



**Boston Symphony
Orchestra**

2025-26 season

where music lives

For immediate release

Thursday, October 2 at 12 p.m.

**The Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops, and
the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra
Celebrate the Music and Culture of America in
November's *E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One*
Programs**

Tickets available at [bso.org](https://www.bso.org)



Events at Symphony Hall during the first two weeks of November feature the **Boston Symphony Orchestra**, the **Boston Pops**, and the **Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra** performing music by composers and musicians from Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba.

Part of *[E Pluribus Unum: From Many, One](#)*, a multi-season exploration of the plurality of American identity, the November concerts and humanities events probe how the crosscurrents of the art form reflect and parallel societal change in our nation and deepen our understanding of American identity and its historical, cultural, and intellectual landscapes through the many voices represented.

E Pluribus Unum events in November include:

- The Pops' second annual **Día de Muertos** concert in tribute to the hugely successful Mexican pop star Juan Gabriel with conductor **Keith Lockhart** and guest soloists **Veronica Robles**, **Ely Guerra**, and **La Marisoul** (Nov.1).
- Guest conductor **Dima Slobodeniouk** leading three BSO performances and a High School Open Rehearsal with a world premiere commission by acclaimed Cuban American composer **Tania León** and jazz great **James Carter** as soloist in Roberto Sierra's Concerto for Saxophones and Orchestra (Nov. 13-15).
- A free "**What I Hear**" program at New England Conservatory with composer **León** as guest (Nov. 13).
- The **Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra** performing works by composers from the island with **Maximiano Valdés** conducting and cuatro star **Luis Sanz** as soloist in the orchestra's Boston debut (Nov. 14).
- A "**crash course**" on **Puerto Rican history** told through the music of megastar Bad Bunny led by Yale University Professor **Albert Laguna** with **Sanz** and composer **Angélica Negrón** joining (Nov. 14).

More details about each November *E Pluribus Unum* program follow and are available in the [press kit](#) along with photos and bios of the guest artists.

The *E Pluribus Unum* focus continues in January with a to-be-announced festival of humanities events supporting the BSO's previously announced concert programs that feature music by American composers like Samuel Barber, Leonard Bernstein, Carlos Simon, John Williams, and others.

Tickets for events on the dates below marked with an asterisk (*) are available at no charge to Boston students (grades K-12 and Boston Pre-K) and their families

through the [Boston Family Days](#) program described in further detail at the end of this announcement.

Quote from Josué González, Helaine B. Allen Vice President, Education and External Engagement:

"Through these exciting performances and insightful educational opportunities, the November *E Pluribus Unum* series invites our community to experience and learn about how Latino voices shape a collective understanding of our American identity and cultural life."

"A través de estas emocionantes presentaciones y oportunidades educativas, la serie E Pluribus Unum en noviembre invita nuestra comunidad a conocer cómo las voces latinas dan forma a nuestra comprensión colectiva de la identidad y la vida cultural de los Estados Unidos."

Boston Pops Presents

A Tribute to *El Divo de Juárez*: Celebrating *Día de Muertos*

Saturday, November 1, 7:30 p.m.*

The **Boston Pops** and conductor **Keith Lockhart** present their second annual *Día de Muertos* (Day of the Dead) program to mark the widely celebrated Mexican holiday of remembrance and reverence. This year's musical program honors the rich legacy of the iconic singer and songwriter [Juan Gabriel](#) ("*El Divo de Juárez*"), a trailblazing talent who redefined Mexico's music scene with his flamboyant style across genres from mariachi to disco. Singer, musician, dancer, and Latina cultural leader **Veronica Robles** returns to perform one of Gabriel's best-known ballads, "Querida" (Beloved) and "Tata Dios," a traditional folksong about accepting death. Other special guests are GRAMMY-winning Mexican singer-songwriter **Ely Guerra** and **La Marisoul**, lead singer of the GRAMMY-winning Latin music band La Santa Cecilia, performing both their own music and the hits of Gabriel. The program opens with the Pops performing the pulsating *Antrópolis* by Gabriela Ortiz, drawn from the sounds of Mexico City's dance halls and nightclubs. Traditional *Día de Muertos* food and drink, available as an add-on pre-concert buffet, as well as festive decorations, complement the evening's program.

Throughout the year, Pops concerts at Symphony Hall are generously supported by the Lead Season Sponsor of the Boston Pops, **Fidelity Investments** and the Official Hotel of the Boston Pops, **Fairmont Copley Plaza**.

**Boston Symphony Orchestra Performs
World Premiere of Tania León's *Time for Time*
and Works by Roberto Sierra and Brahms**

Thursday, November 13, 10:30 a.m. (High School Open Rehearsal)

Thursday, November 13, 5:30-6:30 p.m. ("What I Hear" at NEC)

Thursday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 14, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 15, 8:00 p.m.*

Headlining these **Boston Symphony Orchestra** performances led by frequent guest conductor **Dima Slobodeniouk** is the exciting world premiere of *Time to Time* by renowned Cuban American composer Tania León. Commissioned by the BSO, the new work reveals the composer's characteristic preoccupation with rhythm and duration. León, a 2022 Kennedy Center Honors awardee for lifetime artistic achievement, co-directed the Festival of Contemporary Music at Tanglewood in 2024. She won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize in Music for *Stride*, a work inspired by the women's suffrage movement, which the BSO performed in 2024. The program also includes Latin GRAMMY Award winner and Puerto Rico-born Roberto Sierra's effervescent Concerto for Saxophones and Orchestra with jazz virtuoso **James Carter** as guest soloist on soprano and tenor saxophones. Brahms' warm, pastoral Symphony No. 2, inspired by a visit to an Austrian lakeside resort, rounds out the program.

The Nov. 13 **High School Open Rehearsal** matinee for students in grades 8-12 is preceded by a 9:30 a.m. pre-concert talk by BSO Director of Program Publications **Robert Kirzinger**. Boston Public School students and teachers may attend at no charge with advance reservation; students and groups from other schools are welcome to attend at a discounted rate. [More information on High School Open Rehearsals.](#)

The Nov. 13 "**What I Hear**" program brings composer **Tania León** into conversation with BSO Artistic Administrator **Eric Valliere** as part of a free series of composer visits and short chamber music programs by **New England Conservatory students**. It takes place from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at NEC's Brown Hall (30 Gainsborough St.). Other upcoming "What I Hear" dates are [here](#).

Crash Course: Bad Bunny & Beyond Musical Aesthetics and Puerto Rican History

Friday, November 14, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

In this dynamic lecture, Yale University scholar **Dr. Albert Laguna** examines Puerto Rican history, politics, and identity through the sounds that shape it—from global pop culture megastar Bad Bunny to the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra performing later the same evening. Professor Laguna's Yale course, which uses the music of Bad Bunny as a lens to explore aesthetics, migration, colonialism, and resistance, was featured in a [New York Times story](#) in April.

The program includes a short performance by celebrated cuatro musician **Luis Sanz**, guest soloist with Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra and a collaborator on Bad Bunny's most recent album, which was recorded in Puerto Rico and is a tribute to his roots. Composer and multi-instrumentalist **Angélica Negrón**, whose work is also performed in the Puerto Rico Symphony's program, joins the conversation with Professor Laguna and Sanz. The event concludes with a Q&A. Drawing from both popular and classical repertoire, this "crash course" invites audiences to hear the ways music reveals deeper cultural and historical shifts.

The event takes place at Symphony Hall. Doors will open at 5:30pm and attendees are requested to enter through the Cohen Wing entrance on Huntington Ave. Cocktails and refreshments are available for purchase during the program. A separate ticket is required to attend the evening performance of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra.

Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra Performs Music of the Caribbean in its Boston Debut

Friday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.

Presented in association with *Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción*, the **Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra** ([*Orquesta Sinfónica de Puerto Rico*](#)) makes its first-ever Boston appearance to perform works that showcase the vibrant musical traditions of Puerto Rico and beyond. The orchestra was founded in 1958 by legendary cellist and humanitarian Pablo Casals. Under the leadership of its longtime Music Director **Maximiano Valdés**, who is completing his final season with the orchestra after a distinguished tenure of 18 years, the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra continues to serve as the leading symphonic institution of Puerto Rico and a cultural pillar of the Caribbean.

In a spirited program led by Valdés, the orchestra performs a variety of works inspired by Puerto Rico's landscape, history, and culture. Cuatro virtuoso **Luis Sanz** joins as soloist in Ernesto Cordero's Descarga movement from his *Concierto Criollo* for cuatro and orchestra. The cuatro, a small guitar, holds a central place Puerto Rican traditional and popular music.

Angélica Negrón's *Moriviví* evokes a common plant (the *Mimosa pudica* or shameplant) that closes its leaves when touched; the plant sparked the composer's imagination as a young girl. An arrangement of Puerto Rican songwriter Noel Estrada's beloved bolero *En mi Viejo San Juan* ("In my old San Juan"), written when the composer was a homesick soldier serving in the Army during World War II, is an ode to the beauty of his island home. Alfonso Fuentes composed his *Rapsodia Urbana* based on the sounds he heard following Hurricane Maria's devastation of Puerto Rico in 2017. The program also includes

two movements from symphonies by the Puerto Rico-born composer Roberto Sierra: *Memoria urbana* from Symphony No. 6 (a BSO co-commission given its American premiere by the BSO in March 2024) and *Karirós y Apoteosis* from Symphony No. 7. The Ukrainian-born Puerto Rican composer Jack Délano's *La Bruja de Loíza* ("Loíza's Witch"), Luis Quintana's *On the Ethereal Nature of Bioluminescence*, Juan Morel Campos's *Felices días* ("Happy Days"), and José Pujals's *Fragmentos de mi tierra* ("Fragments of My Land") complete the much-anticipated Boston debut of this acclaimed visiting orchestra.

* * *

General Ticketing Information

Tickets to all these events are available online at bso.org, by calling 888-266-1200, or by visiting the Symphony Hall Box Office ([see hours](#)).

The pre-concert buffet with the Nov. 1 *Día de Muertos* event may be purchased as an add-on with concert tickets.

Tickets for school groups and other students attending the Nov. 13 High School Open Rehearsal must be reserved in advance by contacting BSO Group Sales at 617-638-9345 or groupsales@bso.org.

The Nov. 13 "What I Hear" event at NEC is free and does not require advance registration, but space is limited.

The Nov. 14 *Crash Course: Bad Bunny & Beyond* is a ticketed event. All attendees wishing to stay for the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra's concert that follows at 7:30 p.m. must purchase a separate ticket.

Tickets for Boston Family Days Designated Events*

As indicated by the asterisk on the three dates above, a limited supply of tickets to the Nov. 1 Pops Day of the Dead concert, Nov. 14 Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra performance, and the Nov. 15 BSO concert are offered free to students attending all schools in Boston and their families through the city's Boston Family Days program. You may learn more about the program [here](#).

Boston Family Days offered during the BSO Season are grateful for the support from our BSO Youth and Family Program Sponsor, **Bank of America**.

Sponsorships

BSO Season Sponsors

The Boston Symphony Orchestra is grateful to our longtime Supporting Season Sponsors **Arbella Insurance Foundation** and the **Fairmont Copley Plaza**, our official hotel.

We are also delighted to announce that **Bank of America** has focused their longtime season support as the BSO Youth and Family Programs Sponsor, providing access to the arts with family-friendly programming throughout the BSO season.

Boston Pops Season Sponsors

The 2025-26 Boston Pops Season is sponsored by **Fidelity Investments**. For over 50 years, Fidelity Investments and the Boston Pops have proudly worked together to bring wonderful performances to local audiences. **Fairmont Copley Plaza** is the Official Hotel of the Boston Pops.

Titles for BSO Artistic and Executive Leadership

Andris Nelsons, Ray and Maria Stata BSO Music Director and Head of Conducting at Tanglewood

Chad Smith, Eunice and Julian Cohen BSO President and CEO

Keith Lockhart, Julian and Eunice Cohen Boston Pops Conductor

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

Carlos Simon, Deborah and Philip Edmundson Composer Chair

Press Contacts

Jan Devereux, Senior Director of Public Relations & Communications, BSO
(jdevereux@bso.org)

Matthew Erikson, Senior Publicist and Media Relations Lead
(merikson@bso.org)

Rena Cohen, Publicist (rcohen@bso.org)

More BSO News

For more news about the BSO and Boston Pops, [read our recent press releases](#) or follow us on social media.



[PRIVACY POLICY](#) [CONTACT US](#)

Tanglewood | 297 West Street | Lenox, MA 01240 | [Box Office Hours](#)

Symphony Hall | 301 Massachusetts Avenue | Boston, MA 02115 | [Box Office Hours](#)

Ticketing & Customer Service | 617.266.1200 (M-F: 10-4pm & Sat: 12:30pm-4:30pm) Service & Tickets | Subscriptions 888.266.7575

© 2007-2025 bso.org | [Terms of Use](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

To make sure our email updates are delivered to your inbox, please add mybso@bso.org to your email address book. E-mail customerservice@bso.org. This message was sent to _t.e.s.t_@example.com by Boston Symphony Orchestra, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Symphony Hall, Boston, MA 02115, United States.

[View a web copy of this email](#)

Email Marketing by ActiveCampaign