

Symphony Orchestra
Philharmonic Orchestra
Wind Orchestra
String Orchestra
Prelude Strings
Percussion Ensemble

Season Finale Concert
April 30, 2023 3 PM & 6:30 PM
Awards 4:30 PM
Scottsdale Center for
the Performing Arts



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2022 SEASON



Glazunov's Raymonda

Saturday, June 3rd 2:00 PM
Sunday, June 4th 1:00 PM
Sunday, June 4th 5:30 PM

A performance partnership between PYSO's Symphony Orchestra and the School of Ballet Arizona. Madison Center for the Arts

Tickets are on sale now through May at: balletaz.org/performance/sbaz-raymonda



BALLET ARIZONA
2022-2023 SEASON

<p>Contemporary Moves September 22 – 25, 2022 at Orpheum Theatre</p> <p>Cinderella October 20 – 23, 2022 with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall</p>	<p>The Nutcracker December 9 – 24, 2022 with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall</p> <p>Giselle February 9 – 12, 2023 at The Madison Center for the Arts</p>	<p>All Balanchine May 4 – 7, 2023 with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall</p> <p>An Evening at Desert Botanical Garden May 16 – June 3, 2023 at Desert Botanical Garden</p>
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Ballet Arizona dancers in Giselle. Photo by Rosalie O'Connor.



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Photos by Rosalie O'Connor.



Dear PYSO Family,

The end of our season always seems to sneak up on us. The Season Finale Concert has a tremendous amount of celebration as we have one last time on stage, making music together and celebrating our amazing young musicians. However, there is also an element of sadness as the imminent departure of our seniors is near. During my first season at PYSO, the sadness I felt after the season finale concert surprised me. I did not realize how connected I had become to these young musicians over the course of the year and how much I loved seeing and working with them each week. The bright side has been to stay in touch with them and see how well they are all doing post PYSO and post High School.

I wish all our seniors the best for their future endeavors in life, academia and hopefully in continuing to play music. I hope you keep in touch, let us know what you are up to so we can brag about you and come back and join us for rehearsal when you are in town for Holiday or Spring break. This invitation is for all our parents as well. Please stay in touch, volunteer, support and continue to be a part of the PYSO family. We hope to be a support and community for all our alums as they go into the world and do amazing things.

I want to express tremendous gratitude to our parent volunteers, board of directors, staff, musicians, collaborators and supporters for helping make this season a huge success. I would also like to congratulate Julie Desbordes and Maurine Fleming on their successful first years as conductors with PYSO. We look forward to many more seasons with this fantastic artistic staff. For the Symphony Orchestra, this is not the end, we will begin work on our third consecutive ballet collaboration with SBAZ. I hope to see everyone at the performances June 2-4.

I hope you have a wonderful summer break and I look forward to seeing you again in the Fall!

Thank you,

Matthew Kasper
Artistic and General Director
Symphony Orchestra Conductor

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CONCERT Program

Season Finale Concert
April 30, 2023 3 PM & 6:30 PM
Awards 4:30 PM
Scottsdale Center for
the Performing Arts

Partial funding for the PYSO
22|23 season is provided by
the Phoenix Office of Arts and
Culture through appropriations
from the Phoenix City Council.
Thank you.



3:00 PM PERFORMANCE
PRELUDE STRINGS

Maurine Fleming | CONDUCTOR
RICHARD MEYER Night Shift
EMILE WALDTEUFEL Bella Boca Polka ARR. BOB PHILLIPS
JUSTIN HURWITZ City of Stars ARR. JAMES KAZIK

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Todd Betz | CONDUCTOR
ERIC RATH Helix

WIND ORCHESTRA

Aaron Vogel | CONDUCTOR
BRIAN BALAMAGES Blue Ridge Reel
ANNE MCGINTY The Red Balloon
MARK WILLIAMS Plaza de Toros

STRING ORCHESTRA

Bethaney Cross | CONDUCTOR
LARRY CLARK Everything
CHRIS PILSNER Snow Falling in Autumn
SOON HEE NEWBOLD Iditarod

6:30 PM PERFORMANCE

PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Julie Desbordes | CONDUCTOR
NOAH JOHNKARL THOMPSON Slavic Rhapsody
G.W. CHADWICK Sinfonietta in D Major
JOHANN STRAUSS Frühlingstimmen

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Matthew Kasper | CONDUCTOR
JOHN WILLIAMS Star Wars Main Title
JOHN WILLIAMS Star Wars Princess Leia Theme
JOHN WILLIAMS Star Wars Imperial March

**Phoenix Youth
Symphony Orchestras**



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.



Sergio Freeman
Assistant Conductor
Symphony Orchestra

- Instrumentalist and vocal coach born in Mazatlán, México.
- Principal clarinetist of Camerata Mazatlán and played with orchestras like Orquesta Sinaloa de las Artes and Orquesta del Teatro del Bicentenario.
- Holds a master's degree from the University of Veracruz and graduated with honors.
- Conducted groups like Enigma Ensemble, Orquesta Universitaria de Música Popular de la UV, Orquesta Sinfónica de la Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo.
- Currently Artistic Director and Conductor of the Orquesta del Teatro Ángela Peralta.
- Pursuing a Doctoral degree in Musical Arts at Arizona State University and serves as Assistant conductor of the ASU orchestras under the guidance of Jeffery Meyer.



Julie Desbordes Conductor
Philharmonic Orchestra

- Philharmonic Orchestra Conductor since 2022.
- ASU Philharmonia Music Director and ASU Conducting Faculty since 2019.
- Salt River Brass Music Director since 2022.
- Tempe Winds Music Director since 2022.
- Carnegie Hall Weill Institute Music Teachers Workshop Core Faculty since 2019.
- Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in progress from the Peabody Institute.



Aaron Vogel Conductor
Wind Orchestra

- 7th Season with the PYSO.
- Director of Instrumental Music at Mountain Ridge High School.
- High School Band Lead for the Deer Valley Unified School District.
- Recording Academy® GRAMMY Music Educator Award Quarterfinalist.
- Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association.
- O.M. Hartsell Excellence in Teaching Award from the Arizona Music Educators Association.
- Ensembles under his direction have received accolades for excellence in performance including:
 - National Programs of Excellence Blue Ribbon Award from the National Band Association.
 - State Marching Band Championships in 2019, 2013, 2012 and 2009.
 - Featured performances at the 2021 Midwest Clinic, the 2019 and 2012 Music for All National Concert Band Festival, the 2014 Taoyuan, Taiwan International Band Festival, the 2010 Western International Band Clinic, and three Music Educators Conference Honor Band performances in 2020, 2011 and 2010.



Bethaney Cross Conductor
String Orchestra

- String Orchestra Conductor since 2018.
- Received a Masters of Music Teaching and Learning degree from Arizona State University.
- Received a Bachelors in Viola Performance from Northern Arizona University.
- Currently Co-Director of Orchestras at Mountain View High School in Mesa.
- Chairman of the Central Regional Orchestra Festival with AMEA.
- Orchestra at all levels over the last 12 years in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area
- Has conducted Honor Orchestras throughout Arizona.



Maurine Flemming
Conductor
Prelude Strings

- String Music Director for Phoenix Country Day School, Paradise Valley, since 2006.
- Taught students from elementary through 12th grade at a variety of schools including: Pueblo Middle School, Aprende Middle School, and Broadmore Elementary.
- Substitute Cellist for the Phoenix Symphony and Arizona Opera.
- Performed with artists such as George Burns, Ray Charles, Bob Hope, Johnny Mathis and Smokey Robinson.
- Holds degrees from Arizona State University and Mannes College of Music in New York City.



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.



PYSO Ensembles

Symphony Orchestra

Matthew Kasper
Conductor

Sergio Freeman
Assistant Conductor

Concertmaster*
Principal*

- VIOLIN I**
Seungchan (Aiden) Min*
Daniel Kang
Joshua Lee
Margaret Wang
Shea Lee
Hiyun Lee
Borong (Steven) Zhang
Yoonji Lee
Isabella Colvig
Jayden Yoneyama
Daniel Yang
Zoe Chen
Jade Lee
Alicia Bai
Esther Kim
Jinoo Park
Christopher Yoo
Ariana Hernandez
- VIOLIN II**
Audrey Kurtz^
Marco Opena
Brian Yong
Theodore Tungul
Aya Barnett
Sadie Christie
Avi Calloway
Jenny Dong
Kaden Zhao
Colin Boecker-Grieme
Faith Lundquist
Ashley Xiao
Brooklyn German
Bill Chung
Ellie Konno
- VIOLA**
Brandon Lee^
Boyoung (Cynthia) Min
Lillie Harper
Alex Gong
Jungin Choi
Paige Kaufman
Timothy Lin
Esther Cho
Jae-hyeok Moon
Jackson Aoyama

- Jena Lee
Madeline Yang
- CELLO**
Abraham Kim^
Kate Frederick
Daniel Kwak
Connor Ellsworth
Israel Kim
Charlie Pabst
Noah Yang
Justin Kang
Henry Ponce
Dylan Blocker
Ellena Jeon
Aanand Mehta
Braydon Kim
Ethan Wei
Noah Lee
Reagan Drewett
Sophia Kim
- BASS**
Simon Missen^
Karter Williams
- FLUTE I**
Felix Shen
Candice Liu
Elizabeth Ovelil
Kalista Kaser
- FLUTE II**
Candice Liu
Felix Shen
- PICCOLO**
Kalista Kaser
Elizabeth Ovelil
- OBOE I**
Heidi White
Adelaide Martinez
- OBOE II**
Suhani Patel
- ENGLISH HORN**
Adelaide Martinez
Heidi White
- CLARINET I**
Daniel Jeon
Joseph Kim
Minjee Kim
Daniel Jeon
- CLARINET II**
Joseph Kim
Jubilee Lin
Minjee Kim
- E-FLAT CLARINET**
Jubilee Lin
- BASS CLARINET**
Evelyn Chin
- BASSOON I**
Cooper Taylor

- HORN I**
Tyler White
Lucy Alwin
- HORN II**
Andrew Brown
Tyler White
- HORN III**
Lucy Alwin
Christopher Helfer
- HORN IV**
Christopher Helfer
Andrew Brown
- TRUMPET I**
Baker Rosas
Jonah Cain
Louis Dix
- TRUMPET II**
Kaylee Carson
Jonah Cain
- TRUMPET III**
Louis Dix
Kaylee Carson
- TROMBONE I**
Jake Weiss
- TROMBONE II**
Kristian Bailes
- TROMBONE III**
Ian Walker
- TUBA**
Ethan Nguyen
- HARP**
Megan Williams
- PERCUSSION**
Varun Bose
Annaliesa Shepherd
Conner Williams
Carson Cole

Philharmonic Orchestra

Julie Desbordes
Conductor

Principal*
Assistant Principal**
Principal in Chadwick^
Principal in Slavic Rhapsody+
Principal in Strauss°

- VIOLIN I**
Sumedh Seetharam*
Michael Erickson**
Abigail Lee
Kayla Lee
Laura Llames
Dae-Kyung Kim
Yongjun Cho
Shashank Krishnan
Hana Konicanin
Liam Whelan
David Chin
Evan Hernandez

- VIOLIN 2**
Aimi Siejak*
Kaiya Murphy**
Allison Yuan
Rachel McClurg
Stephanie MacDonald
Sarah Pineda
Nina Rawal
Erin Chiu
Jason Kai
Elijah Graham
Yoonseo Lee
Stephanie Primrose
- VIOLA**
Sienna Morrison*
Brittany Rodriguez-Najar**
Elsa Nunley
Christiana Rivera
Shannon Joy Alexcia
Kanishk Anmala
- CELLO**
Faith Lopez*
Charlotte Bond**
Ruizhe (Richard) Wang
Jun Hyeok Moon
Jackson Dahl
Brianna Morgan
Dallin German
Kevin Chen
Isaac Don
Samantha Cottam
Daniel Erdenemandakh
Safia Behmen
Madeleine Wang
- FLUTE**
Chloe Yoon
Hannah Jeon
Liesel Tungol
- OBOE**
Noah Thompson
- CLARINET**
Savannah Larsen
Magnus Tucker
Ume Konishi
Natania Aruns
- BASSOON**
Evelyn Andresen-Chen
- FRENCH HORN**
Henry Dehaan+ ^
Helen Nguyen°
- TRUMPET**
David Torres II^
Isabel Dupuis°
Marcus Fiandaca+
- PERCUSSION**
Carson Fritz
Caden Morales
Gavin Roth

Wind Orchestra

Aaron Vogel
Conductor

FLUTE

Aashin Nair
Aashi Hemdev
Sophia Chen
Zoë McClure

OBOE

Joshua Hayes

CLARINET

Aanya Ram
Jake Shim
Kavi Gullapalli

SAXOPHONE

Max Votruba
Elijah Valdivia

TRUMPET

Ethan Kendzior
Maximus Gibson
Joseph Ponton
Joseph Creamer

FRENCH HORN

Nathan Garcia

PERCUSSION

Scarlett Ojala

PERCUSSION SUPPORT

Carson Fritz

Caden Morales
Gavin Roth
Varun Bose
Annaliesa Shepherd
Conner Williams
Carson Cole

String Orchestra

Bethaney Cross
Conductor

Concertmaster*
Principal*

GROUP A VIOLIN

Michael Zhang*
Noah Peng*
Ben Park

Adelle Ekpo
Kaiwen Xu
Zoe Wong
Emmalyn Fourt

Emily Large
Miles Ning
Eden Lindsey
Alexander Oberle

Savannah Craig
GROUP B VIOLIN
Connor Jung
Mingtian Peng

Yooni Choi
Madeline Chiu
Leonardo Pineda
Charlotte deClaremont
Nadia Mahdavi
Yahan Zhang
Aishwarya Ganapathy

Giselle Lopez
Audrey Weinshel
Eva Aanand
Hans Kugler

VIOLA/GROUP C
Ethan Hetherington
Calvin Worthen
Lucas Heath

Sophia Smilijanich
Olivia Morgan
Aashni Sahai
Ju-won Moon

Callie Worthen
Noah Yu
Praise Kim

CELLO

Zachariah Ham
Mary Foster
Julia Miller-Chang
Chloe Wong
Olina Fong
Madeline Mitchell

Branwen Thatcher
BASS
Caylum Dockery

Prelude Strings

Maurine Fleming
Conductor

VIOLIN

Athena Anderegg
Lillian Badenoch
Sean Belcheff
Isabella Garcia
Roiz Taraskina

VIOLA

Jeenseo Lee

CELLO

Aditi Ganapathy
Sahai Jaya
Miles Whelan

Percussion Ensemble

Todd Betz
Conductor

Scarlett Ojala
Carson Fritz
Caden Morales
Gavin Roth
Varun Bose
Annaliesa Shepherd
Conner Williams
Carson Cole



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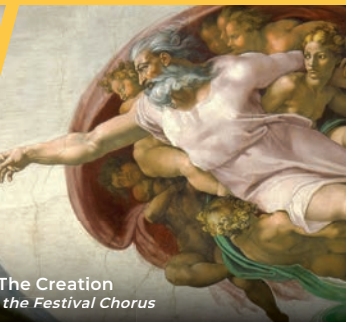
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2/1 Wagner, Mozart & Dvorak
Jonathan Okseniuk, soloist



2/3 Brahms & Tchaikovsky
Haochan Zhang, soloist



2/5 The Creation
with the Festival Chorus

WEEK TWO | MARCH



3/7 Williams, Mendelssohn & Tchaikovsky
Benjamin Bellman, soloist



3/9 Stravinsky Firebird and Mahler 4



3/10 & 11 US Naval Academy Glee Club

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In Concert

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SOUND OFF

What's on your mind!



< **Simon** | Double Bass

What piece do you wish PYSO would play? Why?
 I wish to play Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5, because I like the French Horn solo in the second movement.

Musically, what's on your mind?
 Ave Maria by Schubert. Or thinking of what to play for my college auditions.



Isabelle | Violin >

I think...
 That music has an impact that is very subtle, but at the same time, overwhelming when it is realized. Music is something that cannot be replaced.



Cooper | Bassoon >

What's on your playlist?
 Lot's of classic rock, honestly, an unhealthy amount.

Musically, what's on your mind? I am always preparing for my future auditions, competitions, and rehearsals.

What are your earliest memories of music?

My earliest memories of music are driving up to a music store every Saturday with my dad to go to my viola lessons in the morning. After, we'd browse through the different pieces of music the store had!



< **Lillie** | Viola

What motivates you?
 Playing a piece to an extent where I am satisfied.

I think... That the ballets we do with SBAZ are a great part of the year.



< **Joshua** | Violin



Megan | Harp >

Life without music would be... So boring! Imagine trying to watch a movie or a TV show without a soundtrack.



Maurine | Conductor >

Do you take musical risks?
 Everyday, with students we try things to just to see if it will work or not. I am all in.

Sincerely, do you like to practice?

Practicing soothes my mind unless I am stuck on a passage and can't figure out how to fix it.



< **Seungchan** | Violin

Who inspires you?
 I am inspired by my incredibly musically talented friends, and I want to keep up with them and rise to their level.



< **Lucy** | French Horn

Our Strings Faculty invite you to ask them about the Kitt School of Music



Steven Moeckel, Associate Professor of Violin



Jacquelyn Schwandt
viola



Chris Finet
double bass



Karin Hallberg
violin/Suzuki



Johsua Moore
guitar



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cello



Daniel O'Bryant
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Koste Belcheff
Marilyn Lybarger Berry
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Jayne Bumgarner
Eliza Cha
Nai Hwa Chen
Curtis Click
Thomas Colaiano
Theresa Crow
Cindy Dahl
Kris Dahl
Von & Mary Dahl
Carmelita DeLong
Henri Deters
Rebecca Devine
Katherine Emory
Gwynne Fijan
Jack Fijan
Patricia Habak
Jooyeon Han
Fred Hanley
Christine Holbo
Charles Howard
Julie Huh
Titi Ilori
Woochul Jeon
Kay & Wayne Knock
Glenn Kurtz
Bob Kurtz
James Landon
Cheryl Lee
Carol Lewis
Lingyun Ma
Sheri MacDonald
Pat MacGillivray
Omid Mahdavi
Phyllis McClurg
William McClurg
Leslie Mitchell
Sean Minner
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Kathy Whelan
Kenneth Whelan
Mary Wilkening

Di & Michael Williams
Connie Wu
Stephen Wu
Xiaochuan Yang
Yan Yan
Fengyuan Zhou

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Barbara Allion
Lucy Alwin
Emily Amer
Leslie Anderegg
Elise Augustus
Alicia Bai
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Janaka Balasooriya
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Jean Belcheff
Tanya Belcheff
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Gerardo Campos
Sebastian Cisneros
YaTing Chang
Nai Hwa Chen
Yueh-Hsia Chen
Nancy Christensen
Jackie Christy
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Angelique Craig
Savannah Crowley
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Kelley DeLorenzo
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Brenda Diarte
Isabel Dupuis
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Tyler Inglehart
Tommo Jahn
Jungmin Jang
Ian James
Yura Jeon
Eveln Jo
Susan Joyce
Hans K.

Jason Kai
S. Kane
Alex Kasper
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Cindy Petronis
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A special thank you to all the supporters of our YMC Luncheon, your dedication and financial contributions are vital to continuing to provide scholarships for our young musicians.

PYSO History

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pysorchestras.org

Phoenix Youth Symphony
is a 501(c)(3)
Non-Profit Organization

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.

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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