

# MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA

## 2026-27 Season Calendar

### Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts

#### SEASON OPENING CELEBRATION: SØNDERGÅRD CONDUCTS STRAVINSKY'S FIREBIRD

Friday, September 25, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, September 26, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### Minnesota Orchestra

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

**Vadym Kholodenko**, piano

**Tal Rosner**, video artist and creative designer

WALKER	<i>Icarus in Orbit</i>
PROKOFIEV	Piano Concerto No. 2
STRAVINSKY	<i>The Firebird</i> (complete)

The world premiere of Stravinsky's first ballet, *The Firebird*, made him famous overnight. For these Season Opening celebrations, the creativity of video artist Tal Rosner adds thrilling dimension to Stravinsky's luminous score. Van Cliburn Competition gold medalist Vadym Kholodenko's technical brilliance will dazzle in Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2.

*We gratefully recognize Katie and Bill Miller as Lead Sponsor for this program.*

### Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts

#### SEASON OPENING CELEBRATION: SØNDERGÅRD, MOZART AND PROKOFIEV

Thursday, October 1, 2026, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, October 2, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, October 3, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### Minnesota Orchestra

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

**Stefan Jackiw**, violin

SMITH	<i>Tumblebird Contrails</i>
MOZART	Violin Concerto No. 5, <i>Turkish</i>
PROKOFIEV	Symphony No. 6

*Donor Appreciation Week: These concerts, open to all, are dedicated to the generosity of our donor community.*

American violinist Stefan Jackiw—praised for his poetic performances—made his Minnesota Orchestra debut in 1997 and last performed with the ensemble seven years ago. This time, he returns in his first collaboration with Thomas Søndergård to perform Mozart’s sunny Violin Concerto No. 5, before these season-opening concerts end with the tension and power of Prokofiev’s Symphony No. 6. To open, Gabriela Smith’s evocative nature-scape *Tumblebird Contrails*, a sonic depiction of the composer “imagining the ecstasy of wind in the wings.”

**U.S. Bank Movies & Music**  
***RETURN OF THE JEDI***  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Thursday, October 8, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Friday, October 9, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, October 10, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Sunday, October 11, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor

In the climactic sixth episode of the *Star Wars* saga, Darth Vader readies the second Death Star to unleash the final blow to the Rebel Alliance. Luke Skywalker joins R2-D2, C-3PO and Princess Leia to free Han Solo from Jabba the Hutt and launch a desperate attack upon the entire Imperial Fleet. Watch the complete film unfold as Sarah Hicks and the Minnesota Orchestra perform John Williams’ legendary score live-to-picture.

**Live at Orchestra Hall**  
**JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA WITH WYNTON MARSALIS**

Tuesday, October 13, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra**  
**Wynton Marsalis**, trumpet

The inimitable Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra returns for a single engagement at Orchestra Hall, as part of Wynton Marsalis' final season as music director of the iconic ensemble.

*[Please note the Minnesota Orchestra does not play on this program.]*

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION**

Friday, October 16, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, October 17, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Kahchun Wong**, conductor**Himari**, violin

IFUKUBE	<i>Dance of the Seven Veils, from Salome</i>
GLAZUNOV	Violin Concerto
MUSSORGSKY/ Ravel	<i>Pictures at an Exhibition</i>

Born in 2011, Himari has been described as a “once-in-a-generation” talent. She was 13 when she made her debut with the Berlin Philharmonic. Now, she brings that talent to Minneapolis in her Minnesota Orchestra debut alongside first-time guest conductor Kahchun Wong. The concerts close with Mussorgsky’s well-loved *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts****HAYDN AND LISZT**

Thursday, October 22, 2026, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, October 23, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Jaime Martin**, conductor**Simon Trpčeski**, piano

HAYDN	Symphony No. 6, <i>Le Matin</i>
LISZT	Piano Concerto No. 2
MENDELSSOHN	Symphony No. 5, <i>Reformation</i>

When Franz Liszt saw that the language of music was changing, he felt that forms should change, too. His Second Piano Concerto is constructed in six musical scenes. After Simon Trpčeski brings them to life, hear how Mendelssohn quotes Martin Luther in a symphony written to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession.

**CHAMBER MUSIC IN THE HALL**

Sunday, October 25, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Simon Trpčeski**, piano**Members of the Minnesota Orchestra**

BACEWICZ	Suite for Two Violins
PROKOFIEV	Quintet in G minor
TABAKOVA	<i>Insight</i>
BRAHMS	Piano Quartet No. 3

**Live at Orchestra Hall**  
**BEN FOLDS**  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Saturday, October 24, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor  
**Ben Folds**, vocals and piano

There's a reason Ben Folds is an absolute fan-favorite: quirky stories, an undeniable sense of humor and an epic lovefest between audience and musicians, all sprinkled generously alongside some of his all-time best tunes. His impressive catalog and charming personality return to Minneapolis to share the stage with Minnesota Orchestra and conductor Sarah Hicks.

**Young People's Concerts**  
**PETER AND THE WOLF**

Tuesday, October 27, 2026, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Wednesday, October 28, 2026, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Thursday, October 29, 2026, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Molly Turner**, conductor  
**Lady Midnight**, narrator  
 Original artwork by **Allison Severson**  
 Original concept by **Cosette Justo-Valdes**

Join us as we bring back Sergei Prokofiev's classic symphonic tale *Peter and the Wolf*! The story follows a young boy named Peter who, with the help of his friends—a bird, a duck and a cat—catches a wolf, saves him from hunters and takes him to the zoo. This story will teach students about the instrument families as each animal is portrayed by a different instrument playing each animal's unique theme.

**U.S. Bank Movies & Music**  
**VERTIGO**  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Friday, October 30, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, October 31, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor

Alfred Hitchcock's psychological thriller *Vertigo*, starring James Stewart and Kim Novak, is a haunting exploration of obsession set against the backdrop of 1950s San Francisco. Bernard Herrmann's harrowing score heightens the film's intensity and suspense, adding tension to every twist and turn of the story. Sarah Hicks leads the spine-tingling score on Halloween weekend!

**Nordic Soundscapes Festival**  
**SØNDERGÅRD, PARKER AND SIBELIUS**

Thursday, November 5, 2026, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, November 6, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, November 7, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

**Jon Kimura Parker**, piano

GRIEG	Selections from <i>Norwegian Dances</i>
HILLBORG	Piano Concerto No. 2, <i>MAX</i> Concerto
SIBELIUS	Symphony No. 2

Audience favorite Jon Kimura Parker returns to Orchestra Hall to play Swedish composer Anders Hillborg's seamless *MAX* Concerto, written for Emanuel (Manny) Ax and titled after a shortened version of his name: M. Ax. Then, Søndergård leads the Orchestra through Sibelius' Second Symphony for the first time, a work the composer began writing in 1901 while on holiday in Italy.

**Nordic Soundscapes Festival**  
**FAMILY CONCERT: THE MUSICAL TALES OF HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN**

Sunday, November 8, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

Enter into a world where music and storytelling intertwine, turning timeless fairy tales into vivid soundscapes. Young audiences are invited to join Music Director Thomas Søndergård and the Minnesota Orchestra for a musical adventure through some of the classic stories of Hans Christian Andersen with playful and story-driven melodies.

**Nordic Soundscapes Festival**  
**VÄNSKÄ, CHEN AND NIELSEN**

Friday, November 13, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, November 14, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Osmo Vänskä**, conductor**Stella Chen**, violin

TARKIAINEN	<i>Songs of the Ice</i>
J. KUUSISTO	Violin Concerto
NIELSEN	Symphony No. 6, <i>Sinfonia semplice</i>

The flags of Finland and Denmark fly high with the Violin Concerto by Osmo Vänskä's beloved late friend, Jaakko Kuusisto, and the last symphony by Carl Nielsen. At first, Nielsen thought it would be "completely idyllic" in character, a *Sinfonia semplice*. When it was finished 16 months later, he wasn't sure the name still made sense. Come prepared to discover its complexities.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts****ELGAR AND DVOŘÁK**

Thursday, November 19, 2026, 11 a.m./ Orchestra Hall

Friday, November 20, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Dinis Sousa**, conductor**Sasha Cooke**, mezzo

SAARIAHO	<i>Ciel d'hiver</i>
ELGAR	<i>Sea Pictures</i>
DVOŘÁK	Symphony No. 8

Mezzo Sasha Cooke compares Elgar's *Sea Pictures* to entering a painting by J.M.W. Turner: "They are very dark and murky, but beautiful with radiant, shimmering light." They'll ease audiences into Dvořák's nature-infused Symphony No. 8, composed when one of his biggest fans, Johannes Brahms, said that Dvořák's head was "full of ideas."

**Live at Orchestra Hall****ANDREW BIRD****with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Saturday, November 21, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Sarah Hicks**, conductor**Andrew Bird**, vocals

With a distinctive sound that resists categorization, GRAMMY®-nominated violinist, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Andrew Bird makes his debut with the Minnesota

Orchestra. Balancing swelling sounds with jazz, folk and pop melodies in an unforgettable display of unique virtuosity, Bird celebrates the 20th anniversary of his acclaimed record *The Mysterious Production of Eggs*. Featuring a top-to-bottom album performance with orchestral arrangements, Bird caps off the performance with a suite of fan-favorite tunes from his near 30-year repertoire.

**U.S. Bank Movies & Music**  
***HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON IN CONCERT***  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Saturday, November 28, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, November 28, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Sunday, November 29, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor

DreamWorks' *How to Train Your Dragon* is a captivating and original story about a young Viking named Hiccup, who defies tradition when he befriends one of his deadliest foes—a ferocious dragon he calls Toothless. Together, these unlikely heroes must fight against all odds to save both their worlds. Featuring John Powell's Oscar®-nominated score performed live to picture, *How to Train Your Dragon In Concert* is a thrilling experience for all ages. The concerts feature the original 2010 animated version of the film.

**Live at Orchestra Hall**  
**A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS: LIVE AT THE SYMPHONY**  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Tuesday, December 8, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Wednesday, December 9, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Jason Seber**, conductor

Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy, Sally and Schroeder are coming to Orchestra Hall! Join the Peanuts Gang for a heartwarming production that celebrates Charles M. Schulz's beloved and timeless story! With actors who bring the iconic characters to life, big-screen animations, and Vince Guaraldi's timeless music performed live by the Minnesota Orchestra, this is a special holiday event that the whole family will enjoy.

**U.S. Bank Movies & Music**  
***HOME ALONE IN CONCERT***  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Friday, December 11, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, December 12, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, December 12, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Sunday, December 13, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**

**Jason Seber**, conductor

**Minnesota Boychoir**

A true holiday favorite, this beloved comedy classic features renowned composer John Williams' charming and delightful score performed live to picture by the Minnesota Orchestra. Macaulay Culkin stars as Kevin McCallister, an 8-year-old boy who's accidentally left behind when his family leaves for Christmas vacation and who must defend his home against two bungling thieves. Hilarious and heartwarming, *Home Alone* is holiday fun for the entire family!

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**

**HANDEL'S MESSIAH**

Friday, December 18, 2026, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, December 19, 2026, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**

**Jane Glover**, conductor

**Lauren Snouffer**, soprano

**Clara Osowski**, mezzo

**Eric Ferring**, tenor

**Michael Sumuel**, bass-baritone

**Minnesota Chorale**

HANDEL

*Messiah*

Dame Jane Glover—a specialist in Baroque-era and vocal music—returns to the Minnesota Orchestra to lead Handel's *Messiah*, a piece that has been an integral part of her decades-long career.

**Live at Orchestra Hall**

**MERRY & BRIGHT WITH CHARLES LAZARUS**

Sunday, December 20, 2026, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Charles Lazarus**, trumpet

**Bruce A. Henry**, vocals

**Tonia Hughes Kendrick**, vocals

**Tommy Barbarella**, piano and keyboards

**Jeff Bailey**, bass

**David Schmalenberger**, drums

**Daryl Boudreaux**, percussion  
**The Lazarus Brass**  
**Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs**

Charles Lazarus and an all-star band return with one of the Twin Cities' most beloved holiday traditions. Bursting with toe-tapping arrangements of seasonal favorites, this joyful concert brings together top-notch local musicians for extra swing, extra sparkle and a distinctly jazzy holiday vibe. Now celebrating its tenth year, this family-favorite fills the hall with warmth, rhythm and cheer.

*The Minnesota Orchestra does not perform on this program.*

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**A NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION WITH THE MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA**

Thursday, December 31, 2026, 8:30 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Friday, January 1, 2027, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Carlos Miguel Prieto**, conductor  
**Cheryl Losey Feder**, harp

DEBUSSY	<i>Danse sacrée et Danse profane</i>
DEBUSSY	<i>Ibéria</i> , from <i>Images</i>
ALBENIZ/Frühbeck de Burgos	Selections from <i>Suite Española</i>
RAVEL	<i>Boléro</i>

The 47 strings of the harp are notoriously difficult to keep in tune, something that is not evident when listening to Principal Cheryl Losey Feder play with the Orchestra each week. This time, she makes her debut as soloist in dances by Debussy. After intermission, hear how Ravel builds excitement as the theme from his *Boléro* makes its way around the Orchestra.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**AFKHAM, MOSER AND SHOSTAKOVICH**

**David Afkham**, conductor  
**Johannes Moser**, cello

Friday, January 8, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, January 9, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

MOZART	Overture to <i>Don Giovanni</i>
THORVALDSDOTTIR	<i>Before we fall</i> (Cello Concerto)
SHOSTAKOVICH	Symphony No. 8

Guest conductor David Afkham returns to the podium with Mozart, Shostakovich and a cello concerto that's centered around the notion of teetering on the edge. Thorvaldsdottir's *Before we fall* was composed for the remarkable cellist Johannes Moser, an artist who she knew could take her concerto to the highest level.

**U.S. Bank Movies & Music**  
**AMADEUS LIVE**  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Friday, January 15, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, January 16, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Sunday, January 17, 2027, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor  
**Joanne Pearce Martin**, piano  
**Minnesota Chorale**

Audiences are invited to experience the multi-Academy Award® winning 1984 motion picture *Amadeus* on a vast HD screen while Mozart's most celebrated works are performed live in-sync by the Minnesota Orchestra and the Minnesota Chorale.

Rated PG. © "AMADEUS" film licensed by THE SAUL ZAENTZ COMPANY.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**TCHAIKOVSKY VIOLIN CONCERTO**

Friday, January 22, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, January 23, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Hannu Lintu**, conductor  
**Sergey Khachatryan**, violin

TCHAIKOVSKY	Violin Concerto
CORIGLIANO	Symphony No. 1

Sergey Khachatryan was 15 when he became the youngest-ever winner of the International Sibelius Competition. Now a seasoned professional, he'll play Tchaikovsky for his Minnesota Orchestra debut. John Corigliano believes that music enables us to keep the people we've lost alive in our thoughts. This deeply personal symphony, composed when the AIDS epidemic was rampant, explores the excess of rage and the tenderness of remembrance.

## CHAMBER MUSIC IN THE HALL

Sunday, January 24, 2027, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### Members of the Minnesota Orchestra

BARRIERE	Sonata for Two Cellos
BRITTEN	String Quartet No. 3
FISHER	<i>Heal</i>
BEETHOVEN	String Quartet No. 7 in F major, Op. 59, No. 1

## Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts SØNDERGÅRD, HADELICH AND PROKOFIEV

### Minnesota Orchestra

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

**Augustin Hadelich**, violin

Thursday, February 11, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, February 12, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, February 13, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

ADÈS	<i>Inferno</i> Suite
PROKOFIEV	Violin Concerto No. 1
BRITTEN	Passacaglia from <i>Peter Grimes</i>
DEBUSSY	<i>La Mer</i>

In this “Fire and Water” program, the heat comes from a Dante-inspired ballet by Thomas Adès and Augustin Hadelich’s ability to make Prokofiev’s music sear itself into your consciousness. The water flows from Debussy’s childhood fascination with the sea and an orchestral interlude from Benjamin Britten’s opera *Peter Grimes* that deepens our understanding of the story and its characters.

### Young People’s Concerts

#### UNDER THE RED LANTERNS

Tuesday, February 16, 2027, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Wednesday, February 17, 2027, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Thursday, February 18, 2027, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

### Minnesota Orchestra

**Molly Turner**, conductor and host

Lunar New Year marks the beginning of spring, with all the color and festive moods of the season of rebirth. Join conductor Molly Turner and the Minnesota Orchestra for a celebration of

the Year of the Goat! This program features the vibrant melodies of Asia, rooted in tradition and storytelling and will explore how cultures all over Asia—and beyond—celebrate Lunar New Year.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**LUNAR NEW YEAR CONCERT**

Friday, February 19, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Molly Turner**, conductor  
**Yang Ge**, liuqin  
**Fei Xie**, artistic consultant

Celebrate the Year of the Goat with conductor Molly Turner and the Minnesota Orchestra! Lunar New Year marks the beginning of spring, with all the color and festive moods of the season of rebirth. Family traditions and themes of unity and health take center stage in this vibrant and compelling program.

**Family Concert**  
**UNDER THE RED LANTERNS**

Sunday, February 21, 2027, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Molly Turner**, conductor

NEW THIS YEAR! A family-focused, one-hour version of the Orchestra's annual Lunar New Year concert. This program features the vibrant melodies of Asia, rooted in tradition and storytelling and will explore how cultures all over the continent celebrate this festive holiday. Celebrate the Year of the Goat at Orchestra Hall with the whole family!

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**RAVEL PIANO CONCERTO IN G**

Thursday, February 25, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Friday, February 26, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Marta Gardolińska**, conductor  
**Alice Sara Ott**, piano

MOZART	Overture to <i>The Magic Flute</i>
RAVEL	Piano Concerto in G
ZEMLINSKY	<i>The Mermaid</i>

Renowned pianist Alice Sara Ott makes her Minnesota Orchestra debut in Ravel's lighthearted Piano Concerto in G. Then, Polish conductor Marta Gardolińska—who made her Minnesota Orchestra debut in April 2025—leads Alexander Zemlinsky's musical retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*.

**Live at Orchestra Hall**  
**SAMARA JOY**  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Saturday, February 27, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor

Dubbed by NPR as a “classic jazz singer from a new generation,” Samara Joy joins the Minnesota Orchestra in a program of standards and timeless classics.

**Live at Orchestra Hall**  
**GUSTER**  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Friday, March 5, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, March 6, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor

Alt-rockers Guster take the stage, reimagining their introspective lyrics and irresistible hooks with full symphony orchestra for an unforgettable experience.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**RACHMANINOFF AND TCHAIKOVSKY**

Friday, March 12, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, March 13, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor  
**Susie Park**, violin  
**Felicia Moore**, soprano  
**John Matthew Myers**, tenor  
**Minnesota Chorale**

TCHAIKOVSKY	<i>Hamlet</i> , Fantasy-Overture
SZYMANOWSKI	Violin Concerto No. 2

RACHMANINOFF      *The Bells*

Rachmaninoff's fascination with bells dates to his childhood, when his grandmother would take him to town on church festival days. That special sound permeates his rarely performed choral symphony, *The Bells*. At the center of these concerts, First Associate Concertmaster Susie Park takes the spotlight in Karl Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No. 2—the composer's last major work—in her first solo concerto collaboration with Music Director Thomas Søndergård.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**SØNDERGÅRD AND TRIFONOV**

Thursday, March 18, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, March 19, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, March 20, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor  
**Daniil Trifonov**, piano

BRAHMS                      Symphony No. 3  
BRAHMS                      Piano Concerto No. 1

In a span of less than one year, Daniil Trifonov medaled at three of the world's most prestigious competitions. His final stop was Moscow, where he took home First Prize and the Grand Prix at the International Tchaikovsky Competition—all at the age of 20. 16 years later, he brings his insightful musicianship to Orchestra Hall in his first collaboration with Thomas Søndergård. These concerts open with Søndergård leading the Minnesota Orchestra through Brahms' nostalgia-infused Symphony No. 3.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**KEEFE, SHOSTAKOVICH AND RAVEL**

Thursday, April 1, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, April 2, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Lionel Bringuier**, conductor  
**Erin Keefe**, violin

SHOSTAKOVICH              Violin Concerto No. 1  
SCHMITT                      *The Tragedy of Salome*  
RAVEL                          Suite No. 2 from *Daphnis and Chloé*

The role of concertmaster requires many non-musical skills: leadership, diplomacy and confidence, among them, and for 16 years, Erin Keefe has demonstrated them all. Hearing her tackle the demands of Shostakovich's first violin concerto is a reminder that she's an extraordinary soloist, too. The second half of the program presents one of the most brilliant depictions of daybreak ever composed in Ravel's ballet, *Daphnis and Chloé*.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY NO. 7**

Thursday, April 8, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Friday, April 9, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Anja Bihlmaier**, conductor  
**Veronika Eberle**, violin

WAGNER	<i>Overture to Tannhäuser</i>
HARTMANN	<i>Concerto funebre</i>
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 7

The first few minutes of Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 hold so much promise, it's hard to imagine how he could possibly sustain that level of intensity. He does exactly that with an exquisitely structured symphony of dances. Violinist Veronika Eberle makes her Minnesota Orchestra debut alongside first-time guest conductor Anja Bihlmaier in performances of Karl Hartmann's *Concerto funebre*, an emotional work that embodies resistance, remembrance and resilience.

**CHAMBER MUSIC IN THE HALL**

Sunday, April 11, 2027, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra**

DVOŘÁK	<i>Terzetto</i>
BACEWICZ	String Quartet No. 4
SCHUBERT	Piano Quintet in A major, <i>Trout</i>

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**ROSS, BEETHOVEN AND SIBELIUS**

Thursday, April 15, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Friday, April 16, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Elias Grandy**, conductor  
**Anthony Ross**, cello

BEETHOVEN	Overture to <i>Egmont</i>
BLOCH	<i>Schelomo: Rhapsodie hébraïque</i>
SIBELIUS	<i>Lemminkäinen Suite</i>

In this program of real and imagined heroes, audiences meet Lemminkäinen, a star of Finnish mythology. In the eyes of Sibelius, he was “fair of cheek and comely beneath his brows.” Then, Principal Cello Anthony Ross’ artistry is a perfect fit for Bloch’s concerto *Schelomo*, which depicts the cello as the “voice” of the biblical King Solomon.

**Live at Orchestra Hall**  
**21ST CENTURY BROADWAY**

Saturday, April 17, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Steven Reineke**, conductor  
**Aisha Jackson, Derek Klena, Javier Munoz, Ali Stroker**, vocals

The first quarter of the 21st century has already produced some of the most epic and beloved moments in Broadway’s history. Experience this unforgettable revue of some of these greatest hits of the last 25 years, featuring the Minnesota Orchestra and a stunning quartet of guest soloists, led by conductor Steven Reineke. Audiences will hear songs from *Wicked*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Hamilton* and so much more!

**Young People’s Concerts**  
**PHILHARMONIA FANTASTIQUE: THE MAKING OF THE ORCHESTRA**

Tuesday, April 20, 2027, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Wednesday, April 21, 2027, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Thursday, April 22, 2027, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**TBA**, conductor

What makes an orchestra? Come on an orchestral adventure with a special Sprite who will teach students about each of the instrument families that make up an orchestra. Featuring a Grammy-award winning soundtrack played by the Minnesota Orchestra, *Philharmonia Fantastique: The Making of the Orchestra* is a 25-minute multi-media concerto that explores the connections between music, sound, performance, creativity and technology.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**

## **SØNDERGÅRD CONDUCTS FUTURE CLASSICS**

Friday, April 30, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### **Minnesota Orchestra**

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

**Kevin Puts**, host and Composer Institute director

The future of classical music will be stronger if we nurture the next generation of creative minds. In the Composer Institute, some of the nation's top emerging composers experience a week-long residency with Thomas Søndergård and the musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra. The week is capped off by this concert, when they (and Minnesota audiences) experience the thrill of hearing their pieces played brilliantly.

### **Symphony Ball 2027**

Saturday, April 24, 2027 / Minneapolis Hilton and Orchestra Hall

### **Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**

#### **PUCCINI'S TOSCA**

Thursday, May 6, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, May 8, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### **Minnesota Orchestra**

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

**Adam Larsen**, creative director

**Ailyn Pérez**, soprano (Tosca)

**Joshua Guerrero**, tenor (Cavaradossi)

**Gevorg Hakobyan**, baritone (Scarpia)

### **Minnesota Chorale**

PUCCINI

*Tosca*

Puccini's impeccable sense of timing and detail allows him to tap into our rawest emotions, capturing attention and illuminating the complexities of his title character, Tosca, a gifted, temperamental opera singer who lives her art for God. This story of passion and tragedy is filled with powerful moments, including her despairing aria "Vissi d'arte," as she struggles to come to grips with what is happening around her, showcasing why Puccini remains one of opera's greatest composers more than a century later. Offered as part of the Sound Unbound series—a multi-year series offering highly visual, imaginative treatments in the concert hall—this production will feature creative direction from Adam Larsen, who will incorporate lighting design and digital projections to create atmospheric, immersive experiences for audiences.

### **Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**

**GERSHWIN CONCERTO IN F**

Thursday, May 13, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, May 14, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, May 15, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**

**Thomas Søndergård**, conductor

**Isata Kanneh-Mason**, piano

SIMON	<i>Hellfighters' Blues</i>
GERSHWIN	Concerto in F
MARSALIS	Concerto for Orchestra

Pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason, whose playing has been called “calmly commanding” and “unfailingly subtle” by *The New York Times*, makes her debut with the Minnesota Orchestra in a program that embraces the blues with Gershwin’s Piano Concerto in F. Then, Wynton Marsalis’ playful concerto for the entire orchestra that is structured around the language of jazz.

**U.S. Bank Movies & Music**

***HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN™* IN CONCERT  
with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Thursday, May 20, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, May 21, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, May 22, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Sunday, May 23, 2027, 2 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Sarah Hicks**, conductor

**Minnesota Chorale**

Get ready to encounter a Dementor™, ride the Knight Bus™ and discover just who Sirius Black™ really is. Audiences can relive the magic of their favorite wizard in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban™ in Concert. Based on the third installment of the classic saga, the thrilling tale is accompanied by the music of a live symphony orchestra as Harry soars across the big screen.

*Rated PG. All characters and elements © & ™ Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. Publishing Rights © JKR*

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts****DVOŘÁK SYMPHONY NO. 7**

Thursday, June 3, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, June 4, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Thomas Søndergård**, conductor**Fei Xie**, bassoon

S. KIM	World Premiere (MinnOrch Commission)
PUTS	Bassoon Concerto
DVOŘÁK	Symphony No. 7

After Dvořák composed his first set of Slavonic Dances, his publisher was desperate for more. He liked that they were short, popular and lucrative. While Dvořák understood the attraction, he was determined to follow his own North Star with his Symphony No. 7. Principal Bassoon Fei Xie takes on a new concerto by Kevin Puts that was co-commissioned by three orchestras, including the Minnesota Orchestra. These concerts open with the world premiere of a brand-new commissioned work by 2025 Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute alumna Soomin Kim.

**Live at Orchestra Hall****LESLIE ODOM, JR.****with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Saturday, June 5, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Sarah Hicks**, conductor**Leslie Odom, Jr.**, vocals

Leslie Odom, Jr., the multi-talented Tony® and GRAMMY® Award-winning vocalist, songwriter, author and actor, returns for a one-night-only concert with the Minnesota Orchestra. Known for his breakout role as the original Aaron Burr in the smash hit Broadway musical *Hamilton*, Odom performs the best of Broadway and the American songbook, from jazz standards to poignant medleys.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts****SØNDERGÅRD CONDUCTS MAHLER SYMPHONY NO. 5**

Thursday, June 10, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, June 11, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, June 12, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra****Thomas Søndergård**, conductor**Yeol Eum Son**, piano

LUTOSŁAWSKI	Variations on a Theme by Paganini
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STRAUSS                      *Burleske*  
 MAHLER                      Symphony No. 5

Thomas Søndergård draws attention to *Burleske*, Richard Strauss' only work for piano and orchestra with decorated soloist Yeol Eum Son making her Minnesota Orchestra debut. There are many great moments in Mahler's Symphony No. 5, including a moving *Adagietto* which some scholars have described as a love letter to his wife, Alma.

**Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**  
**JUNETEENTH WITH THE MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA**

Thursday, June 17, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Kellen Gray**, conductor  
**Imani-Grace Cooper**, vocals

ELLINGTON	<i>King of the Magi</i> , from <i>The Three Black Kings</i>
PRICE	<i>Juba</i> , from Symphony No. 3
COOPER/Greer	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>
ELLINGTON/Greer	<i>Caravan</i>
BONDS	<i>Prayer Meeting</i> , from <i>Montgomery Variations</i>
STRAYHORN/Allen	<i>Lush Life</i>
STILL	<i>Autochthonous</i> , from Symphony No. 4

Kellen Gray conducts this annual Juneteenth concert that honors the rich legacy of Black artistry and creative expression.

**U.S. Bank Movies & Music**  
**JAWS IN CONCERT**  
**with the Minnesota Orchestra**

Friday, June 18, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall  
 Saturday, June 19, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

**Minnesota Orchestra**  
**Sarah Hicks**, conductor

The original summer movie blockbuster, with an Academy Award®-winning score by composer John Williams.

Rated PG. ™ & © Universal Studios.

**Live at Orchestra Hall**

## **STEVE HACKMAN CONDUCTS HIS BEETHOVEN X BEYONCÉ**

Friday, June 25, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### **Minnesota Orchestra**

**Steve Hackman**, conductor and creator

Steve Hackman’s electrifying new production pairs pop’s Queen with classical music’s King—Beyoncé and Beethoven—in a genre-defying concert experience. Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7 becomes the driving force behind 15 of Beyoncé’s biggest hits, including “Crazy in Love,” “Sorry,” “Single Ladies” and “Texas Hold ’Em.” The evening’s emotional high point fuses Beyoncé’s soaring “Halo” with the haunting second movement of Beethoven’s Seventh, creating a powerful and unforgettable musical moment. Hackman brings with him three powerhouse female soloists and a band featuring drums, guitar, keys and bass.

### **Live at Orchestra Hall**

## **THORGY THOR AND THE THORCHESTRA**

Saturday, June 26, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### **Minnesota Orchestra**

**Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser**, conductor

Sensational drag performance artist Thorgy Thor—famed worldwide from *RuPaul’s Drag Race*—joins the Minnesota Orchestra for a thrilling, hilariously theatrical symphonic spectacular. With virtuosic violin chops and razor-sharp wit, the self-proclaimed “Queen of Classical Music” delivers a night of musical masterpieces, side-splitting laughter, and fabulous fashion on Pride weekend.

### **Minnesota Orchestra Classical Concerts**

## **BEETHOVEN AND BARBER**

Thursday, July 15, 2027, 11 a.m. / Orchestra Hall

Friday, July 16, 2027, 8 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

Saturday, July 17, 2027, 7 p.m. / Orchestra Hall

### **Minnesota Orchestra**

**Molly Turner**, conductor

**Ellie Dehn**, soprano

TATE

*Pisachi* (Reveal)

BARBER

*Knoxville: Summer of 1915*

BEETHOVEN

Symphony No. 6, *Pastoral*

Nature is at the core of this program as Samuel Barber elevates a poem by James Agee to conjure nostalgic childhood memories of long summer evenings. Then, we'll wander the countryside with Beethoven as he captures how it feels to listen to a nearby brook, gather with friends and experience a thunderstorm in his *Pastoral* Symphony.

### **TICKET PURCHASING INFORMATION**

Tickets can be purchased at [minnesotaorchestra.org](http://minnesotaorchestra.org) or by calling 612-371-5656.

The 2026-2027 Classical Season is presented by Ameriprise Financial.

The Hall Pass program makes free tickets available for young listeners ages 6 to 18 for select Classical concerts, and all kids under 18 for Family concerts. This program is sponsored by Cynthia and Jay Ihlenfeld. For more information, visit [minnesotaorchestra.org/hallpass](http://minnesotaorchestra.org/hallpass).

The Movies & Music series is presented by U.S. Bank.

MOVIE LICENSING: *Vertigo*: Alfred J. Hitchcock Productions and Universal Studios; *How to Train Your Dragon*: DreamWorks Animation and Paramount Pictures; *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi*: © Disney; *Home Alone*: Hughes Entertainment and 20th Century Fox; *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*<sup>TM</sup>:

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The Young People's Concerts are sponsored by 3M, Ameriprise Financial, Midwest Radiology, Minnesota State Arts Board, RBC Wealth Management and YPSCA.

The Chamber Music series is sponsored by Dr. Jennine and John\* Speier.

\*In Remembrance

These activities are 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.

*All programs, artists, dates, times and prices subject to change.*

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