



**Boston Symphony
Orchestra**

Andris Nelsons
Music Director



where music lives



Symphony Hall 125th Anniversary
2025-26 Season

[bso.org](https://www.bso.org)

Season Highlights



OPENING WEEK

This year we start by welcoming the community into our work and our world. Concert for the City unites the BSO and Pops with arts and music education partners from across Greater Boston, all joining us on stage. The next night, we spotlight exceptional college ensembles, and our opening BSO gala honors the legacy of great American composers. Kicking off a celebration of Puerto Rican artistry that continues later in the season with a special performance by the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops performs the music of Lin-Manuel Miranda with Broadway superstar Mandy Gonzalez.

BOSTON, SYMPHONY HALL, & THE BSO IN 1900

Step into the Boston of 1900, a city shaped by rapid industrial, cultural, and intellectual growth. It's a world in which artistic, civic, and scientific breakthroughs culminated in the creation of Symphony Hall — conceived of not only as the new home of the BSO, but as a bona fide temple of music and one of the world's very first democratic concert halls, built to welcome all.

AUGUSTIN HADELICH IN RESIDENCE

Rarely do we get the chance to hear one artist perform across a variety of musical styles and genres in a single season, showcasing the full versatility and virtuosity of his instrument, his artistry, and his perspective. This season, we welcome one of the finest violinists of our time to lead the BSO in a deep conversation about what music means to him.



E PLURIBUS UNUM: FROM MANY, ONE

The BSO explores the country's history, music, and ideals one composer — one piece, one story at a time. Hear the myriad voices that have woven the rich tapestry of American music: from Copland, Barber, and Bernstein to modern trailblazers John Williams, Tania León, and Composer Chair Carlos Simon, each of whom brings premieres to the Symphony Hall stage this season as they write the newest verses to this nation's songbook.



FAITH IN OUR TIME

For millennia, artists have turned to music to seek the answers to life's biggest questions. The 2025-26 season launches a multi-year journey into how faith, spirituality, and religion have shaped music across history. Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* and the world premiere of Carlos Simon's *Good News Mass* — inspired by the prayers of his clergyman ancestors — start this exploration. At a time in which we are all hungry for meaning, Faith in Our Time highlights music's power to inspire, heal, and unite across cultures and beliefs.



WHERE WORDS END: MUSIC AND THE NATURAL WORLD

The power, fragility, beauty, and danger of the natural world have long been an inspiration and source of fascination for artists. But we are no mere observers of nature; our actions profoundly impact the environment we inhabit. Starting this season, we present the works of groundbreaking composers including John Williams, Gabriella Smith, and Thomas Adès that call on us to listen deeply to the world around us and to reflect on our place within it.

Where Music Lives

Symphony Hall has long been a gathering place where people of all backgrounds could share in the power of live music and mark important civic, cultural, and even personal milestones. It is where works by luminaries like Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, Bernstein, Barber, and John Williams first came to life, sometimes under their own batons.

This season, we begin a new chapter in our history, continuing that tradition of innovation by exploring the ideas and questions that have long captivated society and inspired artists.

Across multiple seasons, we examine humanity's relationship with the natural world, faith and spirituality, and the ideals and realities of our country. These themes take center stage not only in musical performances but also alongside collaborations with scholars, activists, and artists who will deepen our understanding of our historical, cultural, and intellectual landscapes.

We invite you to be part of a season that not only unites and uplifts but questions and explores. Music does more than entertain or enrich; it aids us in understanding ourselves and the times in which we live. Join us at Symphony Hall and out in the community this season, where music lives.



ANDRIS NELSONS



NIKOLA HILLEBRAND



TANGLEWOOD FESTIVAL CHORUS



OPENING WEEK

Wednesday, September 17, 7:30pm ★
Boston Symphony Orchestra
Boston Pops Orchestra
Andris Nelsons, Keith Lockhart,
and Thomas Wilkins, conductors
Tanglewood Festival Chorus
James Burton, conductor
Concert for the City

Join us for pre-concert performances throughout Symphony Hall by the following Boston-based organizations:

- Berklee Chinese Music Ensemble
- Boston Music Project
- Boston Pops Gospel Choir
- Boston String Academy
- Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra
- Cambridge Black Pastors Alliance
- Castle of our Skins
- Conservatory Lab Charter School
- DEAFinitely
- La Colaborativa
- Me2 Orchestra
- New England Conservatory
- Veronica Robles Marichi Band

Join your community for a free event celebrating Boston's rich cultures and musical traditions. Led by all three of the BSO's conductors, Andris Nelsons, Keith Lockhart, and Thomas Wilkins, the program features performances by the BSO and Boston Pops, plus performances with local music, art, and dance groups on stage and throughout Symphony Hall.

This concert is not available as part of a subscription.

Thursday, September 18, 7:30pm
Music's Next Generation — A College Showcase

Students from across Boston's music community showcase their talent and offer their unique take on the future of music.

This concert is not available as part of a subscription.

Friday, September 19, 7:30pm ★
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Golda Schultz, soprano
James Carter, saxophone
J. William Hudgins, vibraphone
BSO Opening Gala

John ADAMS *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*
BARBER *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, for soprano and orchestra
arr. Jessie MONTGOMERY
I Want to Go Home, for soprano and orchestra
John WILLIAMS "Escapades" from *Catch Me If You Can*, for saxophone, vibraphone, and bass
GERSHWIN *An American in Paris*

The BSO opens its season with a tribute to some of the great American composers, past and present. The pulse-pounding energy of John Adams takes us for a *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*. Jessie Montgomery's arrangement of *I Want to Go Home* and Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* both reflect on memory, history, and longing. John Williams' "Escapades" from the Spielberg film *Catch Me If You Can* evokes an air of cool mischievousness with its dynamic interplay of saxophone, vibraphone, and bass. The jazzy swagger of Gershwin's famous *An American in Paris* finishes the evening.

This concert is not available as part of a subscription package or as a single ticket.

Saturday, September 20, 7:30pm ★
Boston Pops Orchestra
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Mandy Gonzalez, soloist
"Everything I Know"

Mandy Gonzalez sings Lin-Manuel Miranda (world-premiere)

Experience the electrifying magic of Lin-Manuel Miranda's artistry like never before in *Everything I Know* — an extraordinary symphonic event featuring Mandy Gonzalez, Broadway superstar and one of Miranda's earliest and closest collaborators. From the groundbreaking anthems of *Hamilton* and *In the Heights* to the heartfelt melodies of *Moana*, *Encanto*, and *The Little Mermaid*, Gonzalez brings Miranda's music to life with her signature vocal brilliance and captivating stage presence.

Thursday, September 25, 7:30pm
Friday, September 26, 1:30pm
Saturday, September 27, 8:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
MOZART *Symphony No. 41, Jupiter*
STRAUSS *Ein Heldenleben*

Symphony No. 41, Jupiter, Mozart's last symphony, represents the pinnacle of Classical-era symphonic writing, with luminous orchestration and bright tunefulness that are so classically Mozart. Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben* is a bold, autobiographical tone poem, weaving together six stories while echoing themes from his greatest works.

Thursday, October 2, 7:30pm ▲
Friday, October 3, 1:30pm
Saturday, October 4, 8:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Nikola Hillebrand, soprano
Lorelei Ensemble

Beth Willer, artistic director
DEBUSSY *Nocturnes*
MAHLER *Symphony No. 4*
The BSO begins the exploration of Boston in 1900 with two pieces that were composed at the same time Symphony Hall was being built. Influenced by impressionist painting and finished in 1899, Debussy's three contrasting *Nocturnes* — *Nuages* ("Clouds"), *Fêtes* ("Holidays"), and *Sirènes* ("Sirens") — paint magnificently colorful musical scenes, with Boston's premiere all-women vocal group the Lorelei Ensemble joining the orchestra in the haunting final movement. Composed in 1900, Mahler's *Symphony No. 4* lives on the sunnier side of his repertoire, but nonetheless vacillates between morbid and triumphant, seductive and serene. The final movement features solo soprano in a beguiling setting of the folk poem "Heavenly Life."

Thursday, October 9, 7:30 ▲ ■
Friday, October 10, 1:30pm
Saturday, October 11, 8:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Wiebke Lehmkuhl, mezzo soprano
Franz-Josef Selig, bass
Tanglewood Festival Chorus

James Burton, conductor
Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Opening of Symphony Hall
BEETHOVEN *Missa Solemnis*
Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* stands tall among the greatest sacred choral works, a monumental setting of the Mass text and the first piece performed in the then-new Symphony Hall in 1900. From soaring solo lines to striking contrasts — like the prayerful *Agnus Dei* interrupted by martial fanfares — Beethoven's vision combines dramatic orchestration, virtuosic choral writing, and profound emotional depth.

▲ Boston, Symphony Hall, & the BSO in 1900

★ E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One

■ Faith in Our Time



CONCERT FOR THE CITY



MANDY GONZALEZ





AUGUSTIN HADELICH



YUJA WANG



MIDORI



JOSHUA BELL



PABLO FERRÁNDEZ

Thursday, October 16, 7:30pm ★ 🏠
Friday, October 17, 1:30pm
Saturday, October 18, 8:00pm

Andris Nelsons, conductor
Augustin Hadelich, violin
John ADAMS Violin Concerto
TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 5
The BSO's 2025-26 artist in residence Augustin Hadelich brings his fire and flair to John Adams' Violin Concerto. Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 is a meditation on fate; its passionate themes, rich orchestral colors, and triumphant finale have cemented it as a cornerstone of the symphonic repertoire.

Sunday, October 19, 3pm ★ 🏠
Cathedral Church of St. Paul

Augustin Hadelich, violin
TELEMANN Fantasy No. 5 in A Coleridge-Taylor PERKINSON *Blue/s Forms*
YSAÏE Sonata Op. 27 No. 5 in G
TELEMANN Fantasy No. 8 in E
PAGANINI Caprices Nos. 19, 6, & 16
J. S. BACH Partita No. 2 in D minor
Solo violin works continue Augustin Hadelich's residency this season, culminating in J.S. Bach's D minor Partita with the expressively and technically transcendent Chaconne — considered the "Everest" of violin performance. The Partita is balanced by music of Bach's contemporary Georg Philipp Telemann, selections from Nicolò Paganini's brilliant Caprices, and a Bach-inspired solo sonata from 1923 by the Belgian violinist Eugène Ysaÿe, the Sonata No. 5. American composer Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson's 1979 *Blue/s Forms* is a work championed by Hadelich in recital.

This concert is not available as part of a subscription.

Thursday, October 23, 7:30pm ★
Friday, October 24, 1:30pm
Saturday, October 25, 8:00pm

Domingo Hindoyan, conductor
Yuja Wang, piano
BERNSTEIN Three Dance Episodes from *On The Town*
PROKOFIEV Piano Concerto No. 2
COPLAND Symphony No. 3
Yuja Wang joins returning conductor Domingo Hindoyan for Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2, which blends the composer's sardonic humor with soaring melodies. Two American works from the 1940s bracket the concerto: Leonard Bernstein's Three Dance Episodes from his musical *On the Town* featuring hits like "New York, New York," and Aaron Copland's Third Symphony, premiered by the BSO in 1946, which includes the uplifting "Fanfare for the Common Man."

Thursday, November 6, 10:30am
(Open Rehearsal)

Thursday, November 6, 7:30pm
Friday, November 7, 1:30pm
Saturday, November 8, 8:00pm
Nodoka Okisawa, conductor
Midori, violin
TAKEMITSU *Requiem* for strings
DVOŘÁK Violin Concerto
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 7
Japanese conductor Nodoka Okisawa, a protégé of Seiji Ozawa, makes her BSO debut leading the first in a series exploring Dvořák's final symphonies — works Ozawa especially loved. She is joined by violinist Midori, a longtime Ozawa collaborator. The program also features Toru Takemitsu's *Requiem* for strings, a work Stravinsky hailed as a masterpiece.

Thursday, November 13, 10:30am ★
(High School open rehearsal)
Thursday, November 13, 7:30pm

Friday, November 14, 1:30pm
Saturday, November 15, 8:00pm
Dima Slobodeniouk, conductor
James Carter, saxophones
Tania LEÓN *Time to Time* (world premiere; BSO co-commission)
Roberto SIERRA Concerto for Saxophones and Orchestra
BRAHMS Symphony No. 2
Frequent guest conductor Dima Slobodeniouk leads this celebration of Caribbean composers, beginning with the Pulitzer Prize-winning Cuban American Tania León's BSO-commissioned *Time to Time*, whose title reveals the composer's characteristic preoccupation with duration and rhythm. Puerto Rico-born Roberto Sierra wrote his effervescent, jazz- and Latin-tinged concerto especially for James Carter's lyricism and technical prowess on both soprano and tenor sax. Johannes Brahms' Second Symphony is considered among his warmest, most pastoral works.

🏠 Augustin Hadelich in Residence

★ E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One

◆ Where Words End: Music and the Natural World

■ Faith in Our Time

Friday, November 14, 7:30pm ★ ◆
Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra
Maximiano Valdés, conductor

Continuing the BSO's exploration of Caribbean stories and music, the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra makes its Symphony Hall debut under the direction of Maximiano Valdés. One of three non-BSO orchestras featured this season, their performance highlights the vibrant musical traditions of Puerto Rico and beyond. This concert is part of our *E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One* exploration, honoring the diverse voices that shape our nation's musical heritage, and will include works by Angélica Negrón, Roberto Sierra, and a selection of Puerto Rico's rich popular musical traditions.

Presented in association with Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción

Thursday, November 20, 7:30pm ◆
Friday, November 21, 1:30pm

Saturday, November 22, 8:00pm
Jonathon Heyward, conductor
Joshua Bell, violin

Grace-Evangeline MASON
The Imagined Forest
DE HARTMANN Violin Concerto
MUSSORGSKY (orch. RAVEL)
Pictures at an Exhibition

Violin superstar Joshua Bell performs Thomas de Hartmann's Violin Concerto, a rediscovered gem full of drama, technical virtuosity, and beautiful motifs. Grace-Evangeline Mason's *The Imagined Forest* takes the audience on a journey through the fantasy, folklore, and danger of the woodlands. Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* with its distinct storytelling, hilarious characters, and epic finale, unfolds like a vivid musical gallery, each movement painting a scene. Fast-rising star Jonathon Heyward leads the program.

Friday, November 28, 1:30pm ◆
Saturday, November 29, 8:00pm

Samy Rachid, conductor
Pablo Ferrández, cello
DVOŘÁK Cello Concerto
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 8
Award-winning Spanish cellist Pablo Ferrández returns to Symphony Hall to perform one of the most beloved works in the cello repertoire: Dvořák's Cello Concerto weaves a virtuosic solo line into a rich orchestral tapestry that both pays tribute to and draws inspiration from his Bohemian homeland. The Eighth Symphony is a similarly folk-inspired work, warm and full of charm, and filled with dance rhythms and unexpected harmonic shifts.

Thursday, January 8, 7:30pm ★

Saturday, January 10, 8:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Jennifer Holloway, soprano
(Vanessa)

Samantha Hankey, mezzo-soprano (Erika)
Anne Sofie von Otter, mezzo-soprano (The Old Baroness)
Pavel Černoch, tenor (Anatol)
Thomas Hampson, baritone (The Old Doctor)

Tanglewood Festival Chorus
James Burton, conductor
Boston Lyric Opera Chorus
Brett Hodgdon, conductor
BARBER *Vanessa*

As a centerpiece of this season's *E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One* focus, Andris Nelsons leads some of today's most acclaimed opera stars in performances of Samuel Barber's *Vanessa*, a work considered by many to be the greatest American opera. Barber and librettist Gian Carlo Menotti aimed for a cosmopolitan, nostalgic work on lost love and the consequences of self-delusion.

Presented in collaboration with the Boston Lyric Opera

Sung in English with supertitles


Thursday, January 15, 10:30am ★ ■
(Open Rehearsal)

Thursday, January 15, 7:30pm
Friday, January 16, 7:30pm
Saturday, January 17, 8:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Seong-Jin Cho, piano
Lorna McGhee, flute
Tanglewood Festival Chorus
James Burton, conductor
Allison LOGGINS-HULL *Rhapsody on a Theme by Joni*, for flute and orchestra (BSO co-commission)
BERNSTEIN *Chichester Psalms* (January 15 & 17 only)
TCHAIKOVSKY Piano Concerto No. 1


As part of our *E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One* exploration, BSO principal flute Lorna McGhee makes her solo debut in Allison Loggins-Hull's *Rhapsody on a Theme by Joni*, a lively tribute to Joni Mitchell. Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* blends Christian and Jewish traditions in one of his most uplifting works. And why include Tchaikovsky on an *E Pluribus Unum* program? Boston hosted the 1875 world premiere of his now-iconic First Piano Concerto — just a few years before the BSO was founded.




SEONG-JIN CHO




LORNA MCGHEE



EMANUEL AX



THOMAS WILKINS



ESA-PEKKA SALONEN

Thursday, January 22, 7:30pm ★◆
Friday, January 23, 1:30pm
Saturday, January 24, 8:00pm
Sunday, January 25, 2:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Emanuel Ax, piano
Gil Shaham, violin
ALL-John WILLIAMS PROGRAM
“The Float” from *Catch Me if You Can*
Piano Concerto
TreeSong, for violin and orchestra
Theme from *Schindler’s List*
Suite from *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*

Considered among the greatest film composers of all time, Boston Pops Conductor Laureate and longtime BSO family member John Williams is also known for his concert works. His new Piano Concerto, composed for Emanuel Ax, received its premiere at Tanglewood in summer 2025. Violinist Gil Shaham gave the world premiere of *TreeSong* with the BSO and Williams at Tanglewood in 2000; the piece was inspired by dawn redwood trees in Boston’s Public Garden and Arnold Arboretum. Shaham also plays the poignant *Schindler’s List* theme, and other music from Williams’ film scores begins and ends the program.

Various dates and locations ★
throughout the month
Johnny Gandelsman, violin
“*This is America*”
Violinist Johnny Gandelsman created *This is America* in 2020 as a response to a time of social upheaval, rupture, and disconnection. He commissioned 22 U.S.-based composers to reflect on the era’s complexities. Now expanded to 28 works, the project explores themes of separation, hope, and resilience, offering a counterpoint to the idea of a singular American perspective.

Thursday, January 29, 7:30pm ★■
Saturday, January 31, 8:00pm
Thomas Wilkins, conductor
Zebulon Ellis, tenor
Marc Bamuthi Joseph, librettist and spoken word artist
The Crossing
Donald Nally, artistic director
Gospel Choruses
David LANG Selections from *poor hymnal*
Carlos SIMON *Good News Mass* (with video by Melina Matsoukas; BSO co-commission)

As part of our ongoing exploration of *Faith In Our Time*, the BSO presents a new co-commissioned work by Composer Chair Carlos Simon that draws deeply on the gospel music he learned growing up in his father’s church. Inspired by the world of Charles Ives and the simplicity of New England hymns, Jewish composer David Lang composed *poor hymnal* for *The Crossing*, using a wide variety of texts to contemplate how we respond to those in need.

Sunday, February 1, 3:00pm ■★
Thomas Tull Concert Hall,
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Augustin Hadelich, violin
Orion Weiss, piano
American Road Trip
IVES Sonata No. 4
Stephen HARTKE *Netsuke*
Daniel Bernard ROUMAIN *Filter*
Carlos SIMON New work (world premiere; BSO commission)
John ADAMS *Road Movies*
COPLAND *Nocturne, Ukelele*
Serenade, Hoe-Down
BEACH Romance

Hadelich and frequent recital partner Orion Weiss traverse American musical landscapes of the past and present. The program ranges from the early 20th-century New England of Amy Beach and Charles Ives to the contemporary hip-hop and rock-influenced music of Daniel Bernard Roumain and BSO Composer Chair Carlos Simon. Central to the program is former New Englander and longtime Californian John Adams’ *Road Movies*, a piece evoking that most American of pastimes, the road trip. *This concert is not available as part of a subscription.*

■ Augustin Hadelich
in Residence

★ E Pluribus Unum:
From Many, One

◆ Where Words End:
Music and the Natural World

■ Faith in Our Time

Thursday, February 5, 10:30am ★◆
(High School open rehearsal)
Thursday, February 5, 7:30pm
Friday, February 6, 1:30pm
Saturday, February 7, 8:00pm
Anna Handler, conductor
Nathan Cole, violin
Steven Ansell, viola
Gabriella SMITH *Bioluminescence*
Chaconne
MOZART Sinfonia concertante
for violin and viola
TCHAIKOVSKY Suite from
Swan Lake

Joining BSO Assistant Conductor Anna Handler in her Symphony Hall debut with the BSO is concertmaster Nathan Cole making his Symphony Hall debut as a concerto soloist. Principal Viola Steven Ansell is Cole’s solo partner in Mozart’s Sinfonia concertante, a vivacious masterpiece. American composer Gabriella Smith’s *Bioluminescence Chaconne* uses the natural world as a metaphor for musical structure and process, or vice versa — part of a multi-season programmatic focus exploring artists’ responses to our environment. Tchaikovsky’s iconic ballet score *Swan Lake*, for all its supernatural, fairytale narrative, is also very much in the realm of nature pieces. Its lush, romantic music is some of the most familiar in the repertoire.

Thursday, February 12, 10:30am
(Open Rehearsal)
Thursday, February 12, 7:30pm
Friday, February 13, 1:30pm
Saturday, February 14, 8:00pm
Esa-Pekka Salonen, conductor
Stefan Dohr, horn
Esa-Pekka SALONEN Horn Concerto
(American premiere;
BSO co-commission)
BRUCKNER Symphony No. 4,
Romantic

Before Esa-Pekka Salonen became one of the world’s most renowned conductors, he started his musical life as a working horn player and progressive composer. He brings his musical worlds together in leading the American premiere of his Horn Concerto composed for Stefan Dohr, principal horn of the Berlin Philharmonic. The concerto draws on material from Anton Bruckner’s magisterial, brass-friendly Fourth Symphony, which Salonen has programmed for the second half of this concert. Bruckner’s soaring symphonies are frequently described as “cathedrals in sound.”

Thursday, February 26, 7:30pm ■◆
Friday, February 27, 1:30pm
Saturday, February 28, 8:00pm
Thomas Adès, conductor
Augustin Hadelich, violin
Thomas ADÈS *Aquifer*
Thomas ADÈS *Concentric Paths*,
for violin and orchestra
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6,
Pastoral

2025-26 BSO artist in residence Augustin Hadelich performs Thomas Adès’ kaleidoscopic violin concerto *Concentric Paths* with the composer conducting. Adès’ *Aquifer* depicts nature’s dynamism, reflecting how geological structures store and release water. Artists have long responded to nature in their work, as Beethoven did with his *Pastoral* Symphony, a joyous tribute to a day in the countryside.

Tuesday, March 3, 7:30pm
Vienna Philharmonic
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Lang Lang, piano
BARTÓK Piano Concerto No. 3
MAHLER Symphony No. 1

For the second of three orchestras we’re proud to host at Symphony Hall this season, the legendary Vienna Philharmonic returns to Boston for its first concert here since 2003, under the baton of the BSO’s own Andris Nelsons. International piano sensation Lang Lang, in the first of two appearances this year, brings his signature virtuosity and power to the stage for a concert of glorious late Romantic and 20th-century masterpieces.

Co-presentation with Celebrity Series of Boston

Thursday, March 5, 7:30pm
Friday, March 6, 1:30pm
Saturday, March 7, 8:00pm
Herbert Blomstedt, conductor
Tanglewood Festival Chorus
James Burton, conductor

BRAHMS *Nänie*, for chorus
and orchestra
BRAHMS *Schicksalslied*,
for chorus and orchestra
BRAHMS Symphony No. 4

Two choral masterpieces, Brahms’ *Nänie (Lament)* and *Schicksalslied (Song of Destiny)*, explore fate, loss, and divine indifference. Brahms’ fourth and final symphony is a work of brooding intensity, a symphonic elegy that balances lyrical warmth with memorable motifs and an explosive grand finale.



RENÉE FLEMING



LANG LANG



SUSANNA MÄLKKI



DIMA SLOBODENIOUK



Sunday, March 15, 2:00pm ★ ■
Interlochen Arts Academy
Cristian Măcelaru, conductor
Yo-Yo Ma, cello

IVES Symphony No. 4
Reena ESMAIL *RE|member*
Wynton MARSALIS *New Work*,
for cello and orchestra

The last of the three visiting orchestras presented by the Boston Symphony Orchestra this season, the Interlochen Arts Academy features cellist Yo-Yo Ma in a new work by composer and jazz ambassador Wynton Marsalis. Opening the program is one of the great monuments of American music: Charles Ives' spiritually searching Fourth Symphony has intricate, multilayered orchestral textures that are interwoven with rich allusions to traditional Christian hymns. Indian American composer Reena Esmail's *RE|member*, is an energetic overture-like work exploring togetherness.

Thursday, March 19, 7:30pm
Friday, March 20, 1:30pm
Saturday, March 21, 8:00pm
Sunday, March 22, 2:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Yunchan Lim, piano
SCHUMANN Piano Concerto
TCHAIKOVSKY *Manfred*

Vaulted to worldwide prominence as the youngest-ever winner of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Yunchan Lim returns to Symphony Hall for Robert Schumann's lyrical, introspective Piano Concerto, written for his wife Clara, one of the most admired pianists of the 19th century. Inspired throughout his life by literary sources, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky wrote his *Manfred* — actually a four-movement symphony — based on Lord Byron's Gothic verse play of the same name about a nihilistic nobleman wandering the Alps in search of meaning.

Thursday, March 26, 7:30pm ★
Friday, March 27, 7:30pm
Saturday, March 28, 8:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Renée Fleming, soprano (Pat Nixon)
Thomas Hampson, baritone (Richard Nixon)

Tanglewood Festival Chorus
James Burton, conductor
John ADAMS *The Chairman Dances*
(March 26 & 28 only)
John ADAMS Excerpts from
Nixon in China
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 9,
From the New World

Nixon in China established Adams as the most significant opera composer of the past 50 years. Opera luminaries Thomas Hampson and Renée Fleming bring excerpts from this groundbreaking work to the Symphony Hall stage. *The Chairman Dances*, Adams' "foxtrot outtake" from the opera, opens the concert. Composed while the Czech Antonín Dvořák was living in the U.S. the *New World Symphony* bursts with sweeping melodies.

Thursday, April 2, 7:30pm ◆
Saturday, April 4, 8:00pm
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Mao Fujita, piano

Outi TARKIAINEN *Day Night Day*
(American premiere; BSO
co-commission)
MOZART Piano Concerto No. 21
in C, K.467
SIBELIUS Symphony No. 1

Andris Nelsons introduces rising star Mao Fujita in Mozart's lively Piano Concerto No. 21. Sibelius infused his own music with Finnish musical and cultural traditions, even in his apparently abstract symphonies. Finnish composer Outi Tarkiainen draws on Lapland's unique landscape and culture; her *Day Night Day*, a BSO co-commission, incorporates traditional Sámi melodies.

Friday, April 3, 1:30pm ◆
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Leonard Weiss and Yiran Zhao,
Tanglewood Music Center
Conducting Fellows

Outi TARKIAINEN *Day Night Day*
(American premiere; BSO
co-commission)
SMETANA "Vyšehrad" and
"The Moldau" from *Má Vlast*
SIBELIUS Symphony No. 1

Andris Nelsons shares the podium with two 2025 Tanglewood Conducting Fellows for this geographically inspired program. The Fellows lead two movements from Smetana's *Má Vlast*: "Vyšehrad," evoking a historic Prague fortress, and "The Moldau", depicting the river's journey. Nelsons conducts Sibelius' First Symphony, infused with Finnish musical traditions.

Wednesday, April 8, 7:30pm ◆
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Lang Lang, piano

Outi TARKIAINEN *Day Night Day*
GRIEG Piano Concerto
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 9,
From the New World

Superstar pianist Lang Lang joins Andris Nelsons and the BSO for the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg's perennially popular Piano Concerto, which combines Romantic-era passion with elements of Norwegian traditional music. Similarly inspired by folk music, Antonín Dvořák was living in the U.S. when he composed the *New World Symphony*, which bursts with sweeping melodies blending Bohemian soul with the spirit of America and incorporates the sounds and songs of both worlds into the iconic and oft-quoted work we know today.

Thursday, April 16, 10:30am ★
(High School open rehearsal)

Thursday, April 16, 7:30pm
Friday, April 17, 1:30pm
Saturday, April 18, 8:00pm
Susanna Mälkki, conductor
Lucas and Arthur Jussen, pianos

RAVEL *Mother Goose Suite*
Andrew NORMAN *New Work* for
two pianos and orchestra (world
premiere; BSO co-commission)
RACHMANINOFF *Symphonic Dances*
Popular Dutch duo-pianists Lucas and Arthur Jussen return to Symphony Hall for a BSO-commissioned world premiere. This music was written especially for them by American composer Andrew Norman, winner of the prestigious Grawemeyer Award for his orchestral work *Play*. Maurice Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite* brings the composer's mastery of orchestral color to his fairy-tale suite, originally written for piano, four-hands. Closing the program is Sergei Rachmaninoff's tour-de-force for orchestra, by turns powerfully energetic and meltingly lyrical: his *Symphonic Dances*, the composer's final work.

Thursday, April 23, 10:30am
(Open Rehearsal)

Thursday, April 23, 7:30pm
Saturday, April 25, 8:00pm
Andrey Boreyko, conductor
Evgeny Kissin, piano
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Russian Easter*
Festival Overture
SCRIABIN Piano Concerto
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Piano Concerto
PROKOFIEV Piano Concerto No. 1

This exciting and unusual three-concerto program features acclaimed soloist Evgeny Kissin, known for his charismatic virtuosity. These three sparkling but rarely heard concertos span the late Romantic/early modern periods. Andrey Boreyko leads this all-Russian program, opening with Rimsky-Korsakov's brilliantly colorful *Russian Easter Overture*.

Friday, April 24, 7:30pm
Symphony Hall
Boston Symphony
Chamber Players

Samy Rachid, conductor
STRAVINSKY *The Soldier's Tale*
Igor Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du soldat*
was born from the upheaval of war
and revolution, a razor-sharp fable
of fate and temptation with jagged
rhythms and biting dissonances.

Thursday, April 30, 7:30pm ★
Friday, May 1, 1:30pm
Saturday, May 2, 8:00pm
Sunday, May 3, 2:00pm
Dima Slobodeniouk, conductor
Tanglewood Festival Chorus

James Burton, conductor
John ADAMS *Harmonium*
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9
Dima Slobodeniouk leads one of
American composer John Adams'
first major pieces, *Harmonium*
for chorus and orchestra. This
grand, half-hour work is a setting
of a poem by John Donne and
two poems by Emily Dickinson in
gradually unfolding, majestic textures.
Beethoven's larger-than-life, ecstatic
Symphony No. 9 closes the season.

- ★ E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One
- ◆ Where Words End: Music and the Natural World
- Faith in Our Time

Boston Pops

Gather your family and friends to enjoy special Boston Pops experiences with Keith Lockhart, available as part of your BSO subscription.



Keith
LOCKHART 30 YEARS
with the Pops

Saturday, September 13, 7:30pm
Sunday September 14, 2:00pm
Boston Pops Orchestra
Keith Lockhart, conductor
The Princess Bride

“As you wish...” Fencing, fighting, torture, revenge, giants, monsters, chases, escapes, true love, miracles... Experience one of the most beloved films of all time as never before... with the power of a full symphony orchestra performing the entire musical score live-to-picture! Directed by Rob Reiner, *The Princess Bride* features an all-star cast including Robin Wright, Cary Elwes, Wallace Shawn, Mandy Patinkin, Chris Sarandon, Billy Crystal, Carol Kane, Christopher Guest, Fred Savage and André the Giant. The great Peter Falk narrates this romantic tale of the beautiful maiden, Buttercup, and her one true love, a young farm hand named Westley. After he’s captured by a ruthless pirate and presumed dead, Buttercup’s unhappy marriage to the horrible Prince Humperdinck seems inevitable. But before the wedding can take place, she’s kidnapped by three outlaws and it’s up to a mysterious Man in Black to come to her rescue...

Now for the first time, composer Mark Knopfler’s unforgettable score has been specially arranged for symphony orchestra. Missing this cinematic concert experience would be inconceivable!

So, in the words of Miracle Max...
“Have fun stormin’ the castle!”

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Thursday, October 30, 7:00pm
Friday, October 31, 7:00pm
Boston Pops Orchestra
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Hocus Pocus in Concert

Friday, October 31, 10:30pm
Brett Miller, organ
The Phantom of the Opera
Celebrate the centennial of the release of Rupert Julian’s 1925 silent film classic, starring Lon Chaney as the Phantom of the Paris Opera, with live organ accompaniment.

This concert is performed without orchestra.

Saturday, November 1, 7:30pm ★
Boston Pops Orchestra
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Day of the Dead
A Mexican tradition comes alive again as the Boston Pops returns to celebrate “Día de Muertos” – The Day of the Dead. Join us for an evening filled with music that honors this rich cultural heritage where life and death intertwine in a beautiful tapestry of remembrance and reverence.

Saturday, February 21,
Boston Pops Orchestra
Lunar New Year Concert
Welcome the new year with joy, renewal, and cultural splendor, honoring the vibrant traditions of communities across Asia.

Saturday, March 14, 7:30pm ★
Boston Pops Orchestra
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Celtic Night
It’s been almost three decades since the release of the Boston Pops’ Grammy-nominated *Celtic Album*, but the flame of the Emerald Isle still burns bright at Symphony Hall. Experience the revelry and tradition that honors the deep-rooted connection between Boston and the Irish nation.

Boston Symphony Chamber Players

Four Sunday afternoons at 3:00 pm at Jordan Hall, unless otherwise noted.
\$147, \$114, \$87



The BSO principal players bring audiences up close and personal to chamber music both new and classic, from exploring the depths of Mahler to championing new voices like Carlos Simon. With esteemed guest artists this season like Sasha Cooke, Inon Barnatan, Seong-Jin Cho, and Augustin Hadelich, these concerts offer an intimate yet dynamic complement to the BSO’s season-long journey, marking both 125 years of Symphony Hall and America’s 250th birthday.

Sunday, October 5, 3:00pm ★ ▲
Earl Lee, conductor (Mahler)
Sasha Cooke, mezzo-soprano
Randall Hodgkinson, piano
LOEFFLER *Timbres oubliés*, for clarinet and harp
KOECHLIN Two Nocturnes for flute, horn, and piano
SAINT-SAËNS *Caprice on Danish and Russian Airs*, for flute, oboe, clarinet, and piano
BEACH Three pieces for violin and piano
MAHLER Songs of a Wayfarer (arr. SCHOENBERG)

To parallel our celebrations of Symphony Hall’s 125th anniversary, frequent guest pianist Randall Hodgkinson joins the Chamber Players for a program featuring composers active at the time of the hall’s opening in 1900. Amy Beach and Charles Martin Loeffler were both prominent in Boston’s musical community at the turn of the last century. Charles Koechlin and Camille Saint-Saëns represent two generations of Parisian music, while Mahler (and his younger colleague Schoenberg) were both active in Vienna.

Sunday, November 2, 3:00pm
Inon Barnatan, piano
All-MOZART PROGRAM
Divertimento for string trio, K. 563
Sonata in C for flute and piano, K. 14
Quintet in E-flat for Piano and Winds, K.452

The Boston Symphony Chamber Players leans into the intimacy, lightness, and intricacy of Mozart’s chamber music. The cheery tunefulness of the Divertimento for string trio, K.563, Mozart’s only completed string trio, blends sonata and serenade forms, illustrating Mozart’s mastery of counterpoint and variation, with each instrument given an equal voice. The Quintet for Piano and Winds, K.452, which Mozart himself declared one of his finest works, showcases his evolving approach to the use of woodwinds in his music from supporting players to main characters.

Sunday, January 18, 3:00pm ★
Seong-Jin Cho, piano
Valerie COLEMAN *Rubispheres*, for flute, clarinet, and bassoon
Carlos SIMON New Work (world premiere; BSO commission)
BRAHMS Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor, Opus 25

Sunday, February 15, 3:00pm
Augustin Hadelich, violin
DEBUSSY Sonata for flute, viola, and harp
Esa-Pekka SALONEN *Memoria* for wind quintet
CHAUSSON Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet

Friday, April 24, 7:30pm
Symphony Hall
Samy Rachid, conductor
STRAVINSKY The Soldier’s Tale
Igor Stravinsky’s *L’Histoire du soldat* was born from the upheaval of war and revolution, a razor-sharp fable of fate and temptation with jagged rhythms and biting dissonances.

- ▲ Boston, Symphony Hall, & the BSO in 1900
- Augustin Hadelich in Residence
- ★ E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One



Visit bostonpops.org for information on our spring performances and to learn about other concerts as they are announced!



SAMY RACHID

OPEN REHEARSALS

Four Thursday mornings at 10:30am, \$160, \$120, \$96

Get a behind-the-scenes look at how a rehearsal transforms a work in progress to a work of art. To provide you with the best possible experience, these are reserved seating rather than general admission events.

Thursday, November 6, 10:30am
Nodoka Okisawa, conductor
Midori, violin

TAKEMITSU *Requiem* for strings
 DVORÁK Violin Concerto
 DVORÁK Symphony No. 7

Thursday, January 15, 10:30am ★ ■

Andris Nelsons, conductor
Seong-Jin Cho, piano
Lorna McGhee, flute
Tanglewood Festival Chorus
James Burton, conductor

Allison LOGGINS-HULL *Rhapsody on a Theme by Joni*, for flute and orchestra (BSO co-commission)
 BERNSTEIN *Chichester Psalms*
 TCHAIKOVSKY Piano Concerto No. 1

Thursday, February 12, 10:30am
Esa-Pekka Salonen, conductor
Stefan Dohr, horn

Esa-Pekka SALONEN Horn Concerto (American premiere; BSO commission)
 BRUCKNER Symphony No. 4, *Romantic*

Thursday, April 23, 10:30am

Andrey Boreyko, conductor
Evgeny Kissin, piano

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Russian Easter Festival Overture*
 SCRIBIN Piano Concerto
 RIMSKY KORSAKOV Piano Concerto
 PROKOFIEV Piano Concerto No. 1

FAMILY CONCERTS

Five concert series: \$20 per ticket per concert, children 18 and under free (limit four per family; \$10 per ticket for more than four children)

Excite and inspire the next generation of musicians and music lovers with these approachable, shorter concerts that explore the themes and magic of classical music and encourage a lifelong appreciation of live performances.

Saturday, October 11, 1:00pm
Saturday, February 7, 1:00pm
Rebecca Sheir, host
Eric Shimelonis, composer

Circle Round

WBUR's award-winning family folktales podcast *Circle Round* returns to Symphony Hall to record new live episodes! Host Rebecca Sheir and composer Eric Shimelonis will be joined by Boston Symphony Orchestra musicians and a star-studded cast of actors as they bring exciting, engaging stories to life.

Saturday, November 8, 12:00pm
Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras

Federico Cortese, Music Director
Boston Ballet School,
Tamara King, Associate Director
 PROKOFIEV *Peter and the Wolf*

BYSO partners with the Boston Ballet School for this family-friendly classic. *Peter and the Wolf* is a symphonic fairy tale told through distinct themes assigned to specific instruments that illustrate a story of adventure, teamwork, and bravery.

FRIDAY EVENINGS

Three Friday evenings at 7:30pm, \$331, \$274, \$237, \$179, \$148, \$133, \$104

Experience a more intimate take on an orchestral concert with a Friday Evening series – these three unique concerts feature earlier start times, no intermission, and special pre- and post-concert activities tailored to each program for an unforgettable evening of artistry and connection.

Friday, January 16, 7:30pm

Friday, March 27, 7:30pm ★

Friday, April 24, 7:30pm

★ E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One

■ Faith in Our Time

Saturday, March 9-14

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Thomas Wilkins, conductor
 Family Concerts

Saturday, April 25, 12:00pm
Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras

Marta Žurad, conductor
Matt Roberts, magician
Music and Magic

Music and illusion come together for a dazzling performance with the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra and magician Matt Roberts.



BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

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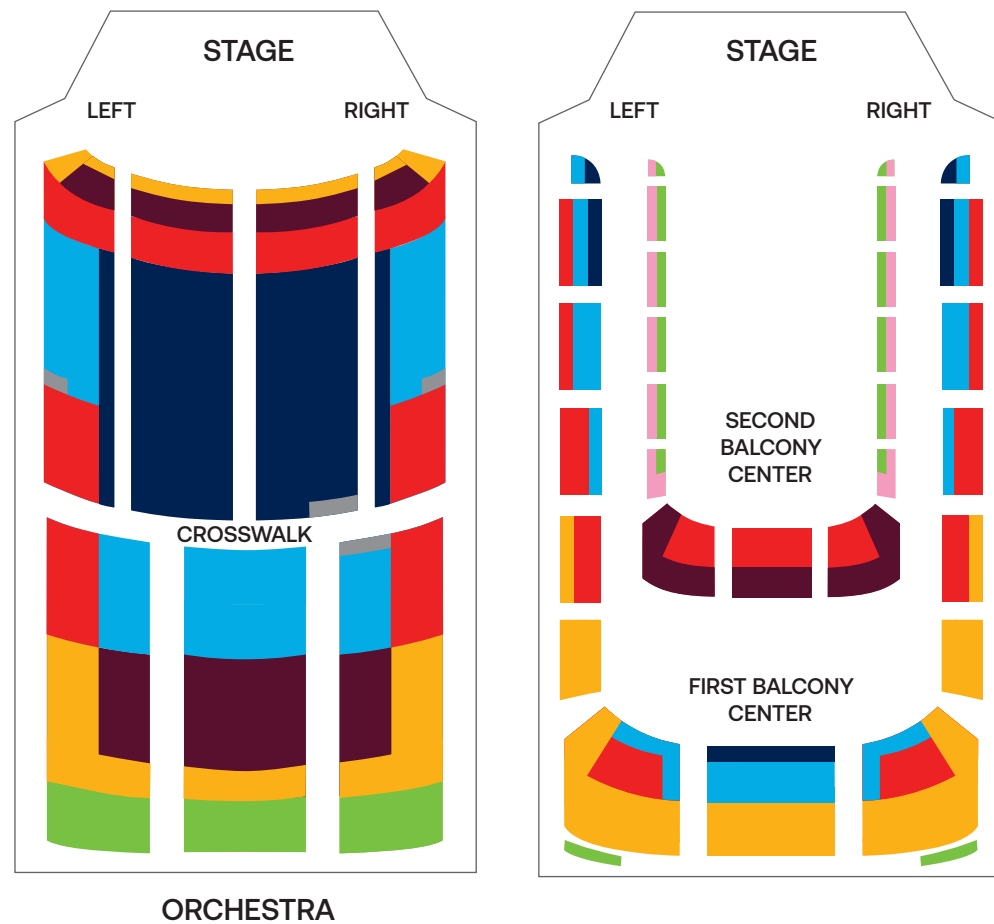
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Andris Nelsons, Ray and Maria Stata Music Director

Keith Lockhart, Julian and Eunice Cohen Boston Pops Conductor

Thomas Wilkins, Artistic Advisor for Education and Community Engagement/Germeshausen Youth and Family Concerts Conductor

Carlos Simon, Deborah and Philip Edmundson Composer Chair

James Burton, Alan J. and Suzanne W. Dworsky BSO Choral Director and Conductor of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus

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Boston Symphony Orchestra

Andris Nelsons
Music Director



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