



# PY SO

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



**All Ensemble Concert**

Sunday October 29 3:30 PM  
Mesa Arts Center  
Ikeda Theater

Phoenix Youth  
Symphony Orchestras  
23  
24

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ARIZONA



Phoenix Youth  
23  
24  
Symphony Orchestras

**Symphony Orchestra Fall Concert**

November 12, 2023 3:00 PM  
Tempe Center for the Arts [tempecenterforthearts.com](http://tempecenterforthearts.com)

**Fall Showcase with School of Ballet Arizona**

November 17, 2023 (Time TBD)  
November 18, 2023 (Time TBD)  
November 19, 2023 (Time TBD)  
Dorrance Theatre at Ballet Arizona  
Featuring select Symphony Orchestra string players

**Philharmonic Orchestra Side By Side Concert**

November 28, 2023 7:30 PM  
ASU Gammage  
This concert will feature a collaboration with the Arizona State University Philharmonia Orchestra.

**Young Musicians Competition**

January 6 and 7, 2023  
Mesa Community College, Performing Arts Center  
Rules and application posted by November 1, 2023  
Details at [pysorchestras.org/ymc](http://pysorchestras.org/ymc)

**Symphony Orchestra Side By Side Concert**

February 7, 2024 7:00 PM  
Phoenix Symphony Hall  
Featuring the Symphony Orchestra and The Phoenix Symphony, Matthew Kasper conducting.  
Tickets at [tickets.phoenixsymphony.org](http://tickets.phoenixsymphony.org)

**Young Musicians Competition Luncheon**

February 20, 2024 11:00 AM  
Paradise Valley Country Club

**Teacher Appreciation Concert**

February 25, 2024 3:30 PM  
Mesa Community College Performing arts Center  
This concert recognizes music teachers of PYSO musicians.  
Featuring: PYSO Percussion Ensemble, Prelude Strings, String Orchestra, and Philharmonic Orchestra.

**Music Memory Concert for Schools**

March 19, 2024 (Time TBD)  
Phoenix Symphony Hall  
Featuring PYSO's Symphony Orchestra

**Season Finale Concert**

April 28, 2024 (Time TBD)  
Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts  
Featuring Percussion Ensemble, Prelude Strings, String Orchestra, and Philharmonic Orchestra.  
Tickets at [scottsdalearts.org](http://scottsdalearts.org)

**PYSO & Ballet AZ Production**

May 24-26, 2024 (Venue & Time TBD)  
Symphony Orchestra & The School of Ballet Arizona  
A performance partnership between PYSO's Symphony Orchestra and the School of Ballet Arizona.



# 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

# WELCOME



**Dear PYSO Family,**

Welcome to the 72nd season of PYSO (Phoenix Youth Symphony Orchestra), a season that promises to be a transformative experience for our young musicians and a celebration of music in our community. Throughout this season, our dedicated young musicians will collaborate with their talented peers, guided by our experienced artistic staff. They will not only grow as musicians but also as individuals.

This season marks the fourth chapter of our innovative partnership with the School of Ballet Arizona, which will continue in May, featuring a tribute to Ib Andersen, the Artistic Director of Ballet Arizona for 24 years. We are also thrilled to present our Philharmonic Orchestra, led by the visionary Julie Desbordes, performing alongside the ASU Philharmonia in a side-by-side concert at ASU's Gammage Auditorium for the second consecutive season.

This season we are delighted to welcome Stephen Meyer to the PYSO artistic staff as the conductor of our Wind Orchestra. Dr. Meyer is a renowned figure in the world of wind and band conducting, currently serving as the Director of Bands at Northern Arizona University. Additionally, we are fortunate to continue to have Bethaney Cross as the conductor of our String Orchestra, Maurine Fleming leading the Prelude Strings, and Todd Betz continuing in his role as the director of percussion.

Our conductors, staff, and board are wholeheartedly committed to ensuring that our young musicians have the most enriching experience possible as PYSO members. We tirelessly work to make music, with all its associated benefits, a vital part of our society for generations to come. We are thrilled to embark on this season's journey and share it with you, with the hope that our efforts bring a touch of joy to your life.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and dedication to our young musicians. We eagerly anticipate the pleasure of seeing and meeting you throughout the season.

**Matthew Kasper**  
Artistic and General Director  
Symphony Orchestra Conductor





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# PROGRAM



Partial funding for the PYSO 23|24 season is provided by the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture through appropriations from the Phoenix City Council.  
**Thank you.**



**All Ensemble Concert**

Sunday October 29 3:30 PM  
Mesa Arts Center  
Ikeda Theater

**PRELUDE STRINGS**

**Maurine Fleming | CONDUCTOR**

- KLAUS BADELT Pirates of the Caribbean  
ARR. PAUL LAVENDER & LARRY MOORE
- ALAN MENKEN The Little Mermaid ARR. LARRY MOORE
- EDVARD GRIEG In the Hall of the Mountain King  
ARR. DEBORAH BAKER MONDAY

**STRING ORCHESTRA**

**Bethaney Cross | CONDUCTOR**

- REINHOLD GLIERE Russian Sailors' Dance ARR. JOHN CAPONEGRO
- WILLIAM HOFELDT She will Hang the Night with Stars
- CHRIS PILSNER The Seas Catch Fire

**PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

**Todd Betz | CONDUCTOR**

- BRIAN BLUME Black Racer

**INTERMISSION**

**WIND ORCHESTRA**

**Dr. Stephen Meyer | CONDUCTOR**

- JOHANN STRAUSS Radetsky March arr. Clark
- YUHIKO NISHIMURA Ancient Flower
- DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH Walts from Jazz Suite No. 2  
arr. Story
- VICTORIANO VALENCIA Cumba-Raspa from Ritmos de la Tierra

**PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**

**Julie Desbordes | CONDUCTOR**

- EDWARD ELGAR Chanson de Nuit, Op. 15 No. 1
- GIOACCHINO ROSSINI Suite from La Boutique Fantasque
- ATT. OTTORINO RESPIGHI

**SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**Zach Salsburg-Frank | ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR**

- CLAUDE DEBUSSY Trois Nocturnes
- ED. CLINTON F. NIEWEG

# 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.



**Zach Salsburg-Frank**  
Assistant Conductor  
Symphony Orchestra

- Emerging conductor Zach Salsburg-Frank brings his unique mixture of vocal and orchestral background to lead sensitive and dynamic performances of both opera and symphonic
- Conducting the US premiere of Tawnie Olson's *Sanctuary and Storm* at the National Opera Association conference
- Leading Chandler Opera's production of *La Traviata*
- Apprentice conductor for the Canadian Opera Company's production of *La bohème*
- Assistant conducting Arizona State University's *Le nozze di Figaro*
- Made opera debut in Opera McGill's 2019 production of *Die Zauberflöte* (chorus)
- Conducted Chandler Opera's production of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*
- Assistant conductor for Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera's *La bohème* and Opéra de Toulon's *Don Giovanni*
- Pursuing a Master of Music in Conducting (opera emphasis) at Arizona State University under Brian DeMaris
- Bachelor of Music in Voice and Conducting from McGill University, studying under Annamaria Popescu and Stephen Hargreaves.





**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.



**Dr. Stephen Meyer**  
Conductor Wind Orchestra

- Current Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Music at Northern Arizona University.
- Interim Director of Bands at the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, NY and University of South Carolina, SC.
- Director and co-director of Bands at Clear Creek High School and Harrison High School, GA. Under his direction, the Wind ensemble has been featured at the 2013 Midwest Clinic, a three-time winner in the National Wind Band Honors project, two-time National Finalist for the American Prize, Bands of America Regional and Super-Regional Finalist titles, Bands of America Grand National Finalist, and featured in the 2009 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.
- Earned Bachelor of Music Education, Magna Cum Laude, from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.
- Master's and Doctorate degrees from the University of Michigan.
- Author of three books: "Rehearsing the High School Band," "Rehearsing the Middle School Band," and "Rehearsing the Marching Band."



**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.



# ENSEMBLES

**Prelude Strings**  
**Maurine Fleming**  
Conductor

**VIOLIN I**  
Athena Anderegg  
Arun Sthavya  
Lilian Badenoch  
Milana Budurin  
Isabella Garcia  
Roiz Taraskina  
Isabella Huels  
Aavsihka Pattenm  
Saban Prasai  
Nivedha Premkumar  
Thiyagu Vickram

**CELLO**  
Abigail Makarem  
Sahai Jaya

**PIANO**  
Evelina Sensakovic

**String Orchestra**  
**Bethaney Cross**  
Conductor

Concertmaster+  
Principal^

**VIOLIN 1**  
Elaine Tang+  
Eric Chang  
Mateo Fernandez  
Hernandez  
Emmalyn Fourt  
Lucas Heath  
Abigail Hernandez  
Zinnia Moreno  
Anushka Murarka  
Miles Ning  
Alexander Oberle  
Devesh Pandit  
Mingtian Peng  
Audrey Weinshel  
Zoe Wong

**VIOLIN 2**  
Nadia Mahdavi^  
Eva Anand  
Angelina Chen  
Madeline Chiu  
Avana Choudhury  
Charlotte de Claremont  
Aishwarya Ganapathy

Pariyat Jain  
Allison Ko  
Hans Kugler  
Giselle Lopez  
Riya Nayak  
Shiven Patel  
Leo Ponce  
Gouri Praveen  
Aaron Shih  
Amaya Vigenser  
Noah Yu  
Yahan Zhang

**VIOLA**  
Johnston Lau^  
Ethan Hetherington  
Jeenseo Lee

**CELLO**  
Olina Fong  
Esther Guo  
Benson Lau  
Julia Miller-Chang  
Madeline Mitchell  
Kiran Mulchandani  
Miles Whelan  
Chloe Wong

**BASS**  
Jonathan Guo  
Yuhui Guo

**Percussion Ensemble**  
**Todd Betz**  
Conductor

David Ayala  
Javier Becerra  
Amber Coleman  
Richard Hong  
Pranit Kumar  
Scarlett Ojada  
Gavin Roth

**Wind Orchestra**  
**Stephen Meyer**  
Conductor

Principal^  
Co Principal^^  
  
**FLUTE**  
Minseo Choi^^  
Mihika Sreenivasan^^  
Lauren Carney

Lily (Loki)  
Momoyo Horowitz  
Zoe McClure  
Reyana Shah

**OBOE**  
Layla Su^

**CLARINET**  
Aanya Gopika Ram^  
Asha Dunn  
Kavi Gullapalli  
Abigail Harris  
Lucas Hwang  
Julius Ponce

**BASS CLARINET**  
Merissa Wongso^

**SAXOPHONE**  
Nelson Brock^  
Evan Tan

**HORN**  
Minjune Choi^

**TROMBONE**  
Euan Clendenning^

**PERCUSSION**  
Scarlett Ojala^  
David Ayala  
Javier Becerra  
Amber Coleman

**Philharmonic**  
**Julie Desbordes**  
Conductor

Principal^

**VIOLIN 1**  
Sumedh Seetharam^  
Yongjun Cho  
Parisa Choudhury  
Adelle Ekpo  
Evan Hernandez  
Emily Large  
John Murphy  
Leonardo Pineda  
Liam Whelan  
Lee (Linda) Yoonseo  
Abigail Yunesuh Lee  
Joelle Yunha Nam

**VIOLIN 2**  
Clare Lueken^  
Danica Chen

Erin Chiu  
Yooni Choi  
Claire Filipowicz  
Elijah Graham  
Connor Jung  
Jason Kai  
Rachel McClurg  
Kaiya Murphy  
Ben Park  
Kaiwen Xu  
Michael Zhang  
Sunan Zhang

**VIOLA**  
Hanna Han^  
Brittany Rodriguez-Najar  
Elsa Nunley  
Tobias Yang

**CELLO**  
Ashwin Sreenivasan^  
Daniel Erdenemandakh  
Mary Foster  
Zachariah Ham  
Fayfay He  
Evelyn (Evie) Pfriem  
Galen Song  
Yiyang (Angela) Sun

**FLUTE**  
Sophia Chen^  
Savian Solomon  
Katherine Tae

**OBOE**  
Aaron Walker^  
Joshua Hayes

**CLARINET**  
Jake Shim^  
Natania Arun

**BASSOON**  
Jessica Peace

**FRENCH HORN**  
Irene Lu

**TRUMPET**  
Ethan Kendzior^  
Atley Bellon  
Isabel Dupuis  
David Torres

**PERCUSSION**  
Richard Hong  
Pranit Kumar



Symphony Orchestra

Zach Salsburg-Frank

Assistant Conductor

Concertmaster+

Principal^

VIOLIN 1

Audrey Kurtz+

Alicia Bai

Daniel Kang

Jade Lee

Joshua Lee

Shea Lee

Yoonji Lee

Marissa Montgomery

Jinoo Park

Margaret Wang

Daniel Yang

Charlotte (Yun-Tsai) Yeh

Jayden Yoneyama

Christopher Yoo

Allison Yuan

Kaden Zhou

VIOLIN 2

Stephen Zhang^

Avi Calloway

Sadie Christie

Michael Erickson

Brooklyn German

Esther Kim

Kayla Lee

Stephanie MacDonald

Marco Opena

Ami Siejak

Kentaru Siejak

Claire Su

Ashley Xiao

Audrey Zhou

VIOLA

Alex Gong^

Timothy Lin

Shannon Alexcia

Jungin Choi

Lillie Harper

Paige Kaufman

Jae-hyeok Moon

Ruei-Shin Arianna Yeh

CELLO

Abraham Kim^

Dylan Blocker

Kevin Chen

Kate Frederick

Dallin German

Jane Henriksen

Daniel Kang

Abigail Kim

Israel Kim

Noah Lee

Meredith Liu

Aanand Mehta

Jun-hyeok Moon

Charlie Pabst

Henry Ponce

Mario Salcido

Madeleine Wang

Ruizhe Richard Wang

Ethan Wei

Noah Yang

BASS

Meghan Crane^

Karter Williams

HARP

Megan Williams^

FLUTE/PICCOLO

Kali Kaiser^^

Elizabeth Ovelij^^

Elizabeth Chong

Chloe Yoon

OBOE

Noah Thompson^

CLARINET

Savannah Larsen^^

Minjee Kim^^

Daniel Jeon

BASS CLARINET

Minjee Kim

HORN

Andrew Brown^^

Henry Dehaan^^

TRUMPET

Louis Dix^

Jonah Cain

Kay Carson

Nolen Wilson

TUBA

Ethan Nguyen

PERCUSSION

Gavin Roth



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— Abe Hedtke, Director of Instructional Technology, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota



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Katie Pabst  
Michael Pabst  
Jina Park  
Shirley Russell  
Peter Rodriguez  
Dave Scott  
Jen Sensakovic  
Sang-heon Shim  
Maria Simonetti  
Patricia Sosnow  
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Fengyuan Zhou

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Megan Frederick  
Hannah Frey  
Jill Frey  
PK Ganapathy  
Catherine Gibson  
Jason Glenn  
Zhaohui Gong  
Josh Gottry  
Glen Habak  
Sarah Hanchett  
Der Hans  
Lauri Hansen  
Elizabeth Hebing  
Henry Hebing  
Alana Ho  
Christine Holbo  
Tanya Hornecker  
Peiyu Huang  
Tyler Inglehart  
Tommo Jahn  
Jungmin Jang  
Ian James  
Yura Jeon  
Eveln Jo  
Susan Joyce

Hans K.  
Jason Kai  
Jennifer Kaiser  
S. Kane  
Alex Kasper  
Betsy Kaufman  
Andrea Kawamura  
Mary Keltner  
Christie Kendzior  
Byung Chul Kim  
Ji Hyun Kim  
Kai Jo Kim  
Moon Hui Kim  
Amoa Kolbeck  
Tomomle Konno  
Kroger  
Karen Laba  
Kevin Laba  
Vincent Laba  
Tim & Betty Laos  
Catherine Lee  
Jisun Lee  
Justine Lee  
Seungjong Lee  
Tochia Levine  
Jie Li  
Pei-jung Li  
Linda Liknes  
Eden Lindsay  
Lingyun Ma  
J. Ellen Manion  
Sabrina Mann  
Marilyn Meagher  
Nse Merhav  
Laura Mitchell  
Leslie Mitchell  
Maho Murakami  
Betsy Murray  
Vidya Nayak  
Dominic Novielli  
Cynthia Oberg  
Jaqueline Ojala  
Desiree Okseniuk  
Janice Opena  
Raina Palmatier  
Deepa Parajuli  
Jinoo Park  
Minjong Park  
Leigh Parsons  
Stacey Peace  
Chadwick Peterson  
Betty Petronis  
Cindy Petronis  
Sarah Pont  
Patricia Potter  
Nancy Powell  
Sandeep Prasai  
Stephanie Primrose  
Vikki Purden  
Thomas Raclaw  
Martha Rassi  
Pedro Rodriguez  
Martha Rossi  
Shimul Sahai  
Leyla Sanyer  
Sandra Satterfield  
Roberta Sartor  
Hua Song  
YaYa Su  
Kathy Thompson  
Ethan Times  
Marbeya Trejo  
Catherine Tungol  
United Way  
Linda Vincent  
Yuwen Wang  
Lorri Wangrycht  
Glenn Weiss  
Pushpa Wijesinghe  
Bobbie Williams  
Joan Wolter  
Ruth Ellen Wood  
Rachel Wootan  
Antonia Youngwirth  
Shu Yuan



# PYSO HISTORY

## OFFICERS

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### OPERATIONS MANAGER

Patrick Murphy

### CONSTITUENCY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Estephany Gonzalez

### TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR

Curt Landon

### TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Matt Watkins

# Phoenix Youth Symphony Orchestras 23 24

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.



Phoenix Youth  
Symphony Orchestras

### CONTACT

2009 N. 7th Street Suite 9

Phoenix AZ 85006

Phone 602-277-7013

[pysorchestras.org](http://pysorchestras.org)

### Phoenix Youth Symphony

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