



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



MINNESOTA
ORCHESTRA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3 DEPARTMENT MISSION
- 4 MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT
- 5 STUDENTS & TEACHERS
- 10 STORIES & MORE
- 12 FAMILIES
- 14 EMERGING ARTISTS
- 15 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- 16 LIFELONG LEARNING & PARTNERSHIPS
- 17 WELLNESS



DEPARTMENT MISSION

The Minnesota Orchestra has been committed to educational programming for over a century.

Today, its Education and Community Engagement Department uses symphonic music as a catalyst to enrich our community by bringing people together, creating meaningful connections to the Minnesota Orchestra, and inspiring exploration and growth through engagements in Orchestra Hall, the community and digital spheres.



MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT

Dear Minnesota Community:

We are excited for the 2023-24 season, which brings a new music director, innovative programming, and new and continuing partnerships with students, teachers and artists throughout Minnesota. A season highlight for the Department of Education and Community Engagement will be a Family Concert in January conducted by Music Director Thomas Søndergård! Our Young People's Concerts return with captivating conductors, hosts, and a combination of well-known pieces and music that is new to Orchestra Hall, with a diverse array of composers spotlighted throughout the year. We are working to listen deeply to our community and co-create experiences that will take place at Orchestra Hall and out in our Twin Cities community. Our Relaxed Family and Sensory-Friendly programs are central to ensuring that the Minnesota Orchestra is accessible for all families and all ages. Best of all, we get to do this work with the wonderful musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra! Our programs create opportunities for our musicians to connect with our community members in unique and transformative ways. This brochure touches on many great programs: please explore our website for even more up-to-date information, photos and concert descriptions. Let's have a season to celebrate!



Mitra Sadeghpour
Director of Education & Community Engagement



CONTACT US 

education@mnorch.org

VISIT US 

minnesotaorchestra.org/education

STUDENTS & TEACHERS

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS »»

Since 1911, Young People's Concerts have been at the heart of the Minnesota Orchestra's efforts to engage and inspire young audiences.

Join us for an experience that investigates a musical element, composer, time period or theme, and is tailored for students, their teachers and families. See individual programs for age recommendations.

Available for schools and homeschools.

This year we are offering two homeschool workshops!
Please join us!

minnesotaorchestra.org/forms/homeschool-workshop

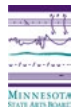


YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS
ARE SUPPORTED BY:

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Mary Ann Feldman Music Education Fund

CORPORATE DONORS



STUDENTS & TEACHERS

2023–24 YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS



PHILHARMONIA FANTASTIQUE: THE MAKING OF THE ORCHESTRA

OCT 25–26, 2023
Grades 1–6

Come on an orchestral adventure with a special Sprite who will teach students about each of the instrument families that make up an orchestra. This concert features a Grammy Award-winning multi-media concerto played by the Minnesota Orchestra which explores the connections between music, sound, performance, creativity and technology.



SOUNDS OF THE HARVEST

NOV 28–29, 2023
Grades 3–6

Join the Minnesota Orchestra as it celebrates the season of Harvest, which encompasses vibrant traditions and festivals around the world. Many Harvest traditions center around two common themes: the bounty of harvest and gratitude. Through pieces including Jerod Tate's *Spirit Chief Names the Animal People* and Robert Schumann's third symphony, we will explore different Harvest traditions held near and far.



STUDENTS CENTER STAGE

JAN 22–23, 2024
Grades 1–6

Music teachers inspire their students every single day. The young musicians involved in this program are living proof of all the good that music teachers foster in the lives of their students, and the Minnesota Orchestra is honored to share the stage with them. This exciting program features the 2022 and 2023 Young People's Symphony Concert Association (YPSCA) Concerto Competition winners.



MUSIC FOR A BETTER WORLD

FEB 27–29, 2024
Grades 1–6

Have you ever heard a piece of music that inspired you? This program explores the idea that music—even with no words—can make a powerful statement. Featuring Beethoven's Overture to *Leonore* and orchestrated pieces by 29:11 International Exchange, this program is sure to prove that musicians can be the world's greatest change makers.



HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE

APR 2–3, 2023
Grades 1–6

Join the Minnesota Orchestra as it flies around the world through music by composers from many different corners of the Earth. Starting at home in the United States, we will then head to the Andes mountains in Peru with Gabriela Lena Frank's *Leyendas: An Andean Walkabout*. And that's just the beginning of this musical journey.

STUDENTS & TEACHERS

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS RESOURCES >>

CURRICULUM: Prepare for your upcoming concert experience! Each Young People's Concert includes an engaging curriculum available on our website six weeks before the concert. The lessons are designed to be cross-curricular, connecting music to various areas of study. The curricula align with the Minnesota State Standards in the Arts, and are designed to prepare your students for the music they will experience at Orchestra Hall. You may also explore the online archives for past concert curricula to use in your classroom.

GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA: Discover the instruments that make up the orchestra in our interactive online instrument guide. Videos, photos, interviews and demonstrations from Minnesota Orchestra musicians bring each instrument to life!



“

I am so excited for this season of Young People's Concerts. We have five unique and vibrant programs each paired with curricula that focus on music, science and social studies. I look forward to continuing to work with Minnesota educators and their amazing students!”

*Jessica Lowry,
Manager of Education Programs*



STUDENTS & TEACHERS

KINDER KONZERTS >>

For over 40 years, the FRIENDS of the Minnesota Orchestra Kinder Konzerts™ programs have welcomed 4- to 6-year-old guests to Orchestra Hall to experience a narrated musical story based on a children's book, performed by an ensemble of musicians from the Minnesota Orchestra. This season's musical story is *Max Found Two Sticks* by Brian Pickney with music composed by Janika Vandervelde. Along with the musical story, Sound Factories run by members of FRIENDS will teach children all about the instruments they will see and hear onstage.

Visit the FRIENDS of the Minnesota Orchestra website to purchase tickets to this year's Kinder Konzerts at Orchestra Hall on the following dates: Tue Dec 12, Mon Feb 5, Tue Mar 5 and Mon May 6.



SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS >>

Interested in bringing Minnesota Orchestra musicians to your school? Request a free musician visit aligned with your educational goals. Available to pre-K through 12, college or university classrooms. Visits are prioritized based on fit between Orchestra and instructor goals, as well as musician availability. If you would like to request an individual musician or small ensemble visit for your organization, [please fill out our inquiry form here](#).



STUDENTS & TEACHERS

STUDENT AND EDUCATOR DISCOUNTS »

Young listeners can attend most Classical and Symphony in 60 and all Family and Sensory-Friendly Concerts for free through [Hall Pass](#). College students and educators can save substantially through [Choose Your Price](#) options and other curated offers.

SYMPHONIC ADVENTURES FOR HIGH SCHOOLS »

Symphonic Adventures are a one-hour performance bringing the entire Orchestra to your Twin Cities-area high school. They are designed for secondary students, and are hosted by Orchestra violist Sam Bergman. These performances include beautiful music with narration between pieces offering important historical context of each piece and personal testimonies from Minnesota Orchestra musicians. Each performance ends with a Q&A session, giving students the opportunity to ask questions about themselves and the music.

[Request a Symphonic Adventure at your school.](#)



STORIES & MORE

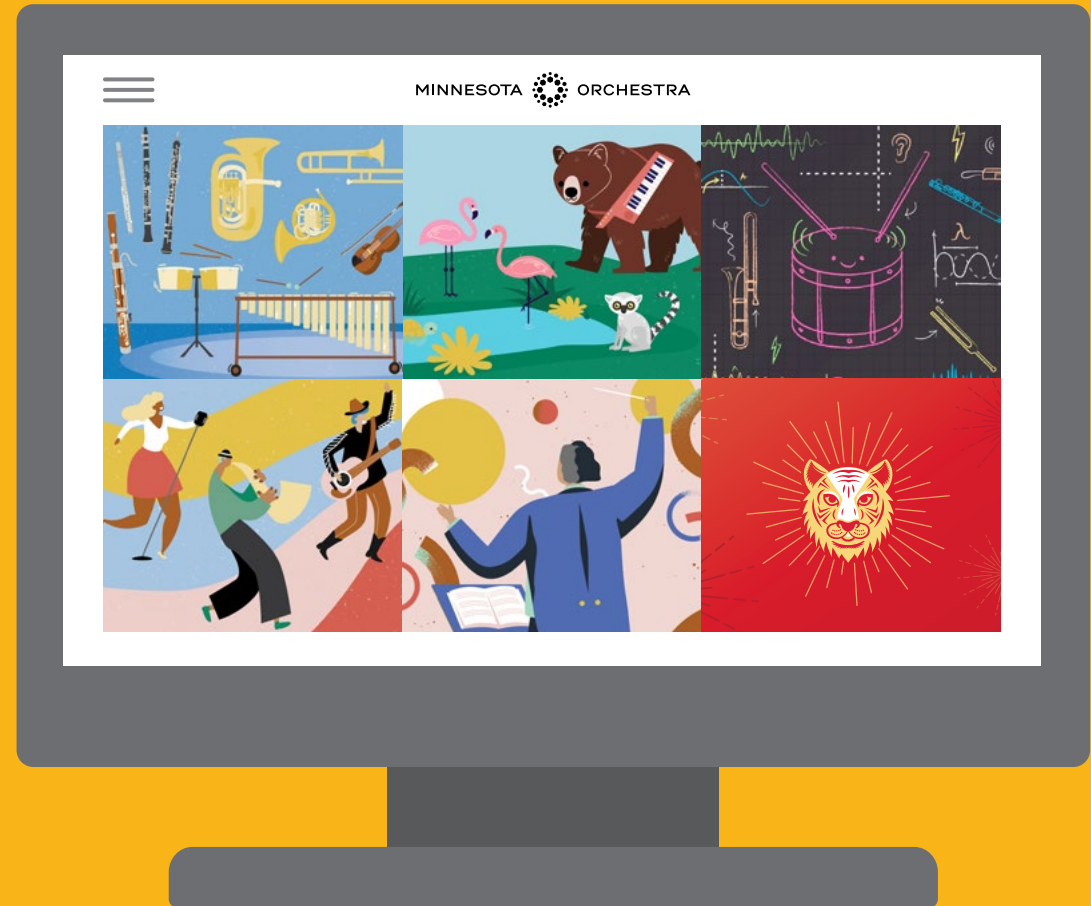
OUR DIGITAL HOME »»

Visit our resource hub for playlists, activities, learning tools and videos. There are several interactive and engaging resources available for educators, students and families!

RESOURCES FOR GRADES 1-6: »»

MEET THE INSTRUMENTS: Get to know the instrument families that make up the orchestra through our interactive online instrument guide.

CURRICULA: There are several past concert curricula available on our website for educators. Peruse our curricula page to find engaging lessons to use in your classroom.



STORIES & MORE

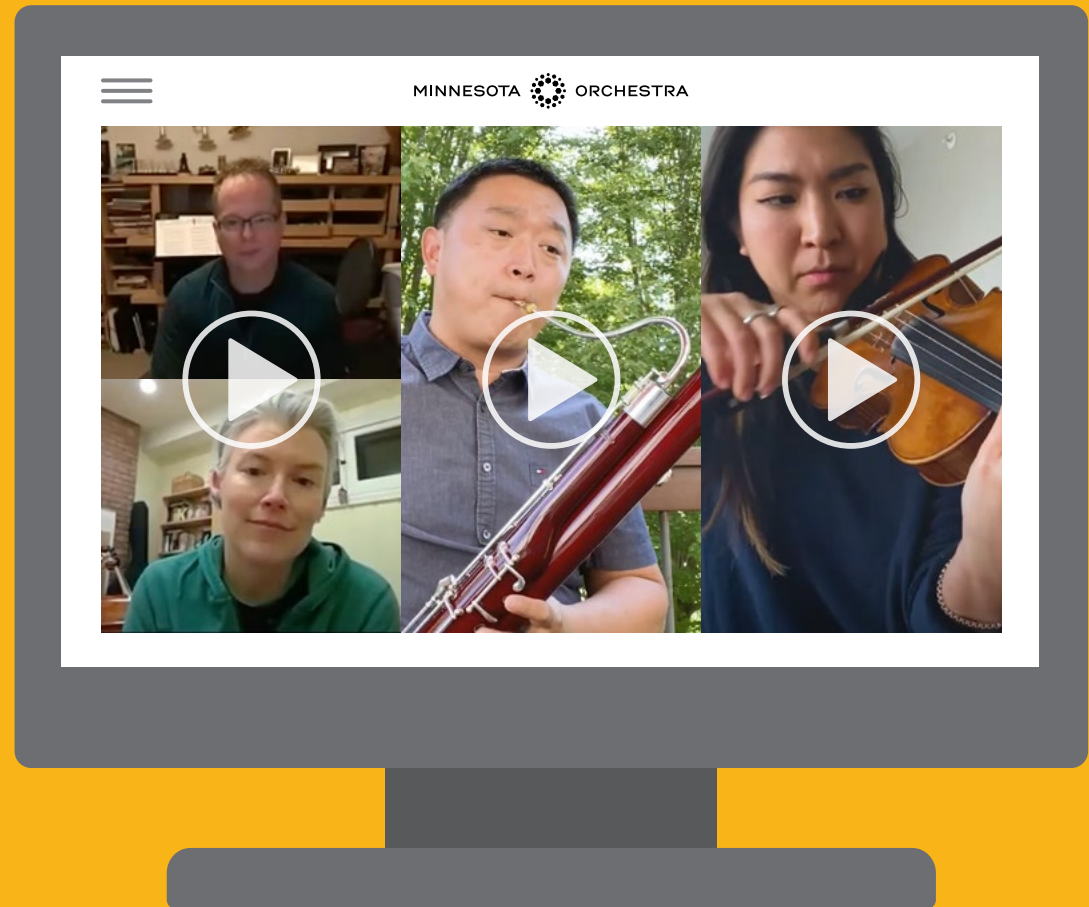
RESOURCES FOR GRADES 6+ >>

DIGITAL RESOURCES: Enhance your artistry and learn about different career paths in the arts with resources ranging from practice videos to duets.

CAREER EXPLORATION: Considering a future in the performing arts? Watch our series featuring Minnesota Orchestra musicians and staff on behind-the-scenes and onstage career paths in the music field.

LET'S PLAY A DUET: Play along with Minnesota Orchestra musicians from home. Featured instruments include clarinet, trumpet, violin, cello and bassoon.

PRACTICE WITH A PRO: Hear practice tips first-hand from Minnesota Orchestra musicians. Topics include warm-up routines, breathing, bowing and shifting, and how to organize your practice time.



FAMILIES

RELAXED FAMILY CONCERTS »

Experience inclusive Orchestra concerts that spark curiosity and joy! At our Relaxed Family and Sensory-Friendly Concerts, audiences of all ages, including individuals with autism or sensory sensitivities, are welcome to come be who they are while experiencing live music together with family and friends in a relaxed environment.

Our Relaxed Family Concerts feature the Minnesota Orchestra in Orchestra Hall's main auditorium, plus a variety of fun, multi-sensory educational activities that are available in the lobby before an after the concert.

OCTOBER 29:

Philharmonia Fantastique: The Making of the Orchestra

JANUARY 7:

Classics with Thomas Søndergård

APRIL 7:

Here, There, Everywhere

[Read our Going to Orchestra Hall Pre-concert PDF for more information.](#)

[Visit us online for the full 2023-2024 Relaxed Family & Sensory-Friendly Concert calendar.](#)

SUPPORTED BY:



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



FAMILIES

Sensory-Friendly Concerts feature individual musicians or small ensembles in the Target Atrium at Orchestra Hall.



2023–24 SENSORY-FRIENDLY CONCERTS

This interactive concert series features soloists or small ensembles from the Minnesota Orchestra presenting inclusive experiences for patrons of all ages, including individuals with autism or sensory sensitivities. Hosted in the intimate Target Atrium at Orchestra Hall, the programs are hosted by Lyndie Walker of Toneworks Music Therapy Services. Attendees have opportunities to sing, try instruments and ask questions of the performers.



**MICHAEL
SUTTON, VIOLIN**
OCT 14, 2023



**KATE
NETTLEMAN,
BASS**
FEB 13, 2024



LYNDIE WALKER
MAR 15, 2024

EMERGING ARTISTS

MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA FELLOWSHIP »

The Minnesota Orchestra Fellowship is an ongoing program of two-year residencies for African American, Latin American and Native American professional orchestra musicians early in their careers. Fellowship activities include opportunities to perform with the Orchestra, lessons from Orchestra musicians, mock auditions, participation in Education and Community Engagement work and more.

The Fellowship is generously supported by Rosemary and David Good and Margee and Will Bracken.

MEET OUR CURRENT FELLOWS

Olivia Hamilton

Felix Regalado



Lovrick Gary
(Fellow 2021-23)



Esther Seitz
(Fellow 2021-23)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ORCHESTRA HALL+ >>

OH+ presents interdisciplinary programs to engage audiences with diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, striving to eliminate barriers of access to the Orchestra. This is done through collaborations and partnerships to create pre-concert experiences that deepen connections between the Minnesota Orchestra and the community it serves, including concert and preview discussions with musicians and artists, performances and exhibits. By facilitating artistic experiences and engaging audiences in various settings at the Hall and in their communities, we meet our community "where they are at."



"This year we have fantastic plans to connect the Orchestra with the vital LGBTQ+ Minnesota communities in celebrating Pride at the Hall in June. Connecting to what makes our Minnesota communities unique, strong and vibrant is one of the Minnesota Orchestra's greatest motivations in our Community Engagement work."

*Mary Ellyn Johnson,
Manager of Community
Engagement Programs*



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS >>

The Minnesota Orchestra collaborates with organizations and community partners to build and strengthen a sustainable arts eco-system with diverse communities of all ages and backgrounds across the state, with a particular commitment to its home locality of Minneapolis. Through these partnerships we create meaningful and sustainable connections with our unique communities in Minnesota, striving to better understand our communities and to maximize the impact of its community initiatives.

LIFELONG LEARNING & PARTNERSHIPS

COMMON CHORDS >>

Common Chords is a Minnesota Orchestra initiative that strives to bring Minnesota communities together through music. A year-long community planning process culminates in a festival week of chamber ensemble and full-Orchestra performances in the host city, educational programming and other activities that reflect the interests, diversity and heritage of the community.

Musical activities take place in a variety of settings ranging from concert halls and schools to coffee shops, pubs and community centers. Previous host communities have included Austin, Grand Rapids, Willmar, Hibbing, Bemidji, Detroit Lakes, Mankato and North Minneapolis.



Austin, MN in 2023

WELLNESS

YOGA & MINDFULNESS >>

Explore how instrumental music can be paired with yoga, mindfulness and other practices to create a more present and grounded you.

Our yoga class series brings together local yoga instructors with live music curated and performed by a soloist or duo from the Minnesota Orchestra. We also offer opportunities to find your center with Music & Mindfulness presented in collaboration with the University of Minnesota's Earl E. Bakken Center for Spirituality and Healing.

2023-24 SEASON EVENTS:

Yoga: Feb 11, Mar 10, Jun 9

Music and Mindfulness:

Feb 22, Apr 18, May 9

minnesotaorchestra.org/community-education/wellness

Unable to make it in person?
Visit our streaming site at
minnesotaorchestra.org/stream
to view free yoga and mindfulness
content on-demand.





THANK YOU!

Want to receive the latest information about Education & Community Engagement programs throughout the year?

Sign up for our monthly email newsletter,

Minnesota Orchestra for Teachers.

education@mnorch.org

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minnesotaorchestra.org