



### SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY 2025 SPRING (ONCERT



#### MOZART PLAYERS CONDUCTED BY RACHAEL ANDERSON

Luminescence Alan Lee Silva (b. 1964)

Viking Soon Hee Newbold (b. 1974)

#### AMADEUS PLAYERS CONDUCTED BY MAC MAYER

El Toro

Don Brubaker

Artemis Rising Jeffrey S. Bishop (b. 1970)

Serendipity Suite Richard Meyer (b. 1957)

- Fit as a Fiddle
- Sol-La Viola
- Cello Pudding
- Oasis for Basses

#### PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY DANNY HUNT

Anvil Chorus Giuseppe Verdi(1813–1901)

from Il Trovatore arr. Sandra Dackow

Poème symphonique "Les Préludes" Franz Liszt (1811–1886)

arr. Rick England

March to the Scaffold Hector Berlioz (1803–1869)

from Symphonie fantastique, op. 14 arr. Vernon Leidig

Cossack Dance Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

from Mazeppa arr. Sandra Dackow

#### YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY JON HARRIS-CLIPPINGER

Overture to Colas Breugnon, op. 24 Dmitry Kabalevsky (1904–1987)

Cello Concerto No. 1 in A Minor, op. 33 Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)

III. Allegro non Troppo - Tempo primo

Koyuki Blaumer, cello

Variations on an Original Theme, op. 36 ("Enigma Variations") Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Theme – Andante Variation IX. Nimrod – Adagio

Variation I. C.A.E. – L'istesso tempo Variation XI. G.R.S. – Allegro di molto

Variation IV. W.M.B. – Allegro di molto Variation XII. B.G.N. – Andante

Variation V. R.P.A. – Moderato Variation XIII. Romanza – Moderato

Variation VII. Troyte – Presto Variation XIV. E.D.U. – Finale: Allegro

CALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY'S TRADITION of an annual concerto Competition began in 1956. The competition was newly named in 2018 to honor Larry Garrett's 20 seasons as conductor of the Youth Symphony.

The annual Larry Garrett Concerto Competition is open to musicians participating in the Youth Symphony. Musicians perform with their accompanist in front of an audience and five adjudicators. The winner receives a cash prize of \$500 and performs with the Youth Symphony at one of the two season concerts.

Congratulations to all the incredibly talented Youth Symphony contestants for their exceptional performances!

Koyuki Blaumer, cello (winner) Lauren Huber, flute (Honorable Mention) Bianca Costea, cello Noah Mayer, violin (Honorable Mention)

Nicole Danner, violin Amelia Rawe, cello Alaina Goff, flute Wyatt Watson, horn Elena Harchanko, cello Owen Williams, flute

Visit our Concerto Competition page for a full list of concerto winners: https://salemyouthsymphony.org/concerto-competition/

Thank you to this year's adjudicators:

Tyler Abbott: University of Oregon, Instructor of Double Bass, Jazz Bass,

and Music Theory

Dijana Ihas: Pacific University, Professor of Music Education

Stephen Lytle: Salem-Keizer Public Schools, Coordinator of Music and Drama

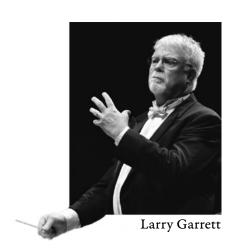
Patrick Murphy: University of Portland, Director of Bands

and Associate Professor of Music

Ken Selden: Portland State University, Director of Orchestral Studies

TOYUKI BLAUMER, a freshman at South Salem High School, started learning the cello with Dr. Joseph Harchanko when she was 6 years old. Currently, Koyuki studies with the University of Oregon cello professor, Dr. Steven Ploge. Koyuki was principal cellist for this year's 2025 High School All-City Honors Orchestra and was principal cellist all three years in Middle School All-City Honors Orchestra. She was selected to be part of the 2025 OMEA All-State High School Orchestra. She has been part of the Salem Youth Symphony for 4 years and greatly cherishes it. She was also part of the orchestra for Chemeketa Community College's 2024 production of Theater Under the Stars Production: Oliver! Koyuki enjoy's being part of the South Salem High School Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Damian Berdakin, and enjoys participating in the South Salem High School Jazz Band. Her free-time activites are badminton, running, rock climbing, reading, and spending time with family and friends. In her future years, Koyuki hopes to pursue a music and cello-related career.

## 2025 Larry Garrett Concerto Competition



## Koyuki Blaumer



# Mozart Players

#### **VIOLIN**

April Bartel, Crossler Emma Coffelt, Straub Caden Keobounnam, Howard Street Xander Miller, Whiteaker Hannah Millikan, Straub Lee W. Newton, Crossler Graham Nichols, Homeschool Aidan Pollnow, Walker Cohen Price, JGEMS Noel Purkerson, Queen of Peace Lainey Ronning, Whiteaker Alejandro Saavedra, Parrish Eli Sanders, Homeschool

Drew Snyder, Leslie Ellie Stefanovich, Victor Point Marcus Tovar, Leslie Ben Williams, Howard Street

#### **VIOLA**

Emily Bauman, Whiteaker Konrad Bennight, Crossler Brooke Ciampini, Walker Seren Enstad, Crossler Maddie Mulford, Claggett Creek Quentin Pollard, Montessori Discovery Zoe Shannon, Whiteaker Selene Stanley, Crosssler Emmett Stenerson, Whiteaker

#### **CELLO**

Finnegan Francis Coyle, Crossler Evelyn Dahlin, Homeschool Marshall Dern, Crossler Zarek Iyengar, Montessori Discovery Merrill Mayer, Crossler William Parrott, Howard Street Nolan Sharp, Whiteaker Eleanora Winn, Howard Street Cameron Wu, Sumpter

#### **BASS**

Ned DeSantis, EDGE/Straub Holden J. Smith, Whiteaker

# Amadeus Players

#### **VIOLINI**

\*\*Sylvia Liu, Crossler Isabella Goff, Homeschool Dottie Kulla, Homeschool Claire Bauman, Whiteaker Daniel Goff, Homeschool Lilly Jeseritz, Whiteaker Valeria Lopez, Houck Samy lima, Whiteaker

#### **VIOLIN II**

\*Arthur Robertson, Leslie Emmeline Reyes, Walker Alyssa Austin, Whiteaker Olivia McCoy, Howard Street Emma Chapman, Crossler Ian Zhang, Ridges Hugo Martinhorst, Homeschool

#### **VIOLA**

\*Madigan Graham, Parrish Camila Hernandez-Parada, Leslie Orion Campbell, Leslie Frances Holman, Homeschool Sydney Grimmett, Crossler

#### **CELLO**

\*William Seden, Adam Stephens Alexandria J. Suazo, Whiteaker Lylah Rae Cardenas, Leslie Autumn Landegent, Whiteaker Kayen Iyengar, Blanchet Catholic Libby Wheeler, Whiteaker Shelby Coombs, Cascade

#### BASS

\*Alayna Sinor, Whiteaker Veronica Lara-Anastacio, Whiteaker

#### **PERCUSSION**

Ludovica Gozzi, Straub

\*\*Concertmaster \*Principal



#### LUMINESCENCE

Alan Lee Silva (b. 1964)

THIS VIBRANT and uplifting piece is a celebration of light and energy. From the opening moments, the music sparkles with enthusiasm, capturing the listener's attention with its lively rhythms and radiant melodies. As the piece progresses, a reflective and majestic section provides a striking contrast, offering a moment of calm and beauty. The joyful theme then returns, building to an exhilarating finale that mirrors the brilliance and vitality of its opening.

Luminescence is a journey through light and sound, designed to leave the audience inspired and invigorated.

#### VIKING

SOON HEE NEWBOLD (B. 1974)

THE WORD "VIKING" originally referred to overseas expeditions, but over time it grew to embody the fearless pirates and warrior explorers of Norse legend.

## Mozart Players

Viking paints a vivid picture of these legendary Scandinavians, blending their fierce reputation with their remarkable accomplishments as settlers and adventurers. The music captures the spirit of their iconic longboats—sleek, swift, and unstoppable—as they navigated open seas and narrow inlets alike. Through dramatic energy and sweeping melodies, the piece evokes the daring voyages of Erik the Red to Greenland and Leif Ericson to North America, centuries before Columbus. Viking invites the audience to journey through history, celebrating the resilience and ingenuity of these storied adventurers.

#### El Toro

Don Brubaker

EL TORO is a Spanish dance reminiscent of an exciting bullfight. It features a castanet-like rhythm as the melodic theme is passed through all sections of the orchestra. Listen for the climatic solos between matador (violin) and bull (cello) before ending in an exciting rhythmic showdown!

#### ARTEMIS RISING

JEFFREY S. BISHOP (B. 1970)

ARTEMIS RISING is a powerful work that refers to Artemis, the Greek goddess of the hunt, wild animals, nature, and vegetation. Composer Jeffrey S. Bishop uses syncopation and accents to build tension throughout the work. Artemis Rising features two contrasting moods: one, marked allegro con fuoco (lively, with fire), showcases driving rhythms; the other, marked giocoso (playful), presents soaring melodies.

## Amadeus Players

#### SERENDIPITY SUITE

Richard Meyer (b. 1957)

Each Movement of this suite is designed to highlight different instruments of the string orchestra with style and flavor, emphasizing the unique qualities of each. Four cleverly titled movements include Fit as a Fiddle, Sol-La Viola, Cello Pudding, and Oasis for Basses. Listen for key modulations and challenging rhythmic figures. Which instrument was your favorite?

## hilharmonia rchestra

#### **VIOLINI**

\*\*Bethany Sara Eves, Howard Street Brian Virgin, West Salem Dominic Keough, Sacred Heart Lucy Alonso, Duniway Lucy Valero, Whiteaker Jacqueline Zhao, Straub Chloe Wu, Crossler Mei-Yu Heras-Leung, Early College Valeria Rodriguez, McNary

#### **VIOLIN II**

\*Faith Wenzel, Homeschool Daniil Manuylov, South Salem Alexander Heilman, Parrish Noah Arakawa, Homeschool Kaylee Freed, Judson Allison Dern, Crossler Xavier X. Hamlin, Crosshill EMMA LINDLEY, CROSSHILL

#### **VIOLA**

\*Quinn DeLong, Parrish Ella Gallegos, Judson Landyn Herman, West Salem Matthew Roller, South Salem

#### **CELLO**

\*Abigail Goetsch, South Salem Dennis Dreischmeyer III, Howard Street Jenyn Sones, Whiteaker Evan Roussin, South Salem Ike Lindley, Howard Street Enoch Arakawa, Homeschool Rusty Kulla, Baker Early College Jenna Henry, Veritas Jovie Ofisa, Early College Liam Stitt, McNary Ella C. Patty, Straub Siena Muntz, Sprague Alyssa Ramona Grimmett, Sprague Enzo Chavez, North Salem

#### **BASS**

Bently SJ Seisinger, Howard Street

#### **FLUTE**

\*Bella Engle, West Salem Karina Rozova, North Salem Penelope Moreno, Claggett Creek Reagan Medina, Homeschool

#### **OBOE**

\*Marin Williams, Whiteaker Coraline Chitwood, Judson

#### **CLARINET**

\*Enzo Thomas, Straub Andrew Schlievert, Sprague Luna Hovenden, Walker

#### **BASSOON**

\*Jaxon Roth, Crossler Alastair Huskie, Sprague

#### **HORN**

\*Charlie Stitt, Claggett Creek Yaretzi Sotelo, Claggett Creek Terrence Noves, Dallas

#### TRUMPET

\*Noah Read, Judson Israel Sadler, Crossler Ian Sparks, Sprague

#### TROMBONE

Kai Cahill, Straub Ben Frankl, Straub

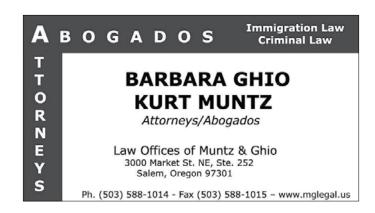
#### **PERCUSSION**

Hank Habig, Fossil Distance Ludovica Gozzi, Straub

- \*\*Concertmaster
- \*Principal

GRADUATING SENIOR





### "Anvil Chorus," from IL Trovatore

GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813–1901), ARR. SANDRA DACKOW

of Italian opera for the second half of the nineteenth century. *Il Trovatore* (The Troubadour) dates from 1853 and is one of his most popular works. Verdi was attracted to strong characters and confrontational situations, which propelled his operas dramatically and provided opportunities for music of great passion and excitement. Though the plot of *Il Trovatore* is melodramatic and quite unbelievable, the characters always put it right on the line and the music moves the action forward with great effect.

The story is set in early fifteenth-century Spain and involves two brothers of noble birth, one of whom is abducted as an infant by a gypsy who raises him as her own son.

The brothers grow to manhood in different, clashing worlds until they meet, with predictably tragic results.

This provides Verdi with great opportunities for bold and colorful music.

The beginning of Act II takes place at a gypsy camp where fires fuel the work of metal workers. "The Anvil Chorus" is a rousing and robust song, well-known even outside of opera circles.

#### Poème symphonique "Les Préludes"

Franz Liszt (1811–1886), arr. Rick England

ANY CREDIT Franz Liszt with the invention of the symphonic poem. "Les Préludes," the third and by far the most popular of Liszt's 12 symphonic poems, was first envisioned as an overture to a grand cycle of choruses for men's choir. Eventually, he abandoned the other four movements and "Les Préludes" stood on its own.

Liszt derived the title from an ode by French poet Alphonse de Lamartine which began, "What else is life but a series of preludes to that unknown song whose first solemn note is intoned by death?" Although "Les Préludes" is not a direct translation of the text, the shifting moods do refer back to the poem.

#### "March to the Scaffold," from Symphonie fantastique, op. 14

HECTOR BERLIOZ (1803–1869), ARR. VERNON LEIDIG

**B**ERLIOZ'S FANTASTIC SYMPHONY was first performed in 1830 at the Conservatory of Music in Paris.

## Philharmonia Orchestra

The symphony depicts a young musician of extraordinary sensibility and imagination poisoning himself with opium in a fit of despair caused by unhappy love. The drug is too weak to result in death, but it plunges him into a heavy sleep accompanied by the strangest visions. His sensations, emotions, and memories are transformed into musical images and ideas.

The five movements are entitled: 1. Dreams, Passions; 2. A Ball; 3. In the Country; 4. March to the Scaffold; 5. Dream of a Witches' Sabbath.

In "March to the Scaffold" he dreams he has killed his loved one and that he is condemned to death and led to the execution. A march that is alternately somber and wild, brilliant and solemn, accompanies the procession. Noisy outbursts are followed without pause by the heavy sound of measured footsteps. Finally, a last thought of love appears for a moment, to be cut off by the fall of the axe.

#### "Cossack Dance," from Mazeppa

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (1840–1893), ARR. RICK ENGLAND

TVAN MAZEPA, a leader of the Ukrainian Cossacks, Lis a larger-than-life figure in early eighteenth-century Ukrainian history. Tchaikovsky's opera Mazeppa is based on a story by the Russian author Alexander Pushkin about the battle of Poltava, where the Russian Czar Peter the Great defeats the invading army of Sweden's King Charles VII. In Pushkin's version of the battle, the Ukrainian Ivan Mazepa betrays the czar. The story presented Tchaikovsky with opportunities to compose music to portray romance, betrayal, conflicting loyalties, and other strong, confrontational situations, which make for great opera. The "Cossack Dance" takes place during a party in the first act. This type of dance is a Hopak, a traditional Ukrainian folk dance. It is very athletic, featuring great leaps, as the men show off for the women. The music is energetic and colorful, showing Tchaikovsky at his best, where he imbues short forms with folk-like material to great effect.

## Youth Symphony Orchestra

#### **VIOLINI**

#### \*\*Noah Mayer, South Salem

Addison Jones, Sprague
Nicole Danner, McNary
Addison Jones, Sprague
Nicole Danner, McNary
Nelida Dalgas, North Salem
Ai Nguyen, Whiteaker
Natalie Grace Stevens, Cascade View
Nate Maxwell, West Salem
Brody Vorderstrasse, West Salem
Owen Spooner, Chemeketa

#### **VIOLIN II**

\*Alyssa Pollak, West Salem William Stokes, South Salem Audrey Howard, Howard Street Azir Ramírez, Early College Chloe Zhang, Sherwood Ken Bailey, McNary

#### ARIANNA MARLOWE, SPRAGUE

Gabriel Lyatuu, South Salem Emilia Seden, McKay Charlotte Medina, Chemeketa Eliza Bechtel, Christ Academy Aitana Torrent, South Salem

#### **VIOLA**

\*Alex Reyna, McKay
BRYCEN MARTIN, SOUTH SALEM
Ryan Gillette, McNary
Audrey Stokes, South Salem
Kayden Bejar, EDGE/South Salem
Sasha Laison, Early College
AVA WOLF, SPRAGUE

#### **CELLO**

#### \*Bianca Costea, McKay

Elena Harchanko, South Salem Koyuki Blaumer, South Salem Ruby Holman, Baker Early College Andrew Roller, South Salem Julian Patterson, South Salem Amelia E. Rawe, West Salem Claire Davis, West Salem Louise Patterson, Leslie Laurel Bard, Sprague Janet Chen, South Salem Ethan Lucas Trevino, South Salem

#### **BASS**

\*Elisabeth McCartin, West Salem Trenton Mendez, South Salem Bennett Redon , Chemeketa Naomi DeSantis, Willamette University Carter Donecker, Sprague

#### **FLUTE**

\*Talia Mesecar, McNary Owen Williams, Leslie Alaina Goff, Straub Addison McDonald, Walker

#### **OBOE**

\*Jackson Cooper, South Salem Audrey M. Fleck, McNary Rebekah Ryan, West Salem

#### **CLARINET**

\*Marleigh Slack, Sprague Susy Tussing, McNary Holly Hang, guest David Kwek, guest

#### **BASS CLARINET**

\*Sasha Williams, South Salem Eric Azorr, West Salem

#### **BASSOON**

Sam Rhoten, guest Adam Farmer, guest

#### **HORN**

#### \*Wyatt Watson, West Salem

June Monteleone, St. Helens Taylor Aguilar, West Salem Aaron Padilla, West Salem Colin Zelenka, McNary

#### **TRUMPET**

\*Ally Castaneda, McNary

CAMERON COLLINS, SPRAGUE

Tyler Franklin, Leslie

#### **TROMBONE**

\*James Meissner, McKay Ryken Kanoa Wells, McNary Elliot Ciancetta, West Salem

#### **TUBA**

#### BRUCE LEVERMAN, SOUTH SALEM

#### **PERCUSSION**

Jeramyah Acosta, West Salem Ludovica Gozzi, Straub Hank Habig, Fossil Distance Logan Shimatsu, West Salem Evan Struve, Claggett Creek

- \*\*Concertmaster
- \*Principal

GRADUATING SENIOR



As we close out season 70 we would like to recognize our graduating high school seniors. Congratulations and thank you for creating fabulous music with SYS! Visit our website at salemyouthsymphony.org to view spotlights on our senior musicians.

#### Overture to *Colas Breugnon*, op. 24

DMITRY KABALEVSKY (1904–1987)

THIS EXUBERANT OVERTURE comes from Kabalevsky's 1938 opera *Colas Breugnon*, based on a novel by French

author Romain Rolland. The story follows the lively spirit of a 17th-century French woodcarver who remains optimistic despite life's hardships. Kabalevsky captures this zest for life with bold rhythms, sweeping melodies, and vibrant orchestration. The overture,

often performed as a standalone piece, is filled with energy and wit—a brilliant concert opener that showcases the Youth Symphony's dynamic spirit.

#### CELLO CONCERTO NO. 1 IN A MINOR, OP. 33 (III. ALLEGRO NON TROPPO-TEMPO PRIMO)

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS (1835–1921)

#### Koyuki Blaumer, cello

TODAY'S PERFORMANCE features the vibrant third movement of Saint-Saëns's beloved first cello concerto. Brisk and elegant, this finale combines expressive lyricism with brilliant passagework, allowing the soloist to showcase both technical skill and musical sensitivity. Though originally part of a single continuous movement, this closing section stands beautifully on its own, capturing the concerto's charm and fiery spirit. Koyuki Blaumer brings youthful energy and refined artistry to this dazzling Romantic showpiece.

#### Variations on an Original Theme, OP. 36 ("ENIGMA VARIATIONS")

EDWARD ELGAR (1857-1934)

**DWARD ELGAR'S** Enigma Variations is a clever Land heartfelt musical tribute to some of Elgar's closest friends. Each variation paints a portrait of a real person from his life—some playful, some serious, some just a bit mysterious. The nickname "Enigma" refers to a hidden theme Elgar hinted at but never revealed, which has kept music lovers guessing for over a hundred years. Whether or not you're trying to solve the puzzle, the music itself tells rich, expressive stories that speak for themselves.

#### THEME - ANDANTE

Everything begins with this noble, introspective theme. It's the musical foundation for all the variations that follow.

#### VARIATION I. C.A.E. - L'ISTESSO TEMPO

This one is a gentle and affectionate musical portrait of Elgar's wife, Caroline Alice Elgar. You can almost hear how much he admired her steadiness and kindness.

#### VARIATION IV. W.M.B. - ALLEGRO DI MOLTO

Here's a burst of energy! William Meath Baker was known for his big personality and abrupt style. This variation flies by with bold gestures, like someone bustling into a room and just as quickly rushing out.



#### VARIATION V. R.P.A. - MODERATO

This is quieter, more thoughtful variation. It depicts Richard Penrose Arnold, son of the poet Matthew Arnold. Elgar highlights his calm and intellectual nature with warm, flowing lines.

#### VARIATION VII. TROYTE - PRESTO

This wild, almost chaotic section represents Arthur Troyte Griffith, an architect and friend of Elgar's. It is full of crashing rhythms and playful clumsiness maybe a musical inside joke about Troyte's less-thangraceful piano playing.

#### VARIATION IX. NIMROD - ADAGIO

Probably the most famous variation, Nimrod, is a tribute to Elgar's dear friend Augustus Jaeger. It is powerful, slow, and deeply emotional—music that speaks of loyalty, encouragement, and the kind of friendship that lifts you up when life gets hard.

#### VARIATION XI. G.R.S. - ALLEGRO DI MOLTO

This one's a bit of fun. It was inspired by George Robertson Sinclair's bulldog, Dan, who once fell into a river, paddled to shore, and shook off the water, happily wagging his tail. You can hear it all in the music!

#### VARIATION XII. B.G.N. - ANDANTE

A more lyrical variation, this one reflects Basil George Nevinson, an amateur cellist and a kind, thoughtful friend. It has a singing quality and a warm, reflective feel.

#### VARIATION XIII. ROMANZA - MODERATO

Elgar kept the identity of this person a bit of a mystery, but it's believed to be Lady Mary Lygon, who was traveling overseas at the time. The quiet mood and faint sound of a ship's bell suggest distance and affectionate longing.

#### VARIATION XIV. E.D.U. - FINALE: ALLEGRO

Elgar himself makes an appearance in the final variation; "E.D.U." was his wife's pet name for him. It is bold, confident, and sweeping, tying together themes from earlier variations in a triumphant finish.

## Schools

#### THE SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY is proud to serve musicians from the following schools:

Adam Stephens Middle School Baker Early College Blanchet Catholic School Cascade High School Cascade View Christian School Chemeketa Community College Christ Academy Claggett Creek Middle School Crosshill Christian School Crossler Middle School Dallas High School Duniway Middle School Early College High School **EDGE** Fossil Distance Charter School Homeschool

Houck Middle School Howard Street Charter School **IGEMS** Judson Middle School Kalapuya Elementary School Leslie Middle School McKay High School McNary High School Montessorri Discovery Center North Marion Middle School North Salem High School Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) Parrish Middle School Perrydale Middle School Queen of Peace Catholic School

Ridges Elementary School Sacred Heart Catholic School Sherwood High School Silverton High School South Salem High School Sprague High School St. Helens High School Straub Middle School Sumpter Elementary School Veritas School Victor Point Walker Middle School Veritas West Salem High School Whiteaker Middle School Willamette University



## Artistic Staff

#### JON HARRIS-CLIPPINGER

Musical Director and Conductor OF SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY



JON HARRIS-CLIPPINGER has been with the Salem Youth Symphony organization for 26 years. He currently conducts the Youth Symphony Orchestra, the premier ensemble, and serves as musical director of the Salem Youth Symphony Association. He received his Bachelor of Music

Education from Willamette University where he studied conducting under Bruce McIntosh, Martin Behnke, and Wallace Long. He received his Master of Music Education from the University of Illinois where he studied conducting under Donald Schleicher, Deborah Sheldon, and Kathleen Horvath.

Jon has taught orchestra in Salem-Keizer for 26 years and currently works in the South Salem High School orchestra program at Leslie Middle School and Howard Street Charter School. He has fostered collaborations between the Newport Youth Symphony at the Oregon Coast (NYSOC), Central Oregon Youth Symphony (COYS), and Salem Youth Symphony. Members of the organizations have inspired elementary students by producing children's concerts at the Performing Arts Center in Newport and in the Bend-La Pine school district. During the pandemic, Jon developed the masterclass series connecting SYS musicians with worldrenowned teachers and artists from Juilliard, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and beyond.

Jon is the executive director of Summer Strings, an orchestra camp he founded in 1999 that serves 200 area string students. He remains an active member of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), the Oregon Music Education Association (OMEA), and the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). Jon has been a guest conductor and clinician for the Washington State University Orchestra Festival, the Central Washington University Festival, and the Northwest Regional Festival in Vancouver, Washington. He has adjudicated events for the Evergreen School District Solo and Ensemble Festival, MTNA String Solo Competition, and the Oregon Cello Society. In 2003, Jon was a guest conductor with the South Salem High School Chamber Orchestra at the prestigious Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic.

Jon has privately taught several award-winning cellists. He received his inspiration for working with youth orchestras as a member of the Portland Youth Philharmonic (PYP) from 1987–1994 where he toured Europe and Asia under the direction of Jacob Avshalomov. Jon enjoys living in Salem with his wife, Jennifer. His son and daughter, Caden (cello performance) and Emma (Human Physiology), are studying at the University of Oregon. Jon frequently visits to watch Caden perform in concerts and to cheer with Emma at football games.

#### DANNY HUNT CONDUCTOR OF PHILHARMONIA



**DANNY HUNT** is director of bands at Claggett Creek Middle School in Keizer and has taught middle school band for over 25 years. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon, where he received both bachelor's and master's degrees in music education. He feels honored

to be able to teach in the Salem-Keizer school district, which he believes provides incredible support for music education and has one of the finest comprehensive music programs in the country. He values his many colleagues in the district for their expertise, passion, and willingness to collaborate. He is so thankful to have the special opportunity to conduct Philharmonia, as both his daughter Natalie and son Nicholas have been members of Salem Youth Symphony orchestras. Danny enjoys racquetball, backpacking, and spending time with his wife, Kenda, and their three children (Natalie, Nicholas, and Caleb).

#### JIM CHARNHOLM

PHILHARMONIA STRING TECHNIQUE ADVISOR



JIM CHARNHOLM, a native of Salem, Oregon, and graduate of Sprague High School, knew from an early age that music would play a large part in his life. He graduated from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, with a bachelor's degree in education

and violin performance. He taught in Illinois for four years while completing a master's degree in music education at Illinois State University. Jim moved back to Oregon in 2002; he is proud to have been a part of further developing the tradition of musical excellence at McKay High School. During his seventeen-year tenure at McKay High School, the orchestra program grew. A full symphony was added in 2016. The McKay Chamber Orchestra consistently placed in the top ten at the OSAA String Orchestra Festival.

In 2019 the Oregon Symphony Association in Salem honored him with its award for Outstanding Music Educator of the Year. He serves on the board of the Oregon Coast Youth Symphony Festival based in Newport, Oregon, that provides a four-day festival for public school orchestra programs free of charge. Jim runs a family business with his wife, Anne Marie. They have two daughters, Amy and Megan. Jim enjoys hiking, sailing, and spending time with his family during his free time.

#### MAC MAYER CONDUCTOR OF AMADEUS PLAYERS



MAC MAYER is the orchestra director at Whiteaker Middle School and its feeder elementary schools in Keizer, Oregon. He holds undergraduate degrees in music performance and music education from The Ohio State University and a master's degree in music education from the University of Kansas.

Prior to teaching in the Salem-Keizer school district Mr. Mayer taught orchestra in Kansas, Georgia and Ohio.

Mac serves as co-chair for the Oregon Middle School All-State Orchestra and is a certified orchestra adjudicator in Oregon. In addition to conducting the Amadeus Players orchestra, Mr. Mayer works frequently as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor.

Mac is married to Brigid Mayer, the orchestra director at West Salem High School. His son Eben played the cello through high school and currently studies wildlife biology at the University of Montana, his other son Noah plays the violin at South Salem High School and in Salem Youth Symphony, and his youngest daughter Helen shows a variety of musical abilities at a young age. Mr. Mayer is thrilled to conduct the Amadeus Players for the 2024-25 Season.

#### RACHAEL ANDERSON

CONDUCTOR OF MOZART PLAYERS



RACHAEL ANDERSON has a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri, and a Master of Music Education from Anderson University in Anderson, South Carolina. With a broad range of teaching experiences, Rachael has

instructed elementary strings, middle and high school orchestras, and college-level string techniques. From 2004 to 2008, she taught at Crossler Middle School and its feeder elementary schools. From 2015 to 2017, she mentored early-career elementary string teachers in the Salem-Keizer school district.

In addition to her classroom work, Rachael has cotaught Summer Strings for over a decade under the leadership of Jon Harris-Clippinger. She has also maintained a private studio, teaching violin, viola, and piano lessons for over 20 years.

Rachael directed both Mozart and Amadeus Players from 2018 to 2020 and is excited to return as director of the Mozart Players. Rachael is married to her husband, Carl, and has two children, Naomi and Ian.

## Administrative Staff

#### Kami Hettwer

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 



KAMI HETTWER is a dedicated music educator and arts administrator, serving as Executive Director for both the Salem Youth Symphony and the Salem Philharmonia Orchestra. She is passionate about creating enriching musical opportunities for both young and adult

musicians. With a Bachelor of Music from Willamette University, Kami also works as an elementary general music specialist at Santiam Christian Schools and enjoys her work as a part-time collaborative pianist. All three of her children—Matthew, Joshua, and Jenessa—are former members of the Salem Youth Symphony and have gone on to become professional musicians. She lives in Salem with her husband, Mike Hettwer, who performs with the Portland Opera and Oregon Ballet Theatre orchestras and is the musician contractor for Broadway Across America.

#### SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY ALUMNI—

WE WANT TO SPOTLIGHT YOU!

ARE YOU PART OF Salem Youth Symphony's incredible musical journey? Share your story! We're looking for alumni to feature in our new *Alumni Spotlight*— a chance to celebrate your unique connection to SYS and inspire the next generation of musicians.

Whether you have photos, memories, or milestones to share, we'd love to hear from you. To reconnect, scan the QR code, visit our <u>alumni page</u> or email us at <u>alumni@salemyouthsymphony.org</u>.

Let's celebrate the legacy of SYS and ensure future generations continue to Play and Be Heard.



## Alumni



Pictured here: Cathy Schnelker, Sylvia Thelen, Deanna (Schendel) Dyksterhuis, Janie Roberts, and our founding conductor, Bill Swetterman a testament to our rich history. Coming

MAY 17, 2025 SYS Fifth Grade Honor Orchestra

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Whiteaker MS

Registration will be available at salemyouthsymphony.org

MAY 31-JUNE 1, 2025 Auditions for Philharmonia and Youth Symphony

Apply online at salemyouthsymphony.org

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2025** Auditions for Mozart Players and Amadeus Players

Apply online at salemyouthsymphony.org

Salem Youth Symphony Winter Concert **DECEMBER 14, 2025** 

Willamette University, Smith Auditorium

**JANUARY 10, 2026** Larry Garrett Youth Symphony Concerto Competition

APRIL 19, 2026 Salem Youth Symphony Spring Concert

Willamette University, Smith Auditorium



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#### MOZART PLAYERS

VIOLIN: Rachael Anderson VIOLA: Greg Eggleston CELLO/BASS: Deborah Ward

#### Amadeus Players & Philharmonia

VIOLIN: Jim Charnholm Greg Eggleston Mac Mayer VIOLA: Alexander Figueroa CELLO: Drew Faatz BASS: Bruce Purdy WOODWIND: James Nowickas BRASS: Danny Hunt PERCUSSION: John Lipton

#### YOUTH SYMPHONY

Caius Oprea George Thomson VIOLA: Pamela Burovac Arnaud Ghilbaert Brigid Mayer CELLO: Andrea Chandler Steven Pologe BASS: Arlyn Curtis Garrett Jelesma WOODWIND: Ashley Alexander Rick Greenwood BRASS: Benjamin Garrett PERCUSSION: John Lipton

VIOLIN: Hal Grossman

#### SYS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Paul Elliott SECRETARY: Tami Gillette TREASURER: Annabel Kroontje

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Rachael Anderson Myrna Keough Chris Blaumer Danny Hunt Jim Charnholm Mac Mayer

Joseph Harchanko

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: Jon Harris-Clippinger EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Kami Hettwer

The Salem Youth Symphony (SYS) Board is now accepting applications for new board and committee members! Join us in supporting exceptional musical experiences for young musicians. We invite you to be a part of shaping the future of sys! Visit our website for more information. Application deadline is April 20, 2025.

#### SUPPORT STAFF

STAGEHANDS: Nicole Danner, Trenton Mendez, Nate Maxwell, & Bennett Redon

#### SPECIAL THANKS

Howard Street Charter School, Leslie Middle School, and North Salem High School for rehearsal and audition space; Willamette University for rehearsal and performance space; parent volunteers; Rose Coplon, graphic artist; and Select Impressions

## Support Us

### Ways to Give

#### SUPPORT SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY!

YOUR GENEROSITY KEEPS the music alive! There are many ways to support sys and ensure that young musicians thrive in our community. Choose the option that works best for you:

#### **DONATIONS**

Make a one-time or recurring gift to support SYS programs and performances. SYS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The tax identification number is 93-1222733. Your donation is tax deductible.

#### Advertise in Our Program

Promote your business while investing in the arts. Ads reach a wide audience at every concert.

#### THE OREGON CULTURAL TRUST

Donate to sys and match your gift with a contribution to the Oregon Cultural Trust. You'll receive a 100% dollar-fordollar Oregon tax credit for your Trust donation.

#### **SPONSORSHIPS**

Support sys as an individual or business sponsor and receive recognition in our programs and on our website.

#### **DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT WITH MATCHING GIFTS**

Many businesses match donations check with your employer to multiply your support!

#### SHARE AND GIVE!

Follow us and share our mission:

- Facebook: facebook.com/SalemYouthSymphony
- Instagram: @SalemYouthSymphony
- YouTube: youtube.com/SalemYouthSymphony

#### How to Donate



#### ONLINE

Scan the QR code or visit salemyouthsymphony.org/support-us

#### **In-Person**

Visit the information table at today's concert.

#### MAIL

Send your donation to: Salem Youth Symphony PO Box 1113 Salem, OR 97308

Thank you for supporting Salem Youth Symphony and helping our young musicians flourish!

David Kerr, luthier and owner of David Kerr Violin Shop, Inc., generously donated the use of four bows for the concert season for Youth Symphony's musicians in the violin I, violin II, viola, and cello section.

#### **THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING** to young musicians in the Mid-Willamette Valley!

#### SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY CASH DONORS FROM JULY 1, 2024 TO MARCH 15, 2025

| Whole Note (\$2,000+)  | EIGHTH NOTE  | Hitomi Huber   | Matt Rawe  | Donations   |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Larry & Jennifer Gates   | (\$50-\$199)   | Emilia Ion   | Benjamin Rimbey  |   |
| Robert & Lori Ponec  | Andrew Aguilar   | Palka Iyengar<br>Vickie Kugler   | Kathy Shaw<br>Brent Smith  | Myrna Keough  |
| Half Note<br>(\$1,000–\$1,999)   | James Aguilar<br>Sandra Aguilar<br>Gary Aitken   | David Landegent<br>Jonathan Lee  | Debra Stanley Robert Tovar   | Tiffany Kuenzi<br>Julie Lay   |
| Alexandra Foote Deborah L Quady Jeff & LaDonna Smith  DOTTED QUARTER NOTE (\$500-\$999)                      | Miguel Alonso & Meagan Briery Philip Bailey Priscilla Bailey John & Jill Bard Caylynne Bartel Kathryn Bennight Akiko Blaumer   | Jacquie Leung<br>Melissa Lindley<br>Sylvia Liu<br>Tamara Luft<br>Ekaterina Manuylova   | Jessica Virrueta Patricia Westover Karrissa William Sandy Wiscarson Erica Wolf Chichang Zhang SIXTEENTH NOTE (UP TO \$49)  | Julia Levine Laura Marsland Rachel Minick Linda Morley Nathan Nichols Ezme Palmieri Berlene Patton Scott Quady Amy Read                         |
| Kelly Galey<br>Goetsch Family  |  | Shirley Martin<br>Sandy & Harold<br>Matthews<br>Amanda Mehlhoff  |  |   |
| Quarter Note<br>(\$200–\$499)  | Savanna Brown<br>Rachel Cahill   | Martha Merry  Carmine Monteleone   | Kirsten Ambrose<br>Xavia Aus   | Sherill Roberts Cathy Rothenberger  |
| Molly Chapman Jim & Anne Marie Charnholm Savanna Nelson Patricia Pollard Paula Ramirez Lee Spires Amy Toledo | Jennifer Calk Karen Dahlin John & Sue Dean Yara Delgado Mary Ann Donecker Allison Drischmeyer Sally Featheringham Marilyn Freeburg Jim Gibson Matt & Kelly Gogl Kacey Hamlin Julia Heilman | Lindsay Monteleone Aparna Motiwala Bobbi Neason Cindy O'Neal Jean Palmateer Katie & Ross Patty Kim Pollard Alison Prasavath Carolyn Purtell Marilee Quady Sherwood Quady | Jessie Barth Cristin Bowen Elisabeth Cardiel John & Susan Coffey Diane Dahlin Linda Darling Sarah Frey Remy Gallegos Shannon Gima Douglas Hovenden Toniann Jeffery | Kurt Sahr Michele Scalize Erin Seitz Bryan & Gail Struve Julie Summers Mary Tovar Tammy VanHuffel Richard Wery Karen & Tom Yale Susan Zimmerman |

We are also grateful to additional anonymous donors not listed here.

#### INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR

#### **JOYCE EPP TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND SPONSOR** David Stevens

#### **CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP**

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OVERTURE (\$1,500+) Willamette Valley Music

CONCERTO (\$1,000+) Capitol Auto Group

#### **GRANTS**

This organization is supported by funds from the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the State of Oregon.

Bob and Marypat Hill Family Fund of Oregon Community Foundation



2024-2025

Season

### About SYS

#### SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION CONSISTS OF FOUR GROUPS:

MOZART PLAYERS is a preparatory string ensemble directed by Rachael Anderson that primarily engages students in grades 6-7. While it is designed as an entry-level ensemble, an audition is required to ensure students are prepared for the skill demands of the group.

**AMADEUS PLAYERS** is a mid-level string ensemble conducted by Mac Mayer that primarily engages students in grades 7-9. This ensemble focuses on refining and developing a mature string sound through the study, rehearsal, and performance of large ensemble orchestra music. Audition required.

PHILHARMONIA is an advanced full symphony orchestra conducted by Danny Hunt, composed of talented student musicians dedicated to developing their orchestral performance skills. This ensemble offers young musicians the opportunity to experience the rich, powerful sound of full symphonic repertoire and features a complete string section, winds, brass, and percussion. Audition required.

YOUTH SYMPHONY is the premier full symphony orchestra of Salem Youth Symphony, conducted by Musical Director Jon Harris-Clippinger. Composed of the most talented and dedicated student musicians up to age 22, Youth Symphony performs professional-level symphonic repertoire, providing a rigorous and rewarding orchestral experience. Audition required.

Participation provides young musicians with opportunities to advance their musical experience by:

- Building their repertoire of orchestral works
- Performing in a full symphony orchestra
- Sharing music with the community
- Enhancing confidence, self-esteem, and discipline
- Refining skills with sectional coaches who are professional musicians

## Mission Statement

THE SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION fosters the talents of dedicated young musicians by providing them with the opportunity to develop a deeper appreciation of orchestral music, enhance their performance skills, and contribute to the community through their musical expression.

STATEMENT OF INCLUSIVITY. SYS is committed to being a welcoming and safe community for young musicians and their families of all cultures, races, religions, genders, sexual orientations, and financial means and circumstances.





### WELCOME



#### WELCOME, MUSICIANS, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS!

Our 70th season marks a continued celebration of the historic collaboration between SYS and our community. We are thrilled to have you here for what promises to be an inspiring afternoon of music. Whether you're a regular supporter or joining us for the first time, we are excited to perform for you today.

We are proud to feature a special centerpiece in the orchestral repertoire: Elgar's *Enigma Variations*. This remarkable work stands as a testament to the power of individuality within a shared artistic vision. Each variation represents a different friend or personality in Elgar's life, carefully crafted to reflect the unique qualities and emotions that defined them. It serves as a beautiful reminder that while music is universal, it can also tell deeply personal stories. The stories of each individual sys member, working together as one, are what make the pursuit of great music so rewarding.

Members of SYS are an integral part of something much larger than themselves. Just like Elgar's friends, each of them brings their own unique voice and talent to the ensemble. Together, we've explored the nuances of the iconic masterpieces you'll hear today, uncovering their mystery and depth while honing our skills and building lasting connections.

Throughout today's program, we encourage you to embrace the spirit of Enigma—not only in the music but also in the way you watch the musicians collaborate. There is beauty in the unexpected, and like Elgar, we challenge you to find joy in both the complexity and simplicity that will emerge throughout today's performance.

Thank you for being part of the SYS family. Together, we have created something truly unforgettable.

Jon Harris-Clippinger Musical Director



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