

# The National Orchestral Association

## BRINGING US TOGETHER

The power of commonly-shared experiences is more important than ever. In a time when so much seems political and divisive, musical organizations have a unique opportunity to bring people together. Media headlines tell us that our nation is divided, but concertgoers know that a love of music and the arts can unite people of all backgrounds and perspectives. We encourage arts organizations around the country to do whatever they can to build bridges.

The late Supreme Court Justices Ginsburg and Scalia serve as an example. Though they had very different political views, they nonetheless were lifelong friends who shared concerts, vacations and New Years' celebrations together. The kind of respect and civility that Justices Ginsburg and Scalia demonstrated is missing from much of American society today. We should remember how commonly-shared experiences like a ball game or concert can provide an opportunity for the kind of communal sharing that underscores a civil society.

We urge all music organizations to focus on a longer-term perspective centered around building audiences for great music and finding ways to bring people together. The enjoyment of the arts, particularly with others, is a means of encouraging the impulse to share as human beings. As politicians and the media focus on our differences, and in a world where one can so easily be overwhelmed by current events and pressures, music provides a balm to remind us of our common humanity.

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy and happy 2023!

*Matthew J. Trachtenberg*  
President

## FRIENDS OF AIKEN SYMPHONY

Aiken, South Carolina is a beautiful community known for its hospitality and equestrian activities. Since 1986, The Aiken Symphony Orchestra has been supported by the Friends of Aiken Symphony, which seeks individual contributions, corporate sponsorships and foundation support. This organization provides a financial backbone for the Symphony and helps to sponsor the Youth Concert Series in both Aiken and Edgefield Counties. To date, more than 35,500 grade school students have attended these concerts. We salute the Friends of Aiken Symphony for its important work in providing financial assistance to the Symphony. To learn more about the Friends of Aiken Symphony, please visit [www.friendsofaikensymphony.org](http://www.friendsofaikensymphony.org).

## ARAPAHOE PHILHARMONIC

Located in Littleton, Colorado, the Arapahoe Philharmonic has been bringing music to Colorado audiences since 1953. The National Orchestral Association is proud to support this organization whose mission is "to engage, enrich, and inspire our community through musical performance, education, and outreach."

The Arapahoe Philharmonic presents high-quality, engaging, accessible symphonic performances and music education to a diverse community. "The orchestra provides a musical home to grow and develop amateur musicians, music educators, and pre-professional musicians and offers compensated performance opportunities for professional musicians in our community." This model not only yields high-quality performances, but provides income opportunities for local musicians and a chance for non-professionals to perform with their more experienced counterparts. For more information, please visit the Arapahoe website at [www.arapahoe-phil.org](http://www.arapahoe-phil.org).

## WALLA WALLA SYMPHONY

Walla Walla, Washington was formed in 1854 and was named after the Walla Walla tribe of Native Americans. The Walla Walla Symphony has been an important part of the cultural life of this community since 1907. The Symphony is the "oldest continuously operating symphony west of the Mississippi," and is committed to making its region "a better place to live through awakening a passion for the arts in as many people as possible."

Each season this organization continues its legacy of impacting people through music by offering symphonic concerts as well as fully-staged ballets such as the holiday favorite *The Nutcracker*. The organization also provides extensive, free and low-cost offerings for youth and families because "no child with a love for music should be deprived of the opportunity to experience and learn about music due to socioeconomic status." For more information, please visit [www.wwsymphony.org](http://www.wwsymphony.org).



**Maestro Leon Barzin with performers for premiere of Kleinsinger's *Fantasy for Violin and Orchestra* (1946)**

## **FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC**

The College of Music at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida is the largest in the Southeast and the third largest university-based music program in the U.S. Founded in 1900, the College of Music “serves as a center of excellence for the cultural development of the State and offers a comprehensive program of instruction for all students who expect to become professional musicians.”

The College also prides itself on its community engagement, providing concerts, recitals, lectures, master classes and guest performances for the public, reaching people of all ages. In 1987, the University Musical Associates was formed “to engage the greater Tallahassee area with a select group of ticketed concerts and recitals each year” with an aim to deepen and enhance “each member’s relationship with the college and university and funds raised through the UMA directly support music students in their educational endeavors.” To learn more about the Florida State University College of Music, please visit [www.music.fsu.edu](http://www.music.fsu.edu).

### **STRING ORCHESTRA OF NEW YORK CITY**

The String Orchestra of New York City (“SONYC”) is a conductor-less chamber group consisting of extraordinary string players. Founded in 1999, SONYC “is a pioneer of the concert hall, as well as the classroom, having given over 250 performances and close to 100 master classes for children of all ages and backgrounds, nationally as well as in New York City’s public schools.” SONYC “strives to inspire and educate its audiences” in its concerts, and has lined up a concert schedule for next year beginning in January, showcasing works by Elgar, Warlock, Kodaly, and Reger, among others. In April 2023, SONYC will present the world premiere of the Bach Second Cello Suite arranged for Six Violins by Karl Kramer. To learn more about the String Orchestra of New York City, please visit [www.stringorchestraofnyc.org](http://www.stringorchestraofnyc.org).

### **SETTLEMENT MUSIC SCHOOL**

Founded in 1908, Settlement Music School serves the Greater Philadelphia area, and is one of the oldest and largest community schools of the arts in the U.S. Settlement provides financial aid to more than 60% of its student population, with an aim to “ensure that arts education is accessible to all, from as young as 6 months to age 99.” Its branches “serve all eight counties in the Philadelphia region, in addition to more than 13 states across the country, ensuring that excellence in arts education is available to all, regardless of location.” For more information about Settlement Music School, please visit [www.settlementmusic.org](http://www.settlementmusic.org).

### **LYRIC CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF NEW YORK**

Currently celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> season, the Lyric Chamber Music Society of New York presents concerts in an intimate setting at the Kosciuszko Foundation, offering “up-close exposure to rising stars as well as Concert Masters and Principal Players from leading orchestras.” Lyric also is “actively involved in music education workshops and committed to broadening our initiative in under-served schools with and without music programs.” To learn more, please visit [www.lyricny.org](http://www.lyricny.org).

## **PUNTA GORDA SYMPHONY**

Located in Charlotte County, Florida, the Punta Gorda Symphony provides world-class musical performances under the direction of Maestro Raffaele Ponti. The Symphony performs a wide variety of classical music, featuring performances throughout the fall and spring seasons. Performances at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center feature well-known titles by such composers as Brahms, Copeland, Dvorak, Wagner, Schubert, Shostakovich, Rossini, Elgar, Rachmaninoff, and Rimsky-Korsakov.

In addition to their highly-praised classical music concerts, the orchestra also participates in “Cinematic Sounds,” a unique event for orchestra music and film lovers alike. The program was created to celebrate the music of great films that inspire audiences and are an integral part of great cinematic works. In many cases, young people are exposed to classical music only through film, and this program seeks to develop an interest in classical music through the use of music in film. The Punta Gorda Symphony also sponsors concerts by some of the best jazz musicians in southwest Florida on the beautiful lawn at Florida SouthWestern State College. For more information about the Punta Gorda Symphony, please visit [www.pgsymphony.org](http://www.pgsymphony.org).

### **INTERLOCHEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

Located on a 1,200 acre campus in beautiful northern Michigan, Interlochen was founded in 1928 to offer an immersive arts experience which fosters a sense of closeness, discovered only through a deep, shared appreciation. Generations of artists and arts enthusiasts have experienced the special and intangible magic that occurs on Interlochen’s campus, nestled between two pristine lakes and surrounded by quiet pines. It is a true artist’s retreat, serving students in grades 3-12, as well as adults of all ages. Interlochen aims to help young artists transform artistically and personally through its performance programs. The organization continually strives “to find new ways to stretch talents, build confidence, and help artists find their unique voice.” For more information about the Interlochen Center for the Arts, please visit [www.interlochen.org](http://www.interlochen.org).

### **RUSH TICKET PROGRAM – METROPOLITAN OPERA**

The NOA is pleased to support the work of the Metropolitan Opera in providing low-priced rush tickets to various performances. These low-priced tickets provide a gateway for students to be exposed to opera. Since its initiation in 2006 by the late Dr. Agnes Varis and her husband, Karl Leichtman, these deeply-discounted tickets have given a lifeline to many low-income opera lovers who otherwise would not be able to attend performances at the Metropolitan Opera. For more information about the rush ticket program and performances at the Metropolitan Opera, please visit [www.metopera.org](http://www.metopera.org).

### **THE SPHINX ORGANIZATION**

Detroit, Michigan is the home of The Sphinx Organization. Sphinx was founded in 1996 by the American violinist Aaron Dworkin, and is dedicated to “increasing representation of Black and Latinx artists in classical music and recognizing excellence.” In addition to its well-known annual competition, the organization has created educational programs across the United States, which are free and aimed at developing interest in classical music in urban underserved areas. These programs include: Musical Encounters, School Dayz, Sphinx Preparatory Institute, Sphinx Performance Academy, and Sphinx Journeys. To learn more about the Sphinx Organization, please visit [www.sphinxmusic.org](http://www.sphinxmusic.org).