

2021 2022

Symphony Orchestra
Philharmonic Orchestra
String Orchestra
Prelude Strings
Percussion Ensemble

Teacher Appreciation Concert
February 27, 2022
Mesa Community College
Performing Arts Center



**Anniversary
Season**

**P Y
S O**



In Concert

Galvin Gaustad & Stein LLC is pleased to be the financial advisors to the Phoenix Youth Symphony Orchestras. As an independent, boutique financial services firm, we provide comprehensive wealth management services that deliver customized investment solutions. Working together to make it count for business and community.

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WEALTH MANAGEMENT

21 | 22 PYSO

Season

Partial funding for the PYSO 21|22 season is provided by the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture through appropriations from the Phoenix City Council.

Season Finale Concert

May 2022

Featuring Percussion Ensemble, Prelude Strings, String Orchestra, and Philharmonic Orchestra.

Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty

June 3, 4, and 5, 2022

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Welcome



When I look back on my journey as a musician, most of the seminal moments I experienced were greatly influenced by a teacher. Without my high school orchestra director, I may never had had the opportunity to conduct an orchestra for the first time and realize my dream. Without my private violin teachers, both in high school and college, I never would have developed my sense of musicianship that has carried me to this point.

PYSO's Teacher Appreciation concert has always had the focus of thanking those who make a difference in our young musician's lives. As we continue to adjust and learn in this new world, the task of our teachers becomes more difficult with each passing day. It is with great respect and honor that PYSO continues to present this concert as a small token of our appreciation for the dedication and time our educators commit to each and every student.

This for me, begins with our conducting staff here at PYSO, who have and continue to dedicate themselves, doing whatever is necessary, to have in-person rehearsals in a safe and supportive environment to enrich our student's lives through music. So, a heartfelt thank you to our own Dr. Temme, Ms. Cross, Mr. Maurer and Mr. Betz for dedicating yourselves to the young musicians of PYSO each and every season.

I hope you enjoy this concert and that is encourages you to thank a teacher.

Matthew Kasper
Artistic and General Director
Symphony Orchestra Conductor



Program

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Todd Betz | CONDUCTOR

Bonham CHRISTOPHER ROUSE

PRELUDE STRINGS

Brian Maurer | CONDUCTOR

Desert Sands SOON HEE NEWBOLD

The Bringer of Joy GUSTAV HOLST ARR. ROY PHILLIPE

Scooby-Doo Where are You! ARR. BOB CERULLI

STRING ORCHESTRA

Bethaney Cross | CONDUCTOR

A Riverside Celebration BRIAN BALMAGES

Lullaby WILLIAM HOFELDT

Zampa Overture J.F. HEROLD ARR. BY JAMES "RED" MCLEOD

PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Dr. Walter Temme | CONDUCTOR

Egmont Overture LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Carnival Waltz (*Premiere Performance*) NOAH THOMPSON | PYSO PHILHARMONIC STUDENT

Symphony No. 6, Op. 60 ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

III Scherzo (Furiant), Presto (D minor)

Conductors



Matthew Kasper
Artistic & General Director
Conductor
Symphony Orchestra

- Currently serves as the Symphony Orchestras Conductor, Artistic & General Director and Resident Conductor of The Phoenix Symphony.
- Past posts include Music Director and Assistant Conductor of the Queens Symphony Orchestra, Founding Music Director of the Chicago Composers Orchestra and faculty member of the Aaron Copland School of Music.
- Winner of a 2020 Solti Foundation US Career Assistance Award.
- European debut with the Orchestre Symphonique et Lyrique de Nancy in 2014 and also served as an assistant conductor for the Opera National de Lorraine.
- Trained as a violinist, he holds degrees in violin performance from Queens College and the Chicago College of Performing Arts.
- An accomplished administrator, Matthew served as artistic intern for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Artistic Operations Manager of the Grant Park Music Festival.
- Received a degree in Orchestral Conducting from Queens College with additional training at the prestigious Pierre Monteux School for Conductors.
- Originally from Madison Wisconsin, Matthew resides in Phoenix with his wife Rebecca, son Theodore, daughters Fiona and Magnolia.



Sunny Xuecong Xia
Assistant Conductor
Symphony Orchestra

- World premiere of Rodney Roger's Violin Concerto with MusicaNova Orchestra and soloist Chistiano Rodrigues.
- Assistant Conductor, Phoenix Youth Symphony Orchestra.
- Assistant Conductor, National Music Festival 2021.
- Assistant Conductor, Pierre Monteux Music Festival 2021.
- Assistant Conductor, Arizona State University Symphony Orchestra.
- Guest Conductor, Cleveland Women's Orchestra.
- Assistant Conductor, Cleveland Opera Theater {NOW} Fest 2020.
- Apprentice Conductor, North American New Opera Workshop 2019.
- Kurt & Torj Wray Conducting Scholar, Pierre Monteux Music Festival 2019.
- Conducting Fellow, Cortona Sessions for New Music 2020.
- Semifinalist, National Radio Television of Albania Conducting Competition 2019.
- Conducting Fellow, Marin Alsop Peabody Conducting Workshop 2019.
- Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting and Violin Performance, Cleveland Institute of Music.



Dr. Walter Temme
Conductor
Philharmonic Orchestra

- Philharmonic Orchestra Conductor since 1988.
- Received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Arizona State University.
- Previously on the faculty of Humboldt State University (Ca.) and Wartburg College (IA).
- Known for violin performance but also performed as a violist at Kansas State and was Principal Violist of the Topeka Symphony.
- Credited with revitalizing the orchestral programs in the Scottsdale Schools.
- Currently Director of Orchestras at Mountain View High School in Mesa.
- Twice cited in Who's Who Among America's Teachers. Named 2011 Arizona Music Educator of the Year and 2013 Public School String Teacher of the Year by the Arizona chapter of ASTA. In 2003 named one of the 50 Directors Who Make a Difference by Band and Orchestra Magazine.
- Has conducted Region and Honor Orchestras throughout Arizona.



Bethaney Cross
Conductor
String Orchestra

- Presently Assistant Director of Orchestras at Mountain View High School in Mesa, AZ
- Performance and teaching career in Phoenix metro area began in 2011.
- Principal Violist in the Chandler Symphony in the 2015 season.
- Taught at Mountainside Middle School in Scottsdale where her ensembles performed at fall / spring ABODA festivals receiving Superior with Distinction ratings.
- In 2017, Bethaney guest conducted the 6th Grade Scottsdale Unified Honor Orchestra festival and was the past lead orchestra director in Scottsdale for the elementary and middle school orchestra programs.
- Bachelor of Arts degree in Viola Performance from Northern Arizona University.
- Former musician of Phoenix Youth Symphony and was part of the 2004 tour to China and 2006 tour to Austria.
- A native of Arizona, and currently resides in Mesa with her husband and two boys Landen and Walter. When not teaching, she is with her family camping and hiking.



Brian Maurer
Conductor
Prelude Strings

- Arizona native, who began playing the violin at the age of eight.
- Bachelors of Music Education from Arizona State University where he studied violin.
- Currently is the Orchestra Director at Fremont Junior High School.
- Performance career includes North Valley Chamber Orchestra, Mesa Community College Symphony Orchestra, several church organizations and has also been a part of the Phoenix indie rock scene.
- Founder of the No Fret String Project, a classical ensemble for junior high and high schoolers that perform in Ahwatukee, AZ.
- Phoenix Youth Symphony alumni playing for five years.



Todd Betz
Conductor
Percussion Ensemble

- Bachelor and Master of Music from the University of South Florida.
- Past Adjunct professor of percussion at Florida Southern College in Lakeland.
- Has been instructing marching percussion since 1995.
- Currently Principal Percussionist with the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra.
- Member of the Florida West Coast Symphony (Sarasota Orchestra) from 1991 to 2007.
- Performed with Broadway national tours throughout Florida such as The Producers, Spamalot, 42nd Street, Some Like it Hot, Young Frankenstein, Legally Blonde and Dirty Rotten Scoundrels.



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Dr. Walter Temme
Conductor

Concertmaster ⁺
Principal [^]

Philharmonic Orchestra

VIOLIN I

Ashley Faye Xiao⁺
Sumedh Seetharam
Esther Kim
Yaduo (Eda) Hong
Kayla Ha-Eun Lee
Ranuak Deb
Katie Park
Abigail Yunesuh Lee
Amina Behmen
Colin Boecker-Grieme
Dae-Kyung Kim
Hana Konicanin
Natalie Good
Evelyn Lee Desort

VIOLIN II

Allison Yuan[^]
Catherine George
Ellisah Taylor Catten
Christopher Yoo
Sriya Sridhar
Kaiya Murphy
Yongjun (Jun) Cho
John Muphy
Eloise Rank
Stephanie Janet
Primrose
Avery Ruth Johnson
Yoonseo Lee
Emily Knitter
Megan Scheller
Emma Xi

VIOLA I

Paige Kaufman[^]
Kimberly Lundquist
Jena Lee
Allyson Li
Christiana Rivera
Li-Heng Chen
Kanishk Dravid Anmala
Alexandria Klein
Ella Tobias

CELLO

Justin Kang[^]
Faith Lopez
Braydon Kim
Henry Ponce
Luke Murray
Noah Ha-Jin Lee
Ridge Halen Hall
Jackson Dahl
Ryan Grosso
Magnus Tucker
Samantha Cottam
Israel Kim
Brianna Zhu Morgan
Aaron Barrett

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Elijah Valdivia[^]

BASSOON

Emma Lines[^]

CLARINET

Savannah Larsen[^]
Melody Berlin
Evelyn Chin
Ethan H. Wu
Natania Arun

FLUTE

Elizabeth Ovelii[^]
Kali Kaiser
Sofia Garcia
Roiz Taraskina
Norbu Shastri
Noah Burton
Aadi Istvan Shrikant

OBOE

Adelaide Martinez[^]
Noah Thompson

HORN

Michelle Ross[^]
Caden Eldredge
Josephine Raia

TRUMPET

Louis Dix[^]
Marcus Adrian Fiandaca
David Torres II
Isabel DuPuis
Sean Kobayashi

TROMBONE

Jacob Weiss[^]

TUBA

Anthony Jacobs [^]

PERCUSSION

Carson Cole
Caden Morales
Destiny Neldberg
Daniel Reddington

Bethaney Cross
Conductor

Concertmaster ⁺
Principal [^]

String Orchestra

VIOLIN A

Aimi Siejak^{*}
Kentarou Siejak
Michael Erickson
Sarah Qiu
Liam Whelan
Rachel McClurg
Vincent Laba
Emily Large
Connor Jung
Evan Hernandez
Erin Chiu
Elizabeth Murray
Nina Rawal
Juan Rojas
Sarah Pineda

VIOLIN B

Laura Llames[^]
Madeline Chiu
Emmalyn Fourt
Clare Lueken
Kyle Hwang
Noah Peng
William George
Eden Lindsay
Grace Llames
Kaiwen Xu
Ethan Hetherington
Olivia Morgan
Ella Southworth
Aiden Kai

VIOLA

Mallory Olson[^]
Elsa Nunley
Jae-heyok Moon

CELLO

Madeleine Wang[^]
Julia Miller-Chang
Safia Behmen
Leonard Rosivach
Jun-heyok Moon
Ruizhe Wang

Brian Maurer
Conductor

Concertmaster ⁺
Principal [^]

Prelude Strings

VIOLIN I

Hans Kugler^{*}
Noah Yu
Aashni Sahai
Charlotte de Claremont

VIOLIN II

Yahan Zhang[^]
Alexander Oberle
Aishwarya Ganapathy
Jinyao Audrey Zhou
Isabella Garcia
Roiz Taraskina

VIOLIN III (VIOLA)

Sean Belcheff[^]
Lillian Badenoch
Jeenseo Lee
Johanna Pifer

CELLO

Madeline Mitchell^{*}

Todd Betz
Conductor

Percussion Ensemble

Carson Cole
Landon Frank
Aoyama Jackson
Ben Landon
Caden Morales
Destiny Neldberg
Daniel Reddington
Annaliesa Shepherd



SAVE THE DATE

February 11, 2022

February 12, 2022

Coincides with Jazz Madrigal Festival

February 25, 2022

February 26, 2022

Coincides with Jazz Festival

March 5, 2022

Main Audition Date

March 26, 2022

Audition Dates have been set for Fall 2022 entry to the NAU School of Music. For information on how to apply and audition, please see nau.edu/Music/Admissions/.

music@nau.edu | 928-523-3731

M Manhattan School of Music



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Manhattan School of Music
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it all happens here.

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Ieesuck Jung
Connie Kang
Matthew &
Dr. Rebecca Kasper
Virginia Kurtz
Zhuang Liu
Jina Park
Nathalie Plotvin
Lolita Primose
Adele Ponce
Tracy Romo
Paul Sandomir
Frank Story

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Glenn Kurtz
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Emily Large
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Phyllis McClurg
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Sean-Wyn Ng
Diona Opena
Lawrence Opena
Miguel Opena
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Kathryn Pabst
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Angel Priest
Maribeth Raclaw
Sarah Reddington
Johnny Rivera
Margaret Rockey
Peter Rodriguez
Heather Ross
Shirley Russell
Kathy Schulz
Dave Scott
Laurie Selby
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Sandra Bunce
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YaTing Chang
Kyoungah Choi
Nancy Christensen
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A Brief History

In 1947, an imaginative and resourceful group formed the Phoenix Symphony Guild with the dual purpose of creating the Phoenix Symphony and to raise funds in support of it. In 1952, this same group created a Youth Orchestra with the intent to train young musicians for The Phoenix Symphony. In 1955, due to increasing demand, the Guild formed the Symphonette Orchestra, and Eleven years later, the Junior Strings were added, giving beginning string players an opportunity to learn basic orchestral skills.

In 1992, the PYS(O)'s top ensembles had both evolved into full symphonic orchestras with 80-100 members each. In order to provide more advanced training, the Junior Strings evolved into the String Orchestra and no longer admitted beginners. In addition, the Symphonic Winds was added to further woodwind and brass orchestral training. A Percussion Ensemble was added in 2004, and in 2018 the organization added the Prelude Strings answering the ever-growing demand for beginning strings instruction.

In May of 2020, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the visionary board of PYS decided to overhaul the organization's image. They voted to change the name to Phoenix Youth Symphony Orchestras in order to encompass all of our ensembles under that banner. The top three ensembles were re-named to Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonic Orchestra and Wind Orchestra respectfully. In addition, the board voted to create a new logo and website with the goal of furthering the mission of the organization to expand horizons through music and to develop the next generation of artists, patrons and leaders.

CONTACT

2009 N. 7th Street Suite 9
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 Phone 602-277-7013

pysorchestras.org

Phoenix Youth Symphony
 is a 501(c)(3)
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PYSO remains committed to providing the best orchestral training in Arizona and continuing to spread arts throughout the community with its many collaborations with other leading arts organizations in Phoenix.

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- Community engagement and music enterprise courses designed to prepare students to launch successful music careers.

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