assistance through **OYO SCORE**



### Our Primary Supporters

- Michigan Arts and Culture Council, National Endowment for the Arts,
- Oakland University School of Music, Theatre and Dance
- Fifth Third Bank, Kroger
- Community Foundation of Greater Rochester
- OYO alumni and member families



# Support Options

## Become a Supporting Donor or Sponsor

We invite you to partner with Oakland Youth Orchestras. By supporting OYO, you are distinguishing yourself or your organization as one that supports our youth and community. Your contribution will provide you with a variety of benefits:

- Complimentary concert tickets;
- Complimentary ad in the concert programs;
- Recognition on the OYO website, in marketing materials, press releases, and more.

## Advertisement in the OYO Concert Program

OYO prints professional full-color concert programs throughout the season. Program ads, ranging in cost from \$75 to \$450, distinguish your business among concert-goers and the OYO community as one that supports OYO's mission of educating youth through music education. It's never too late to submit your ad!



## Our Primary Supporters



*Oakland Youth Orchestras is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.*

**For more information on how you can support OYO, please contact:**

Nicole Shogren, Executive Director  
248-237-3475  
nicole.shogren@oyomi.org

# YOURS TO DISCOVER

Challenging orchestral opportunities for pre-college, advanced, intermediate, and elementary strings, winds, and percussion



**2025 SCHOLARSHIPS**  
AVAILABLE FOR  
MOTIVATED STUDENTS!  
NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS



TWO WEEK SESSIONS  
GRADES 5-12  
JUNE - AUGUST 2025

# blue lake™

**fine arts camp**

  **IT STARTS HERE**

**BLUELAKE.ORG** 800.221.3796 231.894.1966



**PURSUE**  
*Your*  
**PASSIONS**



**EASTMAN**  
SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
UNIVERSITY *of* ROCHESTER

For application information visit [esm.rochester.edu/admissions](http://esm.rochester.edu/admissions)



# 75 YEARS

CELEBRATING CENTER STAGE

**Marshall Music is celebrating our 75th anniversary**, but the biggest celebrations come in the classrooms, in practice rooms, and on stage. We provide the tools, but the inspiration, hard work, and innovation have always come from the teachers, students, and families that bring it all together.

---

**MarshallMusic.com**

**NEW LOCATION**  
1965 LARCHWOOD DR • TROY • 866-788-2031



[McCourtsMusic.com](http://McCourtsMusic.com)



# Rochester Conservatory of Music

120 E Third Street, Rochester, MI 48307



Private  
Lessons in  
Violin, Viola,  
Cello, Piano,  
Voice, Flute,  
Clarinet,  
Saxophone,  
and Guitar



## 248-656-1925

[Rochesterconservatory.com](http://Rochesterconservatory.com)  
[Rochesterconservatoryofmusic@gmail.com](mailto:Rochesterconservatoryofmusic@gmail.com)





ROCHESTER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
2024-2025 CONCERT SEASON



63 YEARS IN CONCERT

## *Reflections*

ZELJKO MILICEVIC – MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

### **European Roots**

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20 • 8:00 PM  
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

### **Masterworks**

SUNDAY, MARCH 16 • 3:00 PM  
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

### **My Favorite Things**

FRIDAY, DEC. 13 • 8:00 PM  
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

### **Cultural Infusion**

FRIDAY, MAY 30 • 8:00 PM  
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

[www.rochestersymphony.com](http://www.rochestersymphony.com)



# Wilson Fine Violins

**Nurture your  
child's musical  
talent!**

**Our knowledgeable friendly staff  
will treat you like family, from  
our honest pricing to our careful  
attention to your wishes.**

highest quality rentals

fine instrument sales

expert repair,  
restoration and bow  
rehairing

private lesson studio

We have everything  
you need to keep your  
instrument sounding  
its best.

725 S. Adams  
Birmingham 48009  
[wilsonfineviolins.com](http://wilsonfineviolins.com)

248.258.1125

Congratulations  
Kathleen!!!

We are so proud of  
you and all your  
accomplishments.  
Looking forward  
to seeing what  
amazing things  
your future holds.

Dream big and go  
for it.

Love,  
Dad, Mom  
Lauren &  
Christopher





**OFFICIAL SUPPLIER OF OYO MERCHANDISE!**



**ARMADILLO  
PRINTWEAR**

*Contact us for more information!*

**248.547.0490  
GOARMADILLO.COM**

**SCHOOLS  
BANDS  
ORCHESTRAS  
AND SO MUCH MORE!**

**LET US HELP YOUR ORGANIZATION  
LOOK ITS BEST!**



**248.202.7460**

**DAVID  
YARNALL  
photography**

[www.davidyarnall.net](http://www.davidyarnall.net)



# INSPIRING WHAT'S NEXT

Grand Valley inspires students to follow their passions while building the skills they need to pursue a creative life. Our programs feature:

- Small class sizes
- Greater opportunities to perform
- Engaged, committed faculty members

[gvsu.edu/music](http://gvsu.edu/music)



GRAND VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC,  
THEATRE, AND DANCE

**TGM**  
skateboards

**SKATEBOARDS  
LONGBOARDS  
DISC GOLF  
AND MORE!**

183 S Main St,  
Mt Clemens, MI 48034  
[www.tgmskateboards.com](http://www.tgmskateboards.com)

# Congratulatory Messages

We are so proud of your accomplishments and motivation Ciel.

---

Kristen M- We love hearing you play your violin and watching you perform on stage! We are so proud of you! Love, Dad, Mom, Kaitlyn, Tyler & Teddy

---

Congratulations Chloe on your Senior year! We are so proud of you and your dedication for the past 9 years in OYO. We love you! Love Mom, Dad, & David

---

Congratulations Den in following your interests to see where they lead you. \*Inspiring!\*

---

Congratulations Alex!! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom, Dad and Emma Greig

---

We're SO proud of you, Jaxon! We love you!

---

Dear Ania, you fill our life and hearts with music and joy. Congratulation on another year with OYO. Love you, Mama and Tato

---

Suhana, we are so very proud of you! You've come so far in your musical journey! Congrats! Keep up the dedication & hard work. Love, Mama, Papa & Didi

---

Bobby K, Congratulations and best wishes for a spectacular senior year and season with OYO. We are all so proud of you! Love, Mom, Jacob and Alexa

---

Zach, congratulations on another year. You have a true love of music and I'm very proud of you. I love you. Love, Mom

---

Dearest Callie, we are so proud of you and all your hard work. You are an amazing young woman, keep up the great work! Much love, mommy, daddy and Ed

---

Congratulations Caroline (Fernandes) on a fine OYO performance, dedicated year of violin practice and personal development. Mom, Dad, Laura.

---

Jack Ganezer, We are all so proud of you! Cello, Symphony Orchestra Class of 2025

---

Cora - You were motivated and determined, and now your hard work got you into Strings. Congratulations! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad.

---

Dear Ami, Congratulation on your performance! Persistence and hard work does pays off! We love you very much! Mama, Arielle and family

---

Carpe Diem~!! Borry ♡

---

Zubin, We are so proud of you! You are an amazing musician! We can't wait to see what you do next! Love, Mom & Dad

---

Kieran: Congratulations on your final year with OYO. It has been a joy to watch you grow as a musician and a person. Love, Mom and Dad

---

Alexia Mom and Dad love you so much and we are so proud of you! Keep working hard and you will sell out stadiums and we will be your roadies! :)

---

Kyra, welcome to your 11th season with OYO! Best wishes for a memorable senior year!

---

Riley ♥ We love you so very much! You are so amazing! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad and Scarlett

---

Scarlett ♥ You have worked so hard to get here! You are amazing! We are so proud of you! We love you so much! Love, Mom, Dad and Riley

---

We are so proud of you, Ben W! Your talent, drive, commitment, and passion shine through every time you play. We love you. Dad, Sarah and Becca

---

Congratulations Aanya on completing 10 years with OYO! We are super proud of you. We wish you the very best in everything that you do! Love, Deols

---

Jack Ganezer, We are all so proud of you! Cello, Symphony Orchestra Class of 2025

---

Ben Walklet - Congratulations on your wonderful performances on the violin, we are so proud of you and your accomplishments! Grandma & Poppa Walklet

---

Asher, we are so proud of you and love you so much! Congratulations on your first year with OYO!

---

Kathleen - Congratulations on your outstanding achievements! Your hard work and dedication shows. Love Grandma & Aunt Maurine

---

Kathleen - Kudos on your accomplishments! So proud of you. Quintin

---

Kathleen, You are our sunshine, and an amazing, accomplished trumpeter! Blessings from all of us! Toelle Family

---

Kathleen - We're so proud of you and your hard work. Your passion and dedication inspire us daily. Made the Lord bless you on your future! The Gang

---

Congratulations to our favorite cellist! Octavian, it has been a joy to see you performing all these years. We are very proud of you! Love, Mom & Dad

---

Natalie, you amaze us! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad

---

Congratulations, Mia! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad

---

Jax K. - We are so very proud of the wonderful young man you are growing up to be. May God bless you each day with abundant joy & wisdom. Mom&Dad, Z&L

---

D: we are in awe of your poise, passion & talent as a cellist. Nani & Papa would be so proud as you carry on their legacy. Félicitations chérie amour!

---

# ADVENTURES IN CHAMBER MUSIC

July 7 - July 18, 2025  
9:30 - 12:30 or 1:00 - 4:00

Chamber music for  
string players  
4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade



[adventuresinchambermusic.com](http://adventuresinchambermusic.com)  
[info@adventuresinchambermusic.com](mailto:info@adventuresinchambermusic.com)



Suzuki Music Academy of Michigan

## Metro Detroit's Premier Center for Instrumental Music Education

### Program Offerings

Introduction to the Suzuki Method  
Private Lessons | Group Classes  
Recitals | Musicianship Class

#### INSTRUMENTS

Violin  
Viola  
Cello  
Piano  
Classical Guitar

#### CONTACT

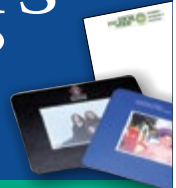
Mark Mutter  
(248) 561-7227  
[mmutter@smaofmichigan.org](mailto:mmutter@smaofmichigan.org)  
[www.smaofmichigan.org](http://www.smaofmichigan.org)



# PrintMasters

PRINTING COMPANY

- Graphic Design • Printing •
- Finishing Services • Mail Services •
- Promotional Items •



26039 Dequindre | Madison Hts., MI 48071 | 248.548.7100 | [PrintMasters.com](http://PrintMasters.com)

Practicing  
dentistry with a keen  
awareness of  
how oral  
conditions  
can affect  
*your overall  
health*



Dr. Doug Thompson, DDS & Dr. Chelsea Watkins, DDS | Integrative Oral Medicine

**irm** integrative  
oral medicine

3684 W Maple Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI

248-642-1000



# Support Our Advertisers

Adventures in Chamber Music.....	30
Armadillo Printwear .....	26
Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp .....	18
David Yarnall Photography .....	26
Eastman School of Music.....	19
EXP Realty/Susan Ayotte.....	31
Grand Valley State University.....	27
Integrative Oral Medicine .....	30
Manhattan School of Music.....	Inside front cover
Marshall Music Company.....	20
McCourt’s Music Group.....	21
Michigan State University School of Music.....	Inside back cover
Oakland University - School of Music, Theatre and Dance .....	14
Print Masters Printing Company .....	30
Rochester Conservatory of Music .....	22
Rochester Symphony Orchestra .....	23
Suzuki Music Academy of Michigan .....	30
Take Sushi.....	27
TGM Skateboards.....	27
UM School of Music, Theatre & Dance .....	Back cover
Wilson Fine Violins .....	24

Susan L. Ayotte, MBA  
Realtor

**exp**  
REALTY

call 248.895.0787  
e-mail AyotteSL@yahoo.com  
visit www.exprealty.com

Making Home Ownership Dreams A Reality

**MLS**

**Proudly supporting the arts for all.**



## Oakland Youth Orchestras Teresa Schuster Memorial Fund



In January 2000, OYO established an endowed fund in memory of Teresa Schuster, a talented and much admired violinist. The proceeds of this fund will be used exclusively for the OYO Concerto Competition held each spring. Additional contributions are always welcome.

### **Contact:**

Johanna (Jo) H. Allen, Executive Director  
jallen@cfound.org · Phone 248-608-2804

Community Foundation  
of Greater Rochester

Re: Teresa Schuster Memorial Fund  
P.O. Box 80431  
Rochester, MI 48308-0431



## Oakland Youth Orchestras The Jessica K. Rogers Fund

The Oakland Youth Orchestras maintains the JESSICA K. ROGERS FUND, in memory of Jessica Rogers, who was killed in a car accident on March 24, 2001.

Jessica was an immensely talented and accomplished musician, who was a member of the Oakland Youth Orchestras at the time of her death. Jessica was principal flute and piccolo in the OYO Symphony Orchestra and a prizewinner in the 2000 OYO Concerto Competition. In addition to her position in OYO, she was a member of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony, the Detroit Metropolitan Flute Choir and the Adams High School symphonic and marching bands.

Jessica was loved and respected by everyone who knew her. She had a wonderful sense of humor, boundless energy, and a loving and enthusiastic nature that was contagious. Jessica's parents, Paul and Kathleen Rogers, have made an extraordinary generous contribution to the Oakland Youth Orchestra in memory of their daughter. The contribution of the Rogers Family is used to promote and assist student members of the Oakland Youth Orchestras in their studies and performance of orchestra music.





# BE A SPARTAN OF DISCOVERY

Explore limitless possibilities and discover the world of music. MSU provides a welcoming and motivating environment designed to give you the freedom to grow and the inspiration you seek to help realize your unique potential.

**New Facilities, a 40% expansion,** offers acoustically superior practice, recording, rehearsal and performance spaces.



2025 Audition dates: Jan. 17–18 | Jan. 31–Feb. 1 | Feb. 7–8 | Feb. 21–22  
Admissions office: (517) 355-2140, [MUSIC.admissions@msu.edu](mailto:MUSIC.admissions@msu.edu)



College of Music  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



[MUSIC.MSU.EDU/EXPLORE](https://music.msu.edu/explore)

# **M** | MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE

**ADVANCE YOUR TECHNIQUE.  
CUSTOMIZE YOUR EDUCATION.  
DISCOVER YOUR TRUE POTENTIAL.**



**GO BLUE GUARANTEE**

**FREE TUITION**

for families with incomes \$75,000 & under  
& assets below \$75,000

Tuition support for some families earning more

Four years for qualifying in-state students on the Ann Arbor campus



Find **YOUR** Path:  
[smtd.umich.edu/victors-2029](https://smtd.umich.edu/victors-2029)



Oakland Youth Orchestras

# 50 YEARS



## WINTER CONCERT JAN 30 2025

Oxford Fine Arts Center

***Educating and Enriching Youth Through MUSIC***

# Concert Etiquette Considerations

**OYO conductors and performers graciously request your observance of the following performance etiquette:**

- For the sake of the performers and the audience around you, please refrain from talking or making distracting noises during the concert.
- Turn off all electronic devices such as pagers and cell phones before the concert begins.
- Do not use flash photography.
- When operating your video device please keep viewfinder closed.
- Do not enter or leave the auditorium while students are performing. Please wait until an orchestra group has completed their music set.
- Do not applaud for the performers until the end of a music piece with several movements.
- Prevent children from running in the auditorium, and accompany them in and out of the auditorium as necessary.
- Remove crying children to the lobby.
- Refrain from putting your feet on the chairs in front of you.
- No food or drink is permitted in the auditorium.





# Oakland Youth Orchestras Winter 2025 Concert

## Studio String Orchestra

Nick Karpinsky, Conductor

March from Symphony No. 6 .....Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
Quintas ..... Larry Clark  
Concertino in G.....Elliot Del Borgo

## String Orchestra

John Kennedy, Conductor

Overture from The Marriage of Figaro..... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Phantom Tangos..... Brian Balmages  
Ghosts of Bohemia.....Joshua Reznicow

## Philharmonia Orchestra

Wendy Stuart, Conductor

Russian Sailor's Dance from The Red Poppy .....Reinhold Gliere  
Violin Concerto No. 3 in G Minor, Op. 12 ..... Friedrich Seitz  
Movement 1, Allegro risoluto

**2024 First Place winner Philharmonia Solo Competition**

**Chloe Kim, violin**

Procession of the Sardar .....Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov  
Finale from Symphony No. 5, Op. 47..... Dmitri Shostakovich

## Symphony Orchestra

Zeljko Milicevic, Conductor

Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47 .....Jean Sibelius  
I. Allegro moderato

**2024 First Place winner Symphony Solo Competition**

**Isabelle Bonten, violin**

Capriccio Italien, Op. 45.....Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

# Program Notes

## Studio String Orchestra

### **March from Symphony No. 6**

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893); arr. Andrew Dabczynski

**Qunitas** Larry Clark (b. 1963)

**Concertino in G** Elliot Del Borgo (1938-2013)

Welcome to the winter concert of OYO's 50th anniversary season! We have an exciting program planned for you this evening.

We will begin the concert with the *March* from Symphony No. 6 by Tchaikovsky. This arrangement by Andrew Dabczynski, who is also a former OYO conductor, challenges each section of the orchestra. With the march's precise rhythmic melodies, it teaches the students to count independently and within their sections. You will be humming this march all weekend as it's catchy melodies and rich harmonies are performed. We hope you enjoy this march written by one of the most famous composers from the Romantic time period.

We will then move on to *Quintus* by Larry Clark. This driving melodic piece is written in the key of D major and gives every section a chance to play this melody. The energy builds throughout, which leads to a contrasting slower flowing middle section. The piece then concludes with a coda to match the beginning driving melodies that you've heard throughout the piece.

We will conclude our portion of the concert with *Concertino in G* by Elliot Del Borgo. This fugue style piece gives every section of the orchestra the chance to play the melody. The piece begins in unison with every section playing the same melodic and rhythmic theme. It then quickly develops into some harmony parts and counter melodies to create this fugue sounding style. It contains some time signature changes, repeats, and a coda to conclude the song.

We hope you enjoy the Studio Strings' portion of the winter concert. Thank you so much for the continued support and we look forward to seeing you all at the spring concert!



# String Orchestra

## **Overture from *The Marriage of Figaro***

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791); arr. Jamin Hoffman

## ***Phantom Tangos*** Brian Balmages (b. 1975)

## ***Ghosts of Bohemia*** Joshua Reznicow (b. 1975)

Mozart wrote his comic opera *The Marriage of Figaro* for the Viennese court and public in 1786. It was an immediate hit, and has remained one of the world's most beloved operas ever since. It tells a story of two servants, in love and wanting to marry, having to foil the efforts of their employer, the sleazy Count Almaviva, to seduce the young woman, teaching him a lesson in fidelity and kindness in the process. The Overture is a bubbly and joyous romp that perfectly sets the tone for the action that will unfold.

We follow with a set of tangos by one of the best young composers, Brian Balmages. He writes: "The title *Phantom Tangos* refers mainly to the form on the work, which is a series of tangos with various transitions that link them together. However, the opening and closing sections do reference a more literal phantom sound through the use of mild dissonance and sudden dynamic changes that seemingly appear out of nowhere." The slow and mysterious opening dance leads gradually to faster and faster rhythms, until the opening feeling returns just before the end of the work.

*Ghosts of Bohemia* is a dance for strings using all the sections of the orchestra in creating different colors and styles out of two primary melodies that weave themselves throughout the work. Joshua Reznicow wrote this for his daughter's high school orchestra program in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, celebrating the town's Czech heritage. A fiery and wild melody alternates with a more carefree gypsy style. Enjoy this brand new energetic and exciting piece!



# Philharmonia Orchestra

## ***Russian Sailor's Dance from The Red Poppy***

Reinhold Gliere (1875-1956)

Reinhold Gliere was a Ukrainian born Soviet composer of German-Polish descent. He studied composition at the Moscow Conservatory and was active as a composer and teacher of composition. The ballet *The Red Poppy* is his most famous work, celebrated in his time as “the first Soviet ballet on a revolutionary subject.” The ballet, set at a seaport in 1920s era China, was written in 1927. The *Russian Sailor's Dance* is a scene in the ballet and is the piece for which Gliere is best known. The piece begins with the statement of a Russian folk song (translated as “the little apple”) in the low strings and woodwinds and is followed by a series of increasingly frenetic variations on the theme. The score calls for 3 flutes, 2 oboes, English horn, 2 clarinets, bass clarinet, 2 bassoons, contrabassoon, 4 horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones and tuba, timpani, percussion and strings.

## **Violin Concerto No. 3 in G Minor, Op. 12** Friedrich Seitz (1848-1918) Un poco sostenuto-Allegro

Friedrich Seitz was a German violinist who served as a concertmaster, and a composer who wrote chamber music and eight student concertos for the violin.

Concerto No. 3 in G Minor is a work composed with a clear pedagogical purpose: to introduce young violinists to the concerto genre. This piece is part of Seitz's series of student concertos, which were written with the intention of providing intermediate-level violinists with musically rich concertos to perform in concert settings or competitions.

The first movement is in sonata form and features a bold, energetic main theme. The violin part is designed to showcase the performer's ability to navigate various dynamic and technical elements, such as fast string crossings, staccato passages, and lyrical legato playing.

The accompaniment, arranged by Lynn Latham, is performed by the string section of the orchestra.



### **Chloe Kim**

Chloe is an 8th grader at Smith Middle School and has been playing the violin since 4th grade. Her teacher, Eugenia Song, has been a big influence on her musical growth. Over the past few years, Chloe has had the honor of being selected for the MSBOA All-State ensemble in both 7th and 8th grade, which has been a huge motivator for her to keep pushing herself and improving. Music has become a big part of her life, and she's excited to see where it takes her next.

## ***Procession of the Sardar***

Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov (1859-1935); Edited by William Ryden

Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov was a Russian Romantic era composer who studied under Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. His career included travel to Tbilisi, Georgia, where he was exposed to a very different musical tradition. Upon his return to Russia, he took a teaching post at the Moscow Conservatory, where he continued his exploration of the ethnic music he enjoyed during his time in Central Asia.

*The Procession of the Sardar* is the fourth movement of Ippolitov-Ivanov's piece *The Caucasian Sketches*, Suite No. 1, Op. 10. It was premiered in 1894 and the Procession (or march) is based on music heard in the Turkish town of Zeytun, depicting a military parade led by the Sardar, which is the title of a Turkish military leader. The striking melodies hint at Turkish janissary music, creating vibrancy in a compelling melody throughout the march. The piece was a great success and furthered the composer's international acclaim.

The arrangement being performed this evening transposes the original from E Major/C# minor to D Major/B minor, making the key more accessible. Otherwise, the arrangement stays generally true to the original work.

The score calls for piccolo, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, timpani, triangle, percussion and strings.

## ***Finale from Symphony No. 5, Op. 47***

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906–1975); arr. by Stephen Bulla

Dmitri Shostakovich was a Russian composer and pianist, widely regarded as one of the most important figures in 20th-century classical music.

The Finale of Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 in D minor (composed in 1937) is a pivotal and emotionally charged conclusion to one of his most famous and powerful symphonic works. This symphony, often seen as a response to the political pressures Shostakovich faced under Joseph Stalin's regime, has been interpreted as a blend of struggle, defiance, and eventual compromise.

Shostakovich wrote his fifth symphony in the aftermath of the 1936 Soviet denunciation of his opera *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*. The official condemnation accused him of formalism and was a direct threat to his career and personal safety. The Fifth Symphony was, in many ways, his attempt to appease the authorities while maintaining artistic integrity. While earlier movements of the symphony deal with themes of despair, anxiety, and conflict, the Finale brings a resolution that has been both celebrated and scrutinized for its ambiguity.

Though it can be heard as a triumphant conclusion, some listeners and scholars have suggested that the Finale's sense of "triumph" is laced with irony, reflecting a forced optimism that hides the painful reality of totalitarian control. The shifting dynamics, the use of marches, and the broad, sweeping themes all hint at the tension between outward victory and inner turmoil.



The arrangement played tonight by Stephan Bulla remains true to Shostakovich's intent while providing student performers an introduction to this incredible piece.

The score calls for piccolo, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, bass clarinet, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, timpani, percussion, piano and strings.

## Symphony Orchestra

### **Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47** Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

#### I. Allegro moderato

Jean Sibelius was born in Hämeenlinna in the Grand Duchy of Finland, part of the Russian Empire. His early musical influence began when his uncle, Pehr Ferdinand Sibelius gave him a violin at the age of ten. The young Sibelius diligently practiced all day and desired to be a violinist until he finally came to the conclusion that he likely started too late to consider a career as a soloist. At his uncles urging, he pursued composition. Although he originally began as a law student after completing high school, he transferred to the Helsinki Music Institute to pursue music studies between 1885-1889. Sibelius is considered by most to be the most celebrated composer from Finland having penned seven symphonies and several smaller orchestral works as well as a long list of songs and choral works, incidental music for the theatre, chamber music and piano pieces...but only one concerto—for the violin.

Work on the Opus 47 commenced in 1902 as requisitioned by violinist Willy Burmester who served as concertmaster in Helsingfors in Finland. Sadly, he was passed up to premiere the work not once but twice by the composer. In spite of Burmester praising the concerto with enthusiasm, Sibelius asked Victor Novacek to give the first performance of the piece which ended up disastrous. Later, Sibelius revised the work and again passed over Burmester in favor of featuring Karl Halir, concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic. Offended, Burmester never touched the piece again.

At the time the concerto was to be premiered, Sibelius' life was in shambles. His finances were in disarray and his personal life, including his marriage, was in trouble. This is likely the inspiration of the first movement of the work as it is hauntingly written in minor. All featured instruments are scored in their lower registers. Unique to this opus, there are two cadenzas, a shorter one early on and a substantial one midway through the movement.



### **Isabelle Bonten**

Isabelle Bonten, a senior at Stoney Creek High School, began playing violin at the age of three. Isabelle started her musical journey at home with her mother as her first teacher. After progressing through the Suzuki Violin repertoire, she began studying with her current teacher, Bill Milicevic, in middle school. At the age of 8 Isabelle began playing in OYO's Studio Strings Orchestra and has continued through all four orchestras, currently serving as Co-Concertmaster of Symphony for the second year. Following her

graduation, Isabelle plans to pursue a double major in Violin Performance and Music Education, with a minor in math. Aside from her love of music and intellectual pursuits, Isabelle enjoys spending time with family, her dog, horseback riding and nature.

### **Capriccio Italien, Op. 45** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Written while on vacation shortly after composing his Fourth Symphony in the winter of 1880, Tchaikovsky gained his inspiration for his Opus 45 while visiting Rome for three months. The title *Capriccio* literally means caprice and refers to something whimsical or unexpected and fit in with the types of pieces other composers created in the day. Generally, folk music and daily life were often regularly embedded in musical motifs by well-known composers and contemporaries like Mikhail Glinka in his Spanish fantasies.

Committed to composing a symphonic impression reminiscent of his visit to Italy, Tchaikovsky uses the brass in the introduction to open into what the composer referred to as the bugle heard daily from his hotel room emanating from the barracks of the Royal Cuirassiers. This theme is again brought back after a somber melody is introduced by the strings. A playful Italian folk song is used to mark the next transition before the energy level of the piece takes a turn for the quicker. It was the carnival season and dancers, fireworks, music and the smell of food all became a part of his musical impression. In an almost chase-like relay between the strings and winds, the tempo transforms the melody for a wild and adventurous ride before the piece explodes in a final herald from the brass as heard in the opening theme. Finally, the piece transitions into a fiery Italian dance, the *Tarantella*, before culminating in a highly energetic conclusion.

Many have referred to Tchaikovsky as a master melody-maker. But his refined talent for instrumentation allowing for vivid and rich colors in the widest possible ranges for total effect are all a part of this incredible composers legacy. Through the vibrant Italian songs and dance rhythms, this exuberant work has become one of the composer's most popular compositions. In a letter to a close friend admitting his pleasure for the piece, Tchaikovsky wrote:

*"I have already completed the sketches for an Italian fantasia on folk tunes...it will be effective, thanks to the delightful tunes which I have succeeded in assembling partly from anthologies and partly through my own ears on the streets."*



## Additional Donations

### **Platinum** \$500 +

Joan G. Berndt\*  
Joseph Tenbusch  
Joanne Walle\*

### **Gold** \$250 - \$499

Bernadette Borla  
Julia Hruska  
Jamisen Sivak\*  
Cheryl Zetterholm\*

### **Silver** \$150 - \$249

Seunghyuk Choi  
Ronald Elder  
Stephen Ju  
Yun Tae Kim  
Brenda Papp\*

### **Bronze** \$149 and less

Benjamin Che  
Marie Haddock  
Jena Hengstebeck  
Anita Petrosky  
Nyssa Rabinowitz  
Archana Ramaseshanr  
Mary Santine\*  
Zihua Qi  
Qingling Zhang

### **Matching Gifts**

J.P. Morgan Chase

*\*Alumni or Alumni Family*



**Donations are always accepted  
online at [www.oyomi.org](http://www.oyomi.org)**

---

## Welcome New Students

### **Philharmonia Orchestra**

Hoon Kang - Cello  
Henrik Karstensen - Viola

### **String Orchestra**

Evan Guzowski - Viola  
Ava Kulkarni - Viola  
Amogh Maral - Viola

---

## OYO Spring Concert

**Thursday, May 1, 2025**

Seligman Performing Arts Center

**Visit [www.oyomi.org](http://www.oyomi.org) for more information.**

# Enjoy a Complete Digital OYO Concert Experience!

Pre-order access to view the entire OYO 2024-25 Concert Season via the OYO YouTube channel private link for as little as \$20.



Scan this code to order your online video access.



Scan this code to view the OYO Season Concert Program!

---

## OYO Open Rehearsals

Invite friends, families and fellow student musicians to experience youth orchestra firsthand. On **Thursday, March 6, 2025**, observe Studio String or String Orchestra rehearsals to find out what makes Oakland Youth Orchestras unique. This is your chance to listen, ask questions and enjoy! Join us at University Presbyterian Church, Rochester Hills, 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

## 2025 Solo & Concerto Competition

Applications for the 2025 Solo & Concerto Competition are currently available in MyOYO. **Applications and application fee must be received by February 9, 2025.**

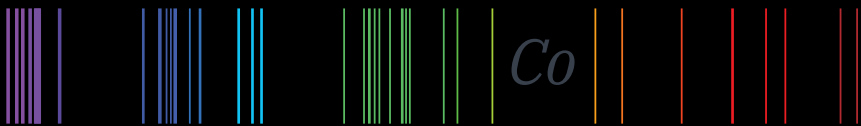
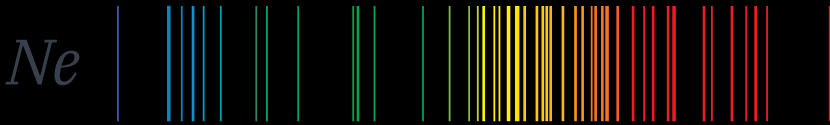
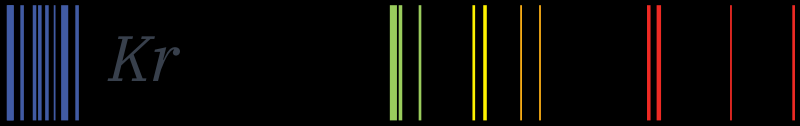
## 2025 Merit Scholarships

Applications for the 2025 Merit Scholarships will be available in MyOYO beginning February 20, 2025. **Applications must be received by March 20, 2025.**

## Auditions 2025-25 Reminder

Auditions for returning and new students will be held in person at Oakland University mid-April through May. Online sign-up begins mid-March for returning students and April 1 for new students. Watch your email for more details soon.

# ELEMENTAL



Composed for the 50th Anniversary of OYO  
by Catherine McMichael

**Premiere on May 1 2025 6:30 pm**  
Seligman Performing Arts Center