

Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute
Louis Scaglione • Music Director
Presents

## PHILADELPHIA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Louis Scaglione • Conductor

Sunday • November 10, 2024 • 3:00 p.m.

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Marian Anderson Hall





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#### **OPEN REHEARSALS**

Are you a string, woodwind, brass, or percussion player looking to meet and make music with other young musicians? Register for an upcoming open rehearsal to play an exciting repertoire with our current students and learn more about the PYO Music Institute. Refreshments will be provided along with the opportunity to meet staff, faculty, and current members. Advanced registration is required to attend. Scan the QR code below to register now!



#### REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR OUR SUMMER PROGRAMS

#### **Summer Jazz Camp**

Dates: July 21 - July 25, 2025

Ages: 14 - 22

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#### **Summer Band Camp**

Dates: July 28 - August 1, 2025

Ages: 10 - 16

Instruments: Woodwind, Brass, Percussion

#### **Summer String Camp**

Dates: Week A, August 4 - August 8, 2025; Week B, August 11 - 15, 2025

Ages: 5 - 17

Instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass



#### A LETTER FROM MAESTRO LOUIS SCAGLIONE

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra's Opening Concert of our 85th Anniversary Season! We are thrilled to have you with us as we celebrate this significant milestone—a testament to the remarkable talent of our young musicians and the vibrant community we serve.

Today's program promises to inspire, showcasing the incredible skills and dedication of our youth. We are honored to be joined by renowned pianist Peter Dugan, host of *From the Top*, in a performance of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, alongside Grammy and Emmy award-winning double bassist Ranaan Meyer (a proud PYO alumnus), who will be featured in the world premiere of *In Tyset*, a new work by acclaimed composer Paul Frucht.

The young musicians before you have put in countless hours of personal practice, weekly lessons, and ensemble rehearsals to bring this performance to life. Their commitment is a true reflection of the discipline and creativity they are nurturing—qualities that will serve them throughout their lives. As you enjoy their performance, I encourage you to reflect on the transformative power of music and the vital role we all play in supporting the next generation as they continue to grow and flourish.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating this special 85th Anniversary Season, and for your tremendous support of our mission. You—as audience members, parents, teachers, patrons, and advocates—make possible excellent music education for our youth, for which we are immensely grateful.

With all best regards and sincerest appreciation,

Louis Scaglione,

President & Music Director





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#### Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute Louis Scaglione • *Music Director*

#### Presents

Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Louis Scaglione • Conductor Ranaan Meyer • Double Bass Peter Dugan • Piano

Marian Anderson Hall, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Sunday, November 10, 2024 • 3:00 p.m.

This concert is made possible by our Presenting Sponsor **Fulton Bank** 

#### PROGRAM

Overture to A School for Scandal

Samuel Barber

In Tsyet: Concerto for Double Bass and Orchestra

Paul Frucht

I. Distant Shores

II. Tonight

World Premiere

III. Chutzpah

Ranaan Meyer • Double Bass

#### INTERMISSION

Rhapsody in Blue

George Gershwin

Peter Dugan • Piano

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

Leonard Bernstein

I. Prologue. Allegro Moderato

II. "Somewhere." Adagio

III. Scherzo. Vivace e leggiero

IV. Mambo, Presto

V. Cha-Cha ("Maria"). Andantino con grazia

VI. Meeting Scene. Meno mosoo

VII. "Cool" Fugue. Allegretto

VIII. Rumble. Molto allegro

IX. Finale. Adagio



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#### Louis Scaglione, Music Director & Conductor

#### Violin I

Miro Raj^, *Concertmaster* Kai Freeman, *Assoc.Concertmaster* Emilian Lipnevich, *Asst. Concertmaster* 

Prisha Bagchi

Cyrano Rosentrater

Rishab Das
Hannah Han
Jacob Wurst
Brooklyn Jang
Elise Hwang
Thomas Heath
Hannah Adams

Therese Gasser Kyle Xie Ian Lin Yiguo Zhang Suri Ahn

Nathalie Hernandez

Chris Reeh Vidhyuth Sriram

#### Violin II

Matilda Snyder, *Principal*Heather Lee, *Assoc. Principal*Emily Gelok, *Asst. Principal* 

Lauren Wu Julie Zheng Daniella Roh Victoria Fan Jayden Yao Raymond Wu Eliana Song

Nicholas Hartman McKayla Hwang<sup>^</sup> Liam Gately

Thomas Uchiumi-Jones

Jennifer Yang Iris Yuan Zoe Zhang Matthew Fang Danae Truxler^ Varun Gaddam Evan Zhang

#### Viola

Karlis Graufelds, Principal
Livia Kam, Assoc. Principal
Penny Tang, Asst. Principal
Gwendolyn Teske
Shinnyom David Park
Romit Kundu
Tanav Gowda
Joy Roh
Anton Wingert
Hyeon Cho
Noah Yang
Arsh Mehan

#### Violoncello

Samuel Cao^, Principal
Andrew Li, Assoc. Principal
Julio Martin-Navas^, Asst. Principal
Hayden Kang
Peter Moon
Kealia Grace Smith^
Parker Woo
Daniel Loza
Mauricio Gonzalez
Joseph Zeng
Jessica Wang
Jace Cocola

Jessica Wang Jace Cocola Son Nguyen Julian Ladd Darren Lee Elijah Song Brandon Rashid

#### **Double Bass**

Luke Halpern, *Principal*Micah Sommons, *Assoc. Principal*Wallace Snow, *Asst. Principal*Milan Merchant
Grace Campling

#### Flute/Piccolo

Samantha Bedenko Steven Guard Jianna Kim\* Jingxuan Wang Keegan Zicko

#### Oboe/English Horn

Rishi Bhattacharyya Artemis Drake Christina Htay Liliana Ortiz\*^ Xayier Thornton

#### Clarinet/Bass Clarinet

Brahin Ahmaddiya^ Zakyya McClenny Kenneth Mellon Daniel Xu Kevin Zhu\*

#### Bassoon/Contrabassoon

Blair Blake Serena Dong Jason Xi\* Edmund Xie

#### French Horn

Evan Bretz\* Diana Ionescu Charles Krieg Quinn Milliken Rebecca Peirson

#### **Trumpet**

Annika DeBear Isabella Gilligan Frederick Kercy Zimo Liu\*

#### **Trombone**

Yi-En Ho Javid Labinski\* Jeremy Cohen +

#### Tuba

Heinrich Rutenkroger\*

#### Harp

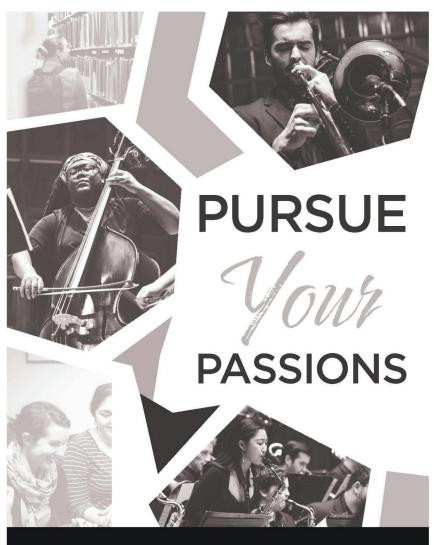
Eva Anderson\*

#### **Piano**

Alejandro Wu-Mula\*

#### **Percussion**

Ryan Agamalian Kevin Cheng Joseph Fiore Eli Kovar Ariel Metzger Sydney Vance\*^





For application information visit esm.rochester.edu/admissions



#### Louis Scaglione

President & Music Director

Maestro Louis Scaglione has spent over 35 years developing his craft as a musician, educator, conductor, and administrative executive. His career has afforded him extensive experience in orchestral, choral, and opera literature, as well as in education and executive administration. Known nationally, he has established himself within the greater Delaware Valley region as an esteemed and well-respected colleague. He has also developed sound relations with many arts, educational, and cultural organizations and institutions.

His professional career began in 1993 when he moved to Philadelphia from Champaign, Illinois, where he attended the University of Illinois having received his Bachelor of Science in Music Education and had advanced studies in piano performance, vocal coaching, opera, and choral music. He completed his Master of Music in 1996 from Temple University. At Temple University, he was awarded a fellowship and teaching assistantship, and his primary assignment was to assist the Temple Opera Theater's efforts to rebuild its program and serve as Assistant Conductor and Chorus Master.

For the past 28 years, he has worked with PYO Music Institute (PYOMI) and he is currently President, CEO, and Music Director. Celebrating its 85th anniversary, PYO Music Institute has grown exponentially during his tenure and under his direction to include eleven program divisions serving over 700 students a year drawn from over 21 counties in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. His work relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion through PYO Music Institute's nationally recognized orchestral music learning pathway has garnered attention and funding from major foundation sources both regionally and nationally. PYO Music Institute's program divisions are directed by some of the top music professionals from the region. PYO Music Institute's program divisions attract the very best students from a diverse population who seek extraordinary music education and the pursuit of music excellence, while building a strong sense of character, discipline, commitment, and maturity.

He has devoted his career to music education and the instruction of music at the highest levels. During his time with PYO Music Institute, he has conducted many major works from the orchestral literature cannon, as well as choral-orchestral masterworks. He has collaborated with many soloists, both instrumental and vocal, as well as distinguished choral societies including the Mendelssohn Club Chorus (Philadelphia) and the Choral Society of Montgomery County (Pennsylvania). He established PYO's highly regarded concert series at the Kimmel Cultural Campus and PYO Music Institute's performances have been featured in a broadcast series on 90.1 WRTI-FM. He has taken the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra on five international concert tours during his tenure. Through his work with PYO Music Institute, he has earned the respect of Philadelphia's greater professional community, and he has distinguished himself as a highly regarded musician, educator, and conductor in the region.

Additionally, Maestro Scaglione's involvement with the greater Philadelphia cultural and social community has included service as a member of several non-profit boards. Philanthropy is paramount to Maestro Scaglione, and he teaches his students the importance of "giving-back" to one's community through one's talents.



Ranaan Meyer Double Bass

Ranaan Meyer, Empowering the Universe to Listen (2022)

Multi Grammy winning, Emmy award winning, and Gold record Double Bassist Ranaan Meyer is most known as a founding member and performer with the string trio Time for Three, Founder and Artistic Director of Honeywell Arts Academy, and as a solo performing artist, composer and educator.

In June 2022, Time for Three released an album entitled: "Letters for the Future" on Deutsche Grammophon

recording with The Philadelphia Orchestra two concertos titled "Concerto 4-3" by Pulitzer Prize and Grammy award winner Jennifer Higon and "Contact" by Pulitzer Prize winning composer Kevin Puts.

Alongside Time for Three, Ranaan recorded and composed the film scoring for Robin Wright's Focus Feature film: LAND, and co-produced and recorded on Love Renaissance: Summer Walker's 2nd album. Tf3 has additionally performed around the world including Musik Verein, Czech Philharmonic, Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Sydney Opera House, Royal Albert Hall, Night of the Proms Tour and is in demand across North America.

As Founder and Artistic Director of Honeywell Arts Academy Meyer has helped to empower each next generation of emerging artists through a philosophy called "sharing of knowledge". In 2020 upon completing season 13 of Wabass Institute for the Double Bass, Artistic Director Ranaan Meyer, CEO Tod Minnich, CDO Cathy Gatchel and Program Director Emily Meyer expanded programs for the 2021 season forming the Honeywell Arts Academy, Founded in 2008, Wabass quickly became known to the bass community as a premier summer program. The Institute now approaches season 16, and Wabass alumni are worldwide spreading the "sharing of knowledge." The evolution of Wabass into Honeywell Arts Academy is a unique emerging artist, full scholarship summer music institute held annually in Wabash, Indiana. All fueled by the same mission to foster an inclusive, supportive environment where ideas are free flowing from teacher to student and vice versa which is this philosophy referred to as the "sharing of knowledge". As a National Endowment for the Arts grantee all programs of the Honeywell Arts Academy are full scholarships and funded purely by the generosity of charitable donations and grants.

As a soloist, Ranaan most recently composed his first concerto for double bass and orchestra entitled: 'Concerto for My Family' (2021) which is his homage to the people who lifted him up all along the way. He also is an alumnus of The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, Temple Prep, Manhattan School of Music, and the Curtis Institute of Music. Ranaan co-founded Time for Three while at Curtis but prior to Time for Three's demanding touring schedule he spent several weeks per year performing and touring in the double bass section of The Philadelphia Orchestra.



#### Peter Dugan

Piano

Pianist Peter Dugan's debut performances with Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony were described by the Los Angeles Times as "stunning" and by the SF Chronicle as "fearlessly athletic." He is heard every week across America as the host of National Public Radio's beloved program From the Top. Mr. Dugan has appeared as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician across North America and abroad. In 2020, he joined acclaimed violinist Joshua Bell for At Home With Music, a national PBS broadcast and live album release on Sony Classical.

Since then, Mr. Dugan has continued his collaboration with Bell, touring internationally with recitals at London's Wigmore Hall, Taipei's National Theater and Concert Hall, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

Prizing stylistic versatility as the hallmark of a 21st century musician, Mr. Dugan is equally at home in classical, jazz, and pop idioms, and has collaborated with artists ranging from Jesse Colin Young, to Renee Fleming, to Paquito D'Rivera. Mr. Dugan performs regularly in partnership with friends and artists who share a passion for expanding the world of classical music. The Wall Street Journal described Mr. Dugan's collaboration with violinist and vocalist Charles Yang as a "classical-meets-rockstar duo." In Mr. Dugan's performances with his wife, mezzo-soprano Kara Dugan, repertoire ranges from art song, to American Songbook, to original songs and world premieres. The Dugans have appeared at Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, WQXR's Greene Space, and on PBS Great Performances' Now Hear This.

Mr. Dugan's latest album with baritone John Brancy – The Journey Home: Live from the Kennedy Center – was released on Avie Records in 2021 along with an accompanying documentary film from WNET's AllArts. Brancy and Dugan have given recitals at Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, and the Kennedy Center, and together won first prize at the 2018 Montreal International Music Competition. Mr. Dugan's latest project with violinist Sean Lee was PaganiniXSchumann, a digital EP release that accompanied a live performance at Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center of all 24 Paganini Caprices with piano parts written by Robert Schumann. Mr. Dugan appeared as the piano soloist in Charles Ives' 4th Symphony with the Houston Symphony, the San Francisco Symphony, and on an album with Michael Tilson Thomas and the SFS.

Mr. Dugan advocates for a classical music culture that is inclusive and welcoming to all, from a community's concert halls and theaters, to its schools and hospitals. As a founding creator of Operation Superpower, a superhero opera for children, he has traveled to dozens of schools in the greater New York area, performing for students and encouraging them to use their talents – their superpowers – for good. He is head of the Artist in Residence program at pianoSonoma and a founding faculty member of the Resonance and Soundboard Institutes at Honeywell Arts Academy.

Mr. Dugan holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from The Juilliard School, where he studied under Matti Raekallio. He resides in New York City and is a Yamaha Artist.



Paul Frucht Composer

Paul Frucht is an American composer hailed for his "individual voice" and "poignant utterance" by Gramophone Magazine and "sense of lyricism, driving pulse, and great urgency" (WQXR)." His music has been commissioned and performed by the Minnesota Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra, San Diego Symphony, Time For Three, among numerous other performing ensembles and organizations.

Additionally, his music has been heard frequently on SiriusXM's "Symphony Hall" with Martin Goldsmith.

Recent highlights include the world premiere of a new double concerto for violin, cello, and orchestra commissioned and premiered by cellist Julian Schwarz, violinist Jeff Multer, and the Eastern Music Festival Orchestra led by Gerard Schwarz. In addition to the world premiere of *In Tsyet*, a concerto for double bass and orchestra for Ranaan Meyer commissioned by the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, New Jersey Youth Symphony, and the Sun Valley Music Festival Orchestra, the 24-25 season will feature performances with the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra and Neave Trio.

Paul has been the recipient of numerous honors and awards including a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Brian H. Israel Prize from the Society of New Music, an ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composers Award, among many others.

In 2015, Paul founded the Charles Ives Music Festival (CIMF), of which he currently serves as the artistic director. Paul is also faculty at New York University's Steinhardt school, a position he has held since 2015. He holds a D.M.A. and M.M. from the Juilliard School and a B.M. from New York University.





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## Louis Scaglione, President & Music Director

The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute is the tri-state region's premier youth orchestra organization for gifted, young, classical musicians, and one of the oldest and most highly regarded youth orchestra organizations in the United States. For 85 years, the PYO Music Institute has been providing professional-caliber musical experiences to young instrumentalists, while thrilling audiences in the Greater Philadelphia region and across the globe.

The organization has eleven programs: Philadelphia Youth Orchestra (PYO), Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra (PYAO), Young Musicians Debut Orchestra (YMDO), Tune Up Philly - Orchestral Pathways Program, Bravo Brass, Prysm Strings Main Line, Prysm Strings New Jersey, Pizzicato Players, Philadelphia Youth Jazz Orchestra (PYJO), Philadelphia Youth Symphonic Band (PYSB), and Philadelphia Youth Concert Band (PYCB). Ranging in age from 5 to 22 years, the musicians of the PYO Music Institute are selected by competitive audition and come from a 70-mile radius of Philadelphia encompassing nearly 20 counties within Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. Through advanced orchestra repertoire, students are challenged to perform at professional levels, to strive for advanced musicianship, and to achieve superior technical, musical, and personal application. Former PYOMI musicians currently hold chairs in most of the top 20 professional orchestras in the United States, with 12 PYO alumni currently serving in The Philadelphia Orchestra.

Extraordinary artistic leadership is a hallmark of the PYO Music Institute. Adolph Sorian (1940–1941), J.W.F. Leman (1941–1952), William R. Smith (1952–1954), and Joseph Primavera (1954–2005) served as Music Directors, with Maestro Primavera having had the extraordinary distinction of being the longest-serving active conductor of any orchestra in the world. Louis Scaglione, appointed in 1997 by Maestro Primavera and the PYOMI Board of Trustees, continues the legacy of leadership, currently serving as the PYO Music Institute's President, CEO and Music Director.

#### Philadelphia Youth Orchestra

Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, having been presented on tour in over twenty countries, is one of the most wellrecognized youth orchestra programs in the nation. It provides the region's most advanced classical instrumental music students with unparalleled training and performance opportunities with world renowned soloists under the direction of Maestro Louis Scaglione, one of the leading youth orchestra conductors in the country. In addition to the opportunity to showcase their talents through high-profile radio broadcasts on WRTI 90.1 and live performances in Verizon Hall of The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, members learn character-building life skills and supplement their collegiate and conservatory applications, making them strong candidates for acceptance into the most prestigious universities and conservatories around the world.

#### Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra

Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra challenges advanced students through rehearsal and performance of sophisticated symphonic repertoire and through musical discipline. PYAO further provides the opportunity to achieve advanced ensemble proficiencies with a highly experienced professional conductor, PYAO students work with master teachers from The Philadelphia Orchestra in sectional rehearsals: have the opportunity to participate in an annual concerto competition: and perform in high profile professional venues throughout the Greater Philadelphia region, including the Perelman Theater and Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. Rosalind Erwin, a graduate of The New School of Music and Temple University, studied conducting with Joseph Barone, and was mentored by Ricardo Muti, Leonard Slatkin, and David

Zinman. She is currently Music Director and Conductor of the Drexel University Symphony Orchestra, former Music Director of the Pottstown Symphony Orchestra, and has extensive experience conducting in Europe. She is a master teacher and is a highly sought-after clinician and guest conductor.

#### Young Musicians Debut Orchestra

Young Musicians Debut Orchestra is a beginning to intermediate-level full symphonic orchestra that provides most students with their first introduction to large orchestral playing. Through standard orchestral literature, students are challenged to hone their talents for listening, blending, balancing, and making music within the full orchestral context. YMDO prepares its members for participation in Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra, and eventually, Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, as students advance through PYOMI's distinguished orchestra education continuum and pathway. Kenneth Bean, a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory and Jackson State University, is also Assistant Conductor of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra; Conductor of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, Symphonic Orchestra: and Assistant Conductor of Symphony in C. He currently teaches at the Kinhaven Music School and previously taught at the Luzerne Music Center. Mr. Bean maintains an active freelance trumpet career and serves as Associate Director of the Primavera Fund.

#### Tune Up Philly -Orchestral Pathways Program

Tune Up Philly provides Philadelphia's children living in challenging social and economic conditions with access to immersive, after-school music education and performance opportunities. Tune Up Philly focuses on building community through music among peers at each of its school- and community center-based sites, and bringing these students together to experience the joy and benefits of playing together in large ensembles. An award-winning educator, classical recording artist, and nationally performed composer, Mr. Smith holds degrees from Mannes College of Music and The Juilliard School. He has helped hundreds of families and leading cultural institutions use intensive performing arts education opportunities to engage communities and foster success. Mr. Smith has implemented innovative and successful music education programming, created long-lasting community partnerships among institutions of varying disciplines and genres, and developed mentorship training for conservatory and college graduates.

#### **Prysm Strings - Main Line**

Prysm Strings offers unparalleled, personalized small group instruction and educational support for beginning to intermediate string students, under the direction of Gloria dePasquale, With performance opportunities alongside the program's faculty. Prysm Strings also provides members with peer mentors from the senior ensembles of the PYO Music Institute. Gloria dePasquale, Cellist for The Philadelphia Orchestra (1977-2022) was hired by Eugene Ormandy and served four and a half decades under ensuing artistic leadership, including Riccardo Muti, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Christoph Eschenbach, Charles Dutoit, and Yannick

Nézet-Séguin. She was cellist of the dePasquale String Quartet and dePasquale Trio. She is senior artistic and educational advisor to PYO and designs and oversees the PYOMI College and Conservatory Audition Preparation program. Mrs. dePasquale has served on the Board of the League of American Orchestras, The Philadelphia Orchestra Association, and the President's Council at New England Conservatory.

#### Prysm Strings - New Jersey

Prysm Strings NJ is the New Jersey division of Prysm Strings and a new program division of the Institute. Prysm Strings provides string ensemble and instrumental sectional rehearsals hosted at the Katz Jewish Community Center (JCC) in Cherry Hill, NJ. Prysm Strings NJ is directed and conducted by Michael Ludwig, former Associate Concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra and international violin solo artist, and managed by Rachael Ludwig, violinist and Founding Artistic Director of the Stella Schaevitz Concert Series at the Katz JCC.

#### **Pizzicato Players**

Under the direction of Paul Smith, Pizzicato Players is an educational offering of the PYO Music Institute for plucked string instruments. Pizzicato Players strives to create a home to develop critical and large ensemble skills and ensemble experience with conductors and acoustically favorable settings to highlight and nurture plucked instruments which are increasingly used in contemporary settings and throughout conservatories worldwide.

#### **Bravo Brass**

Bravo Brass, the only year-round brass ensemble in the Philadelphia area and one of only three in the country. Under the direction of Paul Bryan, the program offers the highest level of individual and ensemble training opportunities for the most accomplished young brass musicians in the area. In addition to the opportunity to showcase their talents through multiple live performances throughout the year, members have distinguished themselves and gained acceptance to some of the most competitive and prestigious institutions for music and higher learning around the globe. Paul Bryan serves as Director of Assessment and Accreditation at the Curtis Institute of Music. An accomplished conductor and teacher, he also holds positions as Director of Orchestral Studies at West Chester University, Director of the University of Pennsylvania's Wind Ensemble, and Music Director of Symphony in C's Summer Symphony Camp.

#### Philadelphia Youth Jazz Orchestra

The Philadelphia Youth Jazz Orchestra provides advanced instrumental music students access to training, musical and personal development, and performance opportunities through professional-level jazz orchestra repertoire. PYJO offers the chance to work with worldrenowned and highly experienced professional conductors, musicians, and teachers; and to perform in professional venues throughout the greater Philadelphia region, Justin Faulkner, the Director and Conductor of the PYJO. currently holds the drum chair in the Grammy Award Winning/Six-Time Grammy Nominated Branford Marsalis Quartet. He is an Artist in Residence at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance, is a Governor of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Recording Academy, and creative consultant for

the Clef Club of Jazz and Performing Arts.

#### Philadelphia Youth Symphonic Band

The Philadelphia Youth Symphonic Band provides advanced instrumental music students access to training, musical and personal development, and performance opportunities through high-level wind band repertoire. PYSB provides the opportunity to work with highly experienced professional conductors, musicians, and teachers; and to perform in professional venues throughout the greater Philadelphia region. Patrick Bailey, Director and Conductor of the PYSB, recently served as Director & Conductor of the Drexel University Concert Band program and is a tenured faculty member in the Pennsbury School District's internationally recognized instrumental music program.

#### Philadelphia Youth Concert Band

The Philadelphia Youth Concert Band (PYCB), a new program division of the Institute, provides committed, developing instrumental music students access to a high-performing concert band experience. The focus is on cultivating individual musicianship and playing technique within the context of a large ensemble. Through weekly rehearsals and regular sectionals, PYCB provides the opportunity to work sideby-side with highly experienced conductors, musicians, and teachers; to rehearse leveled wind band repertoire; and to perform in high-profile professional venues throughout the greater Philadelphia region. Dr. Harley Givler directs, conducts, and performs with ensembles of all ages across the Northeast. He currently serves as Chair of the Music Department and Director of Bands, grades 4-12 at The Shipley School in Bryn Mawr, PA, where he also co-directs the Upper School Orchestra and Shipley Jazz Band.



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#### SAMUEL BARBER

Born: West Chester, Pennsylvania, 9 March 1910 Died: New York City, New York, 23 January 1981

#### Overture to The School for Scandal

The Overture to *The School for Scandal* is composed for piccolo, two flutes, two oboes, English horn, two clarinets, bass clarinet, two bassoons, four horns, three trumpets, three trombones, tuba, harp, celeste, timpani, snare drum, bass drum, triangle, cymbals, and divided strings.

Duration: 8 minutes

#### Parallel Events/1932

FDR is elected the 32nd U.S. President

Adolph Hitler is elected Chancellor of Germany

Al Capone enters prison

Radio City Music Hall opens in NYC

The Lindbergh Baby is kidnapped and murdered

Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean and the U.S.

Picasso paints Repose and *The Mirror* 

John Steinbeck writes The Red Pony

Bob Hope, Groucho Marx, and Jack Benny make radio show debuts

Politician Edward Kennedy, Actress Elizabeth Taylor, Pianist Glenn Gould, and Novelist John Updike are born

Scotch tape dispenser is invented

#### **About the Composer**

One of America's most distinguished composers, Samuel Barber is of the generation of English composer Benjamin Britten, and is perhaps the American equivalent of Britten. Both composers explore the loss of innocence in many of their works.

At the young age of 14, Barber entered the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia as one of the school's first students. After being graduated from Curtis in 1932, Barber embarked upon a career as a composer. His musical language was so accessible, and his skill in orchestration so assured, that he quickly gained success.

He won the coveted prize for composition, *Prix de Rome*, as well as two Pulitzer Prizes, for his opera *Vanessa* and later his Piano Concerto No. 1. Barber wrote three operas, including *Antony and Cleopatra* (commissioned for the opening of the Metropolitan Opera House), one ballet, one overture, two symphonies, concertos for piano and violin, three orchestral "essays," choral works, sonatas for violin and cello, music for piano solo, and songs.

The music that Barber wrote, especially during the 1930s, held onto the ideas of the Romantic period of the 19th century, where composers attempted to explore larger than life images and ideals using overly lush melodies. While Stravinsky was guiding the popular trend of rhythmic exploration, influencing such composers as Bernstein, Bartók, and Orff, others like Rachmaninoff and Samuel Barber held on to the notion that a melody shaped a piece of music. Despite Barber's flirtation with other techniques of 20th century composition, Barber never completely abandoned the tonal mainstream in which his greatest strengths lie.

Before his world-renowned success, Barber began his first major orchestral work while a student at the Curtis Institute and on summer vacation in Italy. It was a 1777 play by Richard Brinsley Sheridan titled *A School for Scandal* assigned on a summer reading list that drew Barber's interest. The play takes place in the jaded social circle of the aptly-named Lady Sneerwell. The comedy centers on the eccentricities and

malicious gossip of the upper class characters that jeopardize young lovers and several relationships in the play.

Barber's Overture to The School for Scandal was not intended to convey the plot of the play, but to depict "a musical reflection of the play's spirit," explains Barber in the notes to the work. The Overture begins with a clashing dissonant fanfare in a jagged, energetic rhythm suggesting the deviousness of gossip. It quickly moves to establish a constantly twisting and changing line of musical ideas that ingeniously implies the backbiting of Sheridan's Lady Sneerwell and her circle. As with most of Barber's works, innocence is threatened - in this case the innocence of the young lovers in the play, Charles and Mariah. Barber uses the oboe to capture the youthful love before the quirky, off-beat, jazz-infused, iia-like melody returns.

The Overture to *The School for Scandal* served as Barber's thesis for graduation from the Curtis Institute in 1932.

Although Curtis Orchestra conductor Fritz Reiner declined to perform the work, it is a tightly woven piece far more developed than most student works, let alone a first orchestral work. Since its premiere by The Philadelphia Orchestrat wo years after its completion, it has remained a popular work amongst audiences and musicians.

Allan R. Scott ©

#### **PAUL FRUCHT**

Born: Danbury, Connecticut, 1989

#### In Tyset

"In Tyset," a Yiddish phrase that means "in time," is a contemporary reflection on Jewish American culture and life. In generating ideas for this work, Ranaan and I shared with each other our own families' Jewish American experiences, histories, and stories. We aimed for a musical depiction not only of the Jewish American story but of the joy inherent in it. For understandable reasons, many of

the Jewish-centric stories told in various mediums and genres in recent years have centered around tragedy, generational trauma, and indeed resilience and perseverance. Nonetheless, Ranaan and I both wanted to create a work that channeled the joy, much of it borne out of tragedy and resilience, that is inherent to the Jewish-American experience and community.

As I set out to write the work, I knew I wanted to include Jewish musical materials. Different versions of "Avinu Malkeinu," a traditional Jewish melody, appear frequently and form the basis for much of the melodic material that appears throughout the work, especially in the first and third movements. I also wanted to include quotations and variations of Jerome Kern's "The Way You Look Tonight." Kern, whose family has been in the United States since the mid-19th century, was one of the most important American Jewish songwriters and composers, and one of my favorites. A concerto for Ranaan, with his storied career crossing genres, almost requires allusions to music of different genres, and this jazz standard felt right to me. The narrative of the work traces the life of my grandfather, Lionel Ovesey, who was born in Ukraine in 1915 and whose family, fearing pogroms, fled shortly after his birth to Manchuria, where he lived until he was five. At that point his family came to the United States. The first movement traces these early years, evoking an old-world Eastern European Jewish sound, teasing at hope before bursting into a fast, energetic adventure filled with virtuosic rhythmic passages in the solo double bass, which culminate in a brass fanfare out of which the solo double bass emerges to signify my grandfather's arrival in America.

Lionel met my grandmother, Regina, in the late 1930s, and the early years of their relationship were disrupted by his deployment to the Pacific as a U.S. Army officer in World War II.

After he returned, they were together for more than 50 happy years. The second movement, "Tonight," is a romantic intermezzo that quotes "The Way You Look Tonight," both as a dedication to them and as an homage to the contributions of Jewish American musicians - both those who, like Kern, were born here and those who came over to escape persecution abroad - to 20th century American music. The solo double bass carries fragments of the melody throughout until, at the end, we hear the tune in Kern's original harmonization segueing to a cadenza.

The final movement, Chutzpah, alludes to the tenacious Jewish pursuit of the American dream and the realization of many of those dreams, including those of my grandparents, in the second half of the 20th century, which paved the way for Jewish American life today.

Paul Frucht November 2024

#### **George Gershwin**

Born: Brooklyn, New York, 26 September 1898 Died: Hollywood, California, 11 July 1937

#### Rhapsody in Blue

Rhapsody in Blue was originally composed for the Paul Whiteman Band and piano solo. Ferde Grofé later orchestrated the work for two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, optional saxophones, three horns, three trumpets, three trombones, tuba, timpani, bass drum, cymbals, snare drum, tamtam, triangle, glockenspiel, optional banjo, and divided strings.

**Duration:** 16 minutes

#### Parallel Events / 1924

Russian revolutionary Vladimir Lenin dies and Soviet dictator Stalin rises to power

Calvin Coolidge is elected the 30th U.S. President

Matisse paints Arabesque

U.S. Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H.W. Bush are born

Largest U.S. stock market boom, with Ford Motor Company stocks equal to \$1 billion

MGM film studios open

Actor Marlon Brando is born

Opera composer Giacomo Puccini dies

#### **About the Composer**

At a late-night party typical of the Jazz Age, pianist George Gershwin was overheard pondering if his music would "be heard a hundred years from now." "It will," a friend remarked, "if you are around to play it." It has been a century since Gershwin changed the music and helped give identity to American music with his legendary *Rhapsody in Blue* (1924), yet Gershwin has not been around to play his music for most of it (he died at 38 years old).

Born Jacob Gershowitz to Russian immigrants, George Gershwin began his music career as a high school drop out in Tin Pan Alley, New York's famous songwriting district. As a "song plugger" for the Jerome Remick Company, the young George was exposed to thousands of songs and limitless experience as a jazz pianist.

As one of the first notable American composers, Gershwin made the first attempts to close the gap between "popular" music and "serious" music. While some classical music purists still do not fully accept Gershwin into the circles of classical music completely, no one can deny Gershwin's uncanny ability as a songwriter.

Despite his Broadway success with his lyricist brother, Ira, George followed his less natural talents as a classical composer. Ravel, Boulanger, and Stravinsky refused to teach Gershwin, so he had to eventually study composition, theory, and orchestration on his own.

Gershwin's more formal works include his Piano Concerto in F, Preludes for Piano, Second Rhapsody, Variations on "I Got Rhythm," Cuban Overture, his landmark opera, Porgy and Bess, and his most performed work, Rhapsody in Blue – the work that put Gershwin on the artistic forefront of American concertgoers, jazz lovers, and music critics.

Bandleader Paul Whiteman commissioned Gershwin to write a "jazz concerto" to be included in a concert titled *An Experiment in Modern Music* in New York on February 12, 1924. With Gershwin performing the solo piano part, *Rhapsody in Blue* was an enormous success. Everyone who was anyone in the music world attended the concert, such as virtuoso violinist Jascha Heifetz, and composers Rachmaninoff and Stravinsky. All but Stravinsky loved the work immediately.

A rhapsody differs from a concerto in that it features one extended movement instead of the conventional three movements. Rhapsodies also often incorporate passages of improvisation and are irregular in form, with heightened contrasts and emotional exuberance. Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* is typical in that it certainly has large contrasts in musical texture, style, and color. The work ranges from intensely rhythmic piano solos to slow, broad, and lush orchestral sections.

Because Gershwin had only composed songs with piano scores until the *Rhapsody* commission, he was very hesitant to take on the project as he would have to write a full score. So, Whiteman offered the services of his arranger, Ferde Grofé, to help Gershwin with the orchestration.

Rhapsody in Blue became the Whiteman Orchestra's signature tune. More importantly, at a time when classical music was still an overwhelmingly European art form, it introduced a uniquely American voice in a classical

concert. While the age-old European classical music drew on national folk and popular music, Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* began the infusion of American popular music into the classical tradition. More than the success of the work itself, *Rhapsody in Blue* legitimized jazz as a serious form of music, and soon classical composers were attempting to write "serious" music using jazz idioms.

Gershwin took a risk by using his musical influences, such as Scott Joplin's ragtime, rhythmic improvisations from Harlem's nightclubs, the folk music of the Yiddish theatre, Cuban rhythms coupled with Charleston dance, and the rich experimental harmonies of composers like Ravel, Schoenberg, and Stravinsky. "I heard it as a sort of a musical kaleidoscope of America," explained Gershwin, "of our vast melting pot, of our unduplicated national pep, of our blues, our metropolitan madness."

The famous clarinet trill and run up the scale was not composed by Gershwin. Clarinetist Ross Gorman felt that the opening of the work needed a bit more humor. Gershwin told him to keep it. Gershwin improvised himself, as he had yet to transcribe the piano part. By 1928, Whiteman's band performed Rhapsody in Blue 84 times, and its recording sold a million copies. Whether or not Rhapsody in Blue is "jazz" remains a much-debated topic, but like F. Scott Fitzgerald's Great Gatsby, Gershwin's music has come to define American life and culture during the "roaring" 1920s. Immediately after Gershwin's death and throughout the 1940s through the 1950s, Gershwin's songs essentially set the stage for some of the great performers, like Ella Fitzgerald, Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, and Tony Bennett. There is not a cabaret singer, jazz musician, or jazz lover that does not hold Gershwin as the father of the American song. From airline commercials and dozens of films to remakes of nearly every kind (including hip hop, rock and roll, and rap),

Gershwin's music has remained in mainstream Americana for nearly a century.

Sadly, the man who gave us the cheerful, fun-spirited, heart-warming music that has stayed with us for nearly a century never lived long enough to enjoy it. Gershwin collapsed in July 1937, fell into a coma from which he never regained consciousness, and died of a brain tumor. He was 38.

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#### **LEONARD BERNSTEIN**

Born: Lawrence, Massachusetts, 25 August 1918 Died: New York City, New York,14 October 1990

### Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

Bernstein's *Symphonic Dances* from *West Side Story* is scored for piccolo, two flutes, two oboes, English horn, clarinet in E-flat, two clarinets in B-flat, bass clarinet, two bassoons, contra-bassoon, alto saxophone, four horns, three trumpets, three trombones, tuba, timpani, bongos, tambourine, timbales, tom-tom, snare drums, conga, tenor drum, bass drum, four pitched drums, trap set, triangle, suspended cymbal, finger cymbals, cowbells, tam-tam, vibraphone, chimes glockenspiel, guiro, woodblock, maracas, xylophone, police whistle, piano, celeste, harp, and divided strings.

**Duration: 22 minutes** 

#### Parallel Events / 1957

Dwight D. Eisenhower begins second term as 34th U.S. President

USSR begins space race with U.S. by launching Sputnik

European Economic Community is formed

U.S. first reports link between smoking and lung cancer

Jimmy Hoffa becomes president of the Teamsters Union

Jack Kerouac writes On the Road

John F. Kennedy's *Profiles in Courage* wins the Pulitzer Prize

Meredith Willson's musical *The Music Man* debuts on Broadway

Jack Paar debuts as host of the *Tonight*Show

Leave It To Beaver and American Bandstand debut on television

Baseball team Brooklyn Dodgers move to Los Angeles

Film maker Shelton "Spike" Lee and news anchor Katie Couric are born

Actor Humphrey Bogart, artist Diego Rivera, comedian Oliver Hardy, conductor Arturo Toscanini, composer Jean Sibelius, bandleader Jimmy Dorsey, and Senator Joseph McCarthy die

Men's fashion magazine *GQ* is first published

First Frisbee is made

#### **About the Composer**

Defining what American music is remains a problem for all historians. Ought American music be based on spirituals, as Czech composer Antonín Dvořák suggested? Or, perhaps, music of America should reflect the folk musics of the European immigrants. Ultimately, should it be popular or serious, vernacular or cultivated? The answer, of course, lies in all of the above: American music can, and should, be all of those things.

The answer, however, begs a more puzzling question: who best represents "American music?" The dilemma of American music is summarized and even amplified in the life, career, and artistic contributions of Leonard Bernstein. He himself could not decide which way to turn - in his musical career (pianist, composer, conductor, or teacher?), his musical style (popular or serious?), his religion or his sexuality.

Leonard Bernstein was able to study music privately in his early years with piano lessons before attending Harvard University, where he developed extraordinary musical abilities. Bernstein continued his studies at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia: conducting with Fritz Reiner, orchestration with Randall Thompson, and piano with Isabella Vengerova. In 1940, Serge Koussevitzky, music director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, opened the renowned Berkshire Music Center in Tanglewood, Massachusetts, with young Bernstein as Koussevitzky's special protégé and, the following year, as his assistant.

Bernstein emerged as a major force in music at the age of 25 when he substituted on very short notice for conductor Bruno Walter with the New York Philharmonic, the very ensemble for which Bernstein would later serve as music director. The performance was a sensational success, and thereafter Bernstein pursued a much acclaimed and tremendously active career as a conductor, coupled with an equally accomplished career as a concert pianist, and an even more profound profession as an educator, mentoring many of the current leaders on the podium today.

As conductor, performer, and educator, Bernstein desired to keep symphonic music (and classical music in general) alive in a culture preoccupied with the technological advances of film, theatre, and rock and roll, and an age concerned with McCarthyism and racism. A great talent with a great ego, Bernstein craved indispensability, musically and personally, and he found it in the large, oversized works of Mahler, Sibelius, and Shostakovich. Bernstein seemed to enable even the most traditional of ensembles, like the Vienna Philharmonic, to rediscover and unleash the immortal and heroic qualities of the great composers.

Bernstein's ability as a conductor, who led every major orchestra in the world, and talent as a pianist, who performed everything from Mozart to Rachmaninoff, always remained divisive factors in Bernstein's life. He preferred to devote much more time to composing. Even his career as a composer involved dividing Bernstein's loyalties between the worlds of "serious" and "entertainment" music. Bernstein found his own compositional style almost immediately: a vigorous style, juxtaposing romantic, lush melodic passages against jazz-slanted rhythms. The roots of his works appropriately stem from the lyrical George Gershwin (perhaps the greatest natural songwriter since Schubert) to the crashing rhythms and harmonies of Stravinsky. Eager to bring people to music, Bernstein would leap right over conventional notions of good taste and would risk embarrassment itself.

The creative works of Leonard Bernstein bridge the gap between the academic and popular worlds of music, all of which reflect experienced craftsmanship. In all, he wrote 3 ballets, 3 symphonies, 1 film score (On the Waterfront), 2 masses, several serenades and divertimentos, numerous works for piano and voice, 5 books, 6 musicals, (including On the Town, Wonderful Town, and West Side Story) and 3 operas, including his longest project, Candide.

#### **About the Work**

In 1989, the year before he died, Bernstein complained that he "doesn't feel happy that people will remember me because of *West Side Story*, even though I love the piece. I would rather people remember me for my serious compositions."

Bernstein's complaint seems ironic coming from the same person who worked at breaking down the artificial barriers between popular music and "serious" art music. With West Side Story, Bernstein had triumphantly proved that the two can be fused together successfully (even though it was Meredith Willson's The Music Man that was given the Tony Award for Best Musical).

Opening on Broadway 26 September 1957, the musical updated Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet to contemporary New York City, where prejudice and feuding teen gangs separated the two lovers. Romeo and Juliet were now Tony and Maria, and the Montagues and Capulets were the Sharks and the Jets.

From its premiere, West Side Story was immediately recognized as a new plateau for the stage and it was born out of a dream team consisting of Bernstein's brilliantly unified, nervously jazzy score. Arthur Laurents' book, Stephen Sondheim's lyrics, and Jerome Robbins' electrifying choreography. Laurents and Robbins originally conceived of a modern story of the Shakespeare tragedy in 1949 and planned to title the work Gangway and later changed it to East Side Story. Taking place on the east side of Manhattan, the plot was to originally focus on a young Italian-American Catholic boy who falls in love with a Jewish girl, who has survived the Holocaust and left Israel for America.

Feeling the story was already dated, the project was shelved until 1954 upon seeing larger amounts of immigrants from Puerto Rico in New York. The Italian-American was changed to a Polish-American and Maria was changed from a Jewish immigrant to a Puerto Rican living on the west side of Manhattan.

Though West Side Story has become one of the most popular works for the staged, it was a risky project from the start.

Adapting a Shakespearian classic was enough of a risk, but ending a musical with a grim conclusion was an even greater one. To add to the tragedy, the young lovers do not beautifully die together. Heartbreakingly so, the audience is left with Tony murdered and Maria still alive to ponder the hatred and feuding that tore the lovers apart.

Central to the conception of West Side Story is the importance of dance. Serving as both stage director and choreographer, Jerome Robbins merged stage movement and dance seamlessly. Some members of the original cast were chosen for their abilities as dancers, leaving their singing ability to be considered secondary.

Having already composed scores for two other ballets (*Fancy Free* and *Wonderful Town*), Bernstein captured much of the young lovers' innocent romance, hopes for a better tomorrow, and the tensions and violence of the gang wars all through dance sequences just as effectively as he did with song.

In 1961, Sid Ramin and Irwin Kostal, who assisted Bernstein with the score to *West Side Story*, worked under Bernstein's supervision to create a concert work capturing several of the dance sequences from the production.

"We were in ecstasy!" explained Ramin. "Every orchestra color was ours for the asking." The completed *Symphonic Dances* from *West Side Story* remains one of the concert repertoire's greatest gifts to the theatre – it brings back every emotion, tension, and hope that an audience experiences with the story itself. From the familiar opening moment, the Prologue in *Symphonic Dances* sets up the rivalry between the Jets and Sharks. "Somewhere" next paints a visionary dance sequence where the gangs are friendly. As the vision continues with a *Scherzo*, the gangs break out of the city and into a world of open spaces and possibilities.

The vision of peace is immediately interrupted with the famous Mambo, returning to a competitive dance between the gangs. *Symphonic Dances* then offers a delicate Cha-Cha to the song of "Maria" recalling when Tony and Maria first meet. A short musical underscoring suggests the couple's first words together in the Meeting Scene, while the memorable sounds of "Cool" emerge – where the Jets practice controlling their hostility. *Symphonic Dances* explodes again in the Rumble scene where the two gang leaders are killed until a finale offers the love theme coupled with a funeral procession that recalls the hauntingly beautiful "Somewhere."

In every moment, Bernstein's music dances in ways that underscore the tension, the hatred, the violence, and the tragic love story. Sid Ramin explains that "somehow, the Symphonic Dances manages to be both 'serious' and 'popular.' It brings music of Broadway into the concert hall, orchestrating with symphonic character the music every theatre-goer loves. Miraculously, Lenny could do it all."

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#### **UPCOMING 2024-2025 SEASON PERFORMANCES**

November 23, 2024 4 p.m.

Philadelphia Youth Jazz Orchestra

Temple Performing Arts Center

November 23, 2024 7 p.m.

Philadelphia Youth Symphonic Band

Temple Performing Arts Center

December 1, 2024 3 p.m.

Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra

Perelman Theater, Kimmel Center

December 14, 2024 7:30 p.m.

**Bravo Brass** 

St. Mark's Church of Philadelphia

December 15, 2024 3 p.m.

**Bravo Brass** 

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Burlington, NJ Marian Anderson Hall, Kimmel Center

January 18, 2025 3 p.m.

Young Musicians Debut Orchestra

Temple Performing Arts Center

February 1, 2025 3 p.m.

Prysm Strings - Main Line

The Haverford School

February 8, 2025 3 p.m.

Prysm String - New Jersey

Katz Jewish Community Center

February 9, 2025

Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra

Perelman Theater, Kimmel Center

March 2, 2025 3 p.m.

Philadelphia Youth Orchestra

Marian Anderson Hall, Kimmel Center

March 16, 2025 3 p.m.

**PYO Music Institute Showcase** 

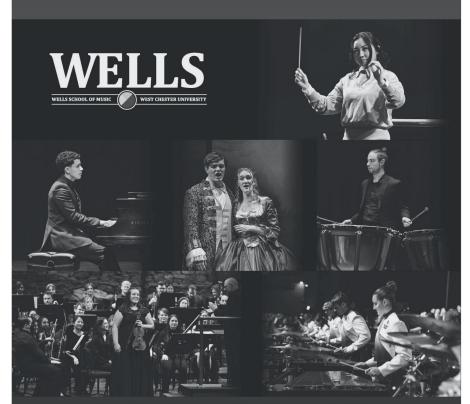
March 22, 2025 3 p.m.

Philadelphia Youth Jazz Orchestra

Temple Performing Arts Center

For complete schedule, tickets, and performance updates, visit pyomusic.org.



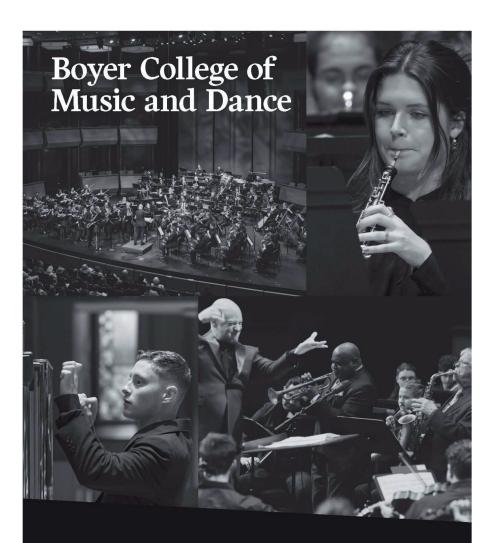


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