

2024–2025 | 125th Season
Marian Anderson Hall

Saturday, May 3, at 7:00

Kristin Chenoweth with The Philadelphia Orchestra

With Rob Fisher Conductor

Tonight’s program will be announced from the stage.

This program runs approximately two hours.

This performance is sponsored by **KeyBank**.

Philadelphia Orchestra concerts are broadcast on WRTI 90.1 FM on Sunday afternoons at 1 PM and are repeated on Monday evenings at 7 PM on WRTI HD 2. Visit www.wrti.org to listen live or for more details.

PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA/125

YANNICK NÉZET-SÉGUIN
MUSIC & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



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The Philadelphia Orchestra

The world-renowned Philadelphia Orchestra strives to share the transformative power of music with the widest possible audience, and to create joy, connection, and excitement through music in the Philadelphia region, across the country, and around the world. Through innovative programming, robust education initiatives, a commitment to its diverse communities, and the embrace of digital outreach, the ensemble is creating an expansive and inclusive future for classical music and furthering the place of the arts in an open and democratic society. In June 2021 the Orchestra and its home, the Kimmel Center, united. Today, The Philadelphia Orchestra and Ensemble Arts brings the greatest performances and most impactful education and community programs to audiences in Philadelphia and beyond.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin is now in his 13th season with The Philadelphia Orchestra, serving as music and artistic director. His connection to the ensemble's musicians has been praised by both concertgoers and critics, and he is embraced by the musicians of the Orchestra, audiences, and the community. In addition to expanding the repertoire by embracing an ever-growing and diverse group of today's composers, Yannick and the Orchestra are committed to performing and recording the works of previously overlooked composers.

Your Philadelphia Orchestra takes great pride in its hometown, performing for the people of Philadelphia year-round, at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, around the community, over the airwaves, and online. The Kimmel Center has been the ensemble's home since 2001, and in 2024 Verizon

Hall at the Kimmel Center was officially rededicated as Marian Anderson Hall in honor of the legendary contralto, civil rights icon, and Philadelphian. The Orchestra's award-winning education and community initiatives engage over 50,000 students, families, and community members of all ages through programs such as PlayINs; side-by-sides; PopUP concerts; Our City, Your Orchestra Live; the free annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute Concert; School Concerts; sensory-friendly concerts; open rehearsals; the School Ensemble Program; All-City Orchestra Fellowships; and residency work in Philadelphia and abroad.

Through concerts, tours, residencies, and recordings, the Orchestra is a global ambassador and one of our nation's greatest exports. It performs annually at Carnegie Hall, the Mann Center, the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and the Bravo! Vail Music Festival. The Orchestra also has a rich touring history, having first performed outside Philadelphia in its earliest days. In 1973 it was the first American orchestra to perform in the People's Republic of China, launching a now-five-decade commitment of people-to-people exchange.

Under Yannick's leadership, the Orchestra returned to recording with 14 celebrated releases on the Deutsche Grammophon label, including the GRAMMY® Award-winning *Florence Price Symphonies Nos. 1 & 3*. The Orchestra also reaches thousands of radio listeners with weekly broadcasts on WRTI-FM and SiriusXM. For more information, please visit www.philorch.org.

Soloist

Drew Elhamalawy



Emmy and Tony Award–winning actress and singer **Kristin Chenoweth**’s career spans film, television, voice-over, and stage. In 2015 she received a coveted star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. In 2009 she received an Emmy Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series for her role in *Pushing Daisies*. In 1999 she won a Tony Award for *You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and in 2004 she was nominated for her original role of Glinda the Good Witch in *Wicked*. She has been nominated for two Emmy Awards and

a People’s Choice Award for her role on *Glee*. She earned a Drama Desk Award, Outer Critics Circle Award, and Broadway.com Audience Choice Award for her lead role in the Roundabout Theatre Company’s *On the Twentieth Century*; she also earned Tony and Drama League award nominations for the role.

Ms. Chenoweth’s newest major project is the development of a musical based on the award-winning 2012 documentary *The Queen of Versailles* and the life of beauty queen, socialite, and TV personality Jacqueline “Jackie” Siegel. Ms. Chenoweth is starring in and producing the show through her production banner Diva Worldwide Entertainment. The musical—which has reunited her with *Wicked* composer Stephen Schwartz—made its world premiere at Boston’s Emerson Colonial Theatre and will make its Broadway debut in the 2025–26 season. She can currently be seen in *Our Little Secret* for Netflix opposite Lindsay Lohan. She also appeared in Apple TV+’s acclaimed musical-comedy series *Schmigadoon!*, receiving a Critics’ Choice Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series for her role as Mildred Layton. In 2023 she released her gift book, *I’m No Philosopher, But I Have Thoughts: For Saints, Sinners, and the Rest of Us*. She is also the author of the picture book *What Will I Do with My Love Today* and the memoir *A Little Bit Wicked*, and she is an editor of the essay book *My Moment: 106 Women on Fighting for Themselves*. In 2021 she released her latest holiday album, *HAPPINESS is ... Christmas!* Her album of American Songbook classics, *The Art of Elegance*, was released on Concord Records and debuted at #1 on Billboard’s Current Jazz and Traditional Jazz charts.

Ms. Chenoweth made her Philadelphia Orchestra debut in 2016. She has performed to sold-out audiences across the world, including performances at Carnegie Hall and Royal Albert Hall. She is a passionate supporter of charities and formed a partnership with the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center (BAPAC) Foundation in her home state of Oklahoma where, in 2015, they launched an annual Broadway Bootcamp providing young Broadway hopefuls with the opportunity to take classes, perform, and learn from top mentors in the entertainment industry. Her accomplishments were honored by her hometown with BAPAC naming the Kristin Chenoweth Theatre in 2012.

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Yannick Nézet-Séguin · Music & Artistic Director

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Photo: Pete Checchia

Conductor

Joseph Viles



Rob Fisher is an internationally recognized music director, conductor, and pianist, and a leading figure in American music and musical theater. He has been a guest of every major orchestra in the country as conductor or pianist and has collaborated many times with Kristin Chenoweth. He made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut at the 2004 New Year's Eve concert.

With the New York Philharmonic, Mr. Fisher conducted the acclaimed concert versions of *Carousel* (earning an Emmy nomination for Best Music Director) and *My Fair Lady*, as well as *Mr. Keillor at 70*. At Carnegie Hall with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, he led gala performances of *Candide*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *The Sound of Music*. He was recently represented on Broadway as the score supervisor and arranger for *An American in Paris* and *Anything Goes*, garnering GRAMMY nominations for both productions. He is also the music supervisor and arranger for *Chicago: The Musical*. He has collaborated in concert and on recordings with such artists as Renée Fleming, Kelli O'Hara, Patti LuPone, Idina Menzel, Brian Stokes Mitchell, and David Hyde Pierce. Mr. Fisher conducted the San Francisco Symphony in the Emmy-winning concert production of *Sweeney Todd* starring Ms. LuPone and George Hearn. He also led the record-breaking production of *The Sound of Music* at the Chicago Lyric Opera.

Mr. Fisher was founding music director and conductor of the New York City Center *Encores!* series from its inception in 1994 until 2005. The series earned a 2000 Tony Award and, in 1997, Mr. Fisher was given the Lucille Lortel Award. He has made numerous recordings for *Encores!* including the GRAMMY Award-winning *Chicago* cast album. Recently he arranged and conducted Renée Fleming's *Broadway*. A native Virginian, he holds degrees from Duke, American, and Mansfield universities.

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Philadelphia Orchestra subscription concerts, beginning one hour before the performance. Conversations are free to ticket holders, feature discussions of the season's music and music-makers, and are supported in part by the Hirschberg-Goodfriend Fund in memory of Adolf Hirschberg, established by Juliet J. Goodfriend.

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