

Symphony Notes

FAYETTEVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

2016-2017 SEASON: The Final Five

Our 16/17 season is just around the corner, and there is a lot to be excited about! This season marks our second year in the search for our new Music Director/Conductor. The best part? This is where YOU get to help. Our final five candidates will each be coming in to conduct one concert during this season and we will be looking for your feedback. Your input will help decide who will be your next Music Director of the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra! Come to the concerts, get to know the guest conductors, and let us know what you think. A list of events for the season is below - but turn the page to read the bios of each of our finale five candidates!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 6:00pm

Jazz & Wine Fest
Festival Park

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15 | 7:30pm

Fall Spooktacular!
Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University
Guest Conductor: Al Sturgis

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19 | 7:30pm

Czech It Out!
Seabrook Auditorium, Fayetteville State University
Guest Conductor: Stefan Sanders

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 | 7:30pm

Waltzing in a Winter Wonderland
Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University
Guest Conductor: Aram Demirjian

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 | 4:00pm

FSYO Winter Concert
Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12 | 7:30pm

A Little Night Music
St. John's Episcopal Church

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 | 7:30pm

Handel: Water Music
St. John's Episcopal Church

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 | 7:30pm

The Wild Wild West
Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University
Guest Conductor: Joseph Young

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 | 7:30pm

Heroes Among Us
Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University
Guest Conductor: Dina Gilbert

SUNDAY, May 7 | 4:00pm

FSYO Spring Concert
Huff Concert Hall, Methodist University



JAZZ & WINE FEST

Oct 7th • 6pm | Festival Park

PERFORMANCES BY:

UNC Greensboro • UNC Chapel Hill • ECU
 UNC Pembroke • Methodist University
 Fayetteville State • Appalachian State

MEET THE FINAL FIVE CONDUCTING CANDIDATES!



AL STURGIS (Guest Conducting Oct 15) - Alfred E. Sturgis is a highly sought after conductor whose versatility and extensive background allow him to journey comfortably into a wide variety of musical experiences. He currently serves as Music Director of the Tar River Orchestra, the Carolina Ballet and the North Carolina Master Chorale. Sturgis has served as Guest Conductor for the New York City Ballet at Lincoln Center, North Carolina Symphony, Winston-Salem Symphony, Carolina Chamber Orchestra, Raleigh Civic Symphony, National Opera Company, Capital Opera, Long Leaf Opera, and North Carolina Theatre. He has conducted orchestral and opera performances overseas in France, Bulgaria, and China, and recently served as a clinician for the inaugural London International Choral Festival. Early in his career he performed a number of roles in musical theatre, opera, and oratorio, in addition to touring and recording in Southern France with the Robert Shaw Festival Singers. Sturgis still performs occasionally as a counter tenor or baritone.



STEFAN SANDERS (Guest Conducting Nov 19) - Sanders holds the Montante Family Endowed Associate Conductor Chair with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, where he leads performances on the Classical, Know the Score, and Pops series, as well as Education and Family concerts. Sanders also serves as the Music Director for the Round Rock Symphony (TX) where he is attracting much praise for innovative programming and collaborations with local arts organizations while attracting broader audiences and redefining the orchestra’s role in its community. Mr. Sanders is also the music director for the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra. Recent guest conducting engagements have included, the Orquesta Sinfónica de Guayaquil, Ecuador, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Symphoria, Naples Philharmonic, San Antonio Symphony, Austin Symphony Orchestra, Austin Lyric Opera, Corpus Christi Opera, and Round Top International Festival Institute. He is a graduate of the Juilliard School, the University of Texas at Austin, and the Interlochen Arts Academy.



ARAM DEMIRJIAN (Guest Conducting Dec 10) - In his four years as Associate Conductor of the Kansas City Symphony (KCS), Demirjian conducted over 200 performances in the acoustically superb Helzberg Hall at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Among his most substantial achievements, he was instrumental in designing and launching Classics Uncorked, a widely acclaimed series that presents weeknight classical concerts, enhancing the concert hall experience with thematic programming, narration, visual effects, musical demonstrations and audience interaction. Demirjian’s 2016/17 season includes multiple return engagements with the Louisiana Philharmonic, debuts with the Corpus Christi Symphony, Fresno Philharmonic and Illinois Symphony, and his European debut on the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra’s Dominicales series, which features rising conductors of the next generation. Recent highlights include debuts with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Auburn, Knoxville, Memphis and Omaha symphonies and performances at the Tanglewood Music Center. Demirjian also is a frequent cover conductor with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.



JOSEPH YOUNG (Guest Conducting Feb 25) - Increasingly recognized as “one of the most gifted conductors of his generation,” Joseph Young is currently the Assistant Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony. In his role, Joseph conducts more than 50 concerts per season with the Atlanta Symphony, which include programs on the Delta Classical Series, Concerts for Young People and Families, and various other concerts geared towards specific audiences in the community. Mr. Young also serves as the Music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, where he is the driving force behind the ensemble’s artistic growth. Previous appointments have included Resident Conductor of the Phoenix Symphony, and the League of American Orchestras Conducting Fellow with Buffalo Philharmonic and Baltimore Symphony. Joseph earned his bachelor’s degree in music education at the University of South Carolina, and completed graduate studies with Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar at the Peabody Conservatory in 2009, earning an artist’s diploma in conducting.



DINA GILBERT (Guest Conducting Mar 25) - A native of Québec, she is the assistant conductor at the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal since April 2013, where her role is to assist Kent Nagano at rehearsals, concerts, recordings and tours, as well as assisting guest conductors. In addition to frequently conducting rehearsals with the OSM, Mrs Gilbert leads the orchestra in many concerts, including main series subscription events, youth concerts and the annual OSM in the Parks concerts. Dina Gilbert is the founder and artistic director of Ensemble Arkea, a Montreal-based professional chamber orchestra that presents innovative interpretations of orchestral music. Dina Gilbert earned a doctorate from the Université de Montréal, where she studied with Jean-François Rivest and Paolo Bellomia. She is also the holder of a Bachelor’s degree in clarinet performance and a Master’s in conducting.



Fayetteville Symphony Awarded \$100k Grant from the John William Pope Foundation to start an Instrument Lending Library for the Youth Orchestra

Nearly 30 organizations from across the state submitted proposals for the John William Pope Foundation’s first Joy Pope Memorial Arts Grant, worth \$100,000. “The project submitted by the Fayetteville Symphony was unique and an excellent use of one-time funds,” John Hood, president of the Pope Foundation, said in a statement.

The money will be used to establish a library that lends instruments to young musicians. It is designed to help students who are eager to participate in either the youth orchestra and/or summer music camp, but can’t necessarily afford the opportunity, or have an instrument of their own on which to participate. The library will consist of instruments that are hard to find but needed for orchestral works such as A clarinets, english horn, and C trumpets; instruments that are too big to bring home from school such as string basses and tuba; and also instruments that are sometimes too expensive to afford such as bassoons and cellos. The library will also have violins and violas available as well for those that can’t afford their own, or cannot bring their school instrument home.

Do You Have an Instrument Collecting Dust in Your Home???

In addition to the grant, we also are willing to take instruments sitting unused in your homes to add to our lending library! We take any standard orchestral instruments, and you will receive a donation letter from us that makes you eligible to write the donation off on your taxes! Contact the symphony office at (910)433-4690 to find out how you can donate your unused instruments to our lending library.

\$1,000,000 Endowment Gift Made in Honor of Maestro Fakhouri

An anonymous endowment gift was given to the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra in the amount of \$1,000,000 to honor Maestro Fouad Fakhouri, music director of the symphony from 2004-2016. The endowment names the Conductor’s Podium under the title The Fouad K. Fakhouri Endowment for Artistic Excellence.

DID YOU KNOW?

Do you know all that goes on to produce just one concert? It all starts with booking the concert hall, which is typically done at least one year in advance to ensure that we have a facility to perform in. The programming is also decided around the same time, as the programming of any concert determines how many musicians we need to hire, as not every piece requires the same number of musicians on the stage. In addition to hiring and paying musicians, we also have to order and purchase music required for that concert which could cost anywhere from \$100 to \$1,500 per concert depending on the pieces chosen. Stage hands are also hired in order to help set the stage and move equipment. There are typically 3 full rehearsals before the concert, two of which meet in the evenings starting at 7pm, and the dress rehearsal being the morning before the concert. Staff employees Christine Kastner (President/CEO) and Julia Atkins (Director of Artistic Operations and Marketing) are required to be at all rehearsals, and most musicians and staff may not even get home until 11pm or later that night! We could go into even more detail on all the logistics done even before a concert, but we think you get the idea - there is a lot going on!

It is YOUR support that helps us make everything we do to produce a concert that much easier. There’s a lot of juggling parts, and we certainly can’t do any of it without your contributions and attendance. Want to help contribute to the process? Call the symphony office at (910)433-4690 to find out how!