



**THE
CLEVELAND
ORCHESTRA**

CHILDREN'S CHORUSES

Spring Concert

Saturday, May 23, 2026, at 4 PM

Severance Music Center

Welcome from The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus

Welcome to the Cleveland Orchestra Children's Choruses Spring Concert. This afternoon, we commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States. This milestone offers an opportunity to reflect on our shared history and our hopes for the future. Jazz serves as the heartbeat of this celebration, echoing themes of freedom, the courage to dream, and the resilience to find joy. Like our democracy, music is a constant, collective effort to create harmony among many diverse voices. The selections you will hear today reflect the power of music to shape our national story and to reveal beauty even in the midst of struggle.


Jennifer Rozsa
Director


Jacob Young
Assistant Director

THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA

CHILDREN'S CHORUSES

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The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Preparatory Chorus

Jacob Young, *conductor*
Jacob Bernhardt, *collaborative pianist*

Mark Patterson
(b. 1969)
text by Sarah Teasdale

Life Has Loveliness

Gene Grier & Lowell Everson
(1942–2009), (1935–2018)

The Glory Train*
Bea Marquard-Schultz, *soloist*

Paul Williams & Kenneth L. Asher
(b. 1940), (b. 1944)
arr. Audrey Snyder

The Rainbow Connection
(from *The Muppet Movie*)*
Konrad Kowal, *violin*

Stephen Hatfield
(b. 1956)

Foggy Birthday Shuffle*

Sid Wyche & Mayme Watts
(1922–1983), (unknown)
arr. Roger Emerson

Alright, Okay, You Win*
Melora Dodge, *soloist*

Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley
(1931–2021), (1931–1999)
arr. Roger Emerson

Feeling Good (from the musical *The Roar of the Greasepaint–The Smell of the Crowd*)*
Camila Reynolds, *soloist*

*Features Ashton Thomas (Drums) and Tim Keo (Bass)

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Harold Arlen
(1905–1986)
lyrics by E. Y. Harburg
arr. Jacob Narverud

Over the Rainbow
Konrad Kowal, *violin*
Alisz Fabian & Krisha Mahangare, *soloists*

Sarah Quartel
(b. 1982)

All the Way Home
Viola Strom, Payton Strnisa &
Hannah W. Hitchcock, *soloists*

Curtis Mayfield
(1942–1999)
arr. Jason Alexander Holmes

It's All Right (from the movie *Soul*)*

Jimmy McHugh
(1894–1969)
text by Dorothy Fields
arr. Ron Caviani

On the Sunny Side of the Street*
Mirabelle Kwok & Caroline Reidhead, *soloists*

*Features Ashton Thomas (Drums) and Tim Keo (Bass)

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The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus with The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Preparatory Chorus

African-American Spiritual
Additional text from "Words Like Freedom"
by Langston Hughes
arr. Rollo Dillworth

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around*

Oscar Peterson
(1925–2007)
text by Larriette Hamilton
arr. Seppo Hovi

Hymn to Freedom*

*Features Ashton Thomas (Drums) and Tim Keo (Bass)

The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Preparatory Chorus

Eloise Ariizumi
Mercer Elementary

Sirius M. Bowers
Stonebrook-White
Montessori

Osiris M. Bowers
Stonebrook-White
Montessori

Luciana Byrne
Baumgardner Middle School

Reese Caldwell
St. Jude School

Makai Davis
Homeschool

Melora Dodge
Homeschool

Amelia Dolan
Lomond Elementary

Jane Geiger
Homeschool

Brooks Ginsburg
Shore Middle School

Terry James Gordy III
Fernway Elementary

Astrid Grissom
Ruffing Montessori

Millie Haffke
Fernway School

Gia Jain
Ledgview Elementary

Olivia Johnson
Menlo Park Academy

Elise Kamath
Orchard Middle School

Mia Knapp
Onaway Elementary

Matilda Krasney
Moreland Hills Elementary

Bea Marquard-Schultz
Acton Academy

Symeon Oetama-Paul
Roxbury Elementary

Hannah M. Park
Homeschool

Elizabeth Pruchenski
St. Paul Lutheran Westlake

Camila Reynolds
St. Anselm School

Kyra Rodenborn
Moreland Hills Elementary

Juniper Schwarz
Ruffing Montessori

Fiona Lois Snook
Greenview Upper
Elementary

Ana Stepanyan
Moreland Hills Elementary

Heera Turakhia
Boulevard Elementary

Neelam Turakhia
Boulevard Elementary

Lilly Ueltschy
Lomond Elementary

Liv Van Lear
Grant Elementary

Jazarah Walker
Ramah Christian Academy

Benjamin Wallace
Grant Elementary

Chelsea Waters
Hathaway Brown

Walter Wingard III
Ruffing Montessori

Angel Victoria Tyler
Children's Choruses Manager

Magen Walzak
Children's Choruses Intern

The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus

Spurthi Adavi
Incarnate Word Academy

Sophie Ariizumi
Shaker Heights Middle
School

Daniel Chiang
University School

Mila Cohen
Hathaway Brown

Madeleine Park Colman
Hathaway Brown

Aliz Fabian
Madison Middle School

Evie Forman
Shaker Heights Middle
School

Katherine Friedman
Homeschool

Christina Gomez
St. Peregrine Academy

Kerri Gompf
St. Mark WestPark

Olivia Marie Gordy
Shaker Heights Middle
School

Julia Hanna
Harding Middle School

Violet Hersh
Hawken School

Zoey Jain
Lee Eaton Intermediate

Todd Jiang
School of Innovation

Inaaya Jiwani
Solon Middle School

Claire Kaschube
Troy Intermediate

Eugene Kim
Mayfield Middle School

Mina Krasney
Ballard Brady Middle School

Mirabelle Kwok
Chagrin Falls Middle School

Krishna Mahangare
Harmon Middle School

Lena Malik
Solon Middle School

Meera Masurekar
Orchard Middle School

Maren McKenzie
Harding Middle School

Nicholas McNally
Menlo Park Academy

Sumaya Musa
Hawken Middle School

Pooja Narayanan
Beachwood Middle School

Chiamanda Nwogbo
Orchard Middle School

Elias Oetama-Paul
Solon Middle School

Ava Payne
Memorial Middle School

Sebastian Perry
University School

Thomas Pettis Larssen
Campus International
School

Skylar Pina
Mayfield Middle School

Caroline Reidhead
Brady Middle School

Corrina Schriver
Solon Middle School

Arielle Simler
Shaker Heights Middle
School

Elisha Getsemani Sosa
William Rainey Harper

Ezbai B. Sosa
William Rainey Harper

Essalynn Stevenson
St. Francis Xavier

Payton Strnisa
Memorial Middle School

Viola Strom
Laurel School

Sherie Sun
Shaker Heights Middle
School

Hannah W. Hitchcock
Notre Dame Middle School

Hamish Waters
University School

Magdalene Whitaker
Incarnate Word Academy

Vey Whitaker
Homeschool

Emma White
Memorial Middle School

Rhea Williams
Shore Middle School

Alice Wilson
Bay Village Middle School

Elena Wingard
Ruffing Montessori

Cecilia Young
St. Francis Xavier

Brina Yuan
Solon Middle School

Angel Victoria Tyler
Children's Choruses Manager

Magen Walzak
Children's Choruses Intern

The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Preparatory Chorus



The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Preparatory Chorus was formed in 2005 by Dr. **Ann Usher**. This training choir focuses on establishing a foundation of vocal technique, musical literacy, and musicianship through quality children's choral literature. By developing musical skills and performing in public, the children acquire poise, increase self-esteem, and establish a solid foundation in vocal production techniques. Members of the Preparatory Chorus strengthen their

vocal production and choral performance skills and learn sight-reading using movable "do" solfège and Kodály/Curwen hand signs. Students also develop leadership skills that will help them strengthen the other choirs in which they participate. The Preparatory Chorus typically gives two performances each season, once in the winter and once in the spring.

The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus



The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus was formed in the spring of 1967 under the direction of **Jane Barker Casey** to provide a high-quality choral group for the many orchestral works written for children's voices, and to offer choral training to school children in the Cleveland area. Their first performance was **Britten's** *Spring Symphony* with **Robert Shaw** conducting. Today, the Children's Chorus performs annually with The Cleveland Orchestra and Cleveland

Orchestra Chorus at Severance Music Center. Recent seasons have also seen performances with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, the Akron Symphony Orchestra, and the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Chorus. Over the decades, their extensive performance history has included such major works as **Bach's** *St. Matthew Passion*, **Humperdinck's** *Hansel and Gretel*, **Britten's** *War Requiem*, **Berlioz's** *Te Deum* and *Damnation of Faust*, **Orff's** *Carmina Burana*, **Mahler's** *Symphony No. 3*, and **John Adams' El Niño**. Each December, the Children's Chorus performs at The Cleveland Orchestra's annual Holiday Concerts. The Chorus also performs regularly at community events and has sung the national anthem for the Cleveland Guardians, Cleveland City Stars, and Cleveland Browns at home games.

Follow Us

 Facebook — www.facebook.com/cleveorchyouthandchildrenschoruses/

 Instagram — [@clevelandorchestracc](https://www.instagram.com/clevelandorchestracc)

 Website — www.cocc.cochorus.com

Jennifer Rozsa

DIRECTOR, THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA CHILDREN'S CHORUSES



Jennifer Rozsa, Director of the Cleveland Orchestra Children's Choruses, is an active conductor and music educator. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from Capital University's Conservatory of Music, specializing in the Kodály philosophy. Her extensive training includes Orff-Schulwerk certifications from the San Francisco International Orff Course and advanced studies at the Kodály Institute in Kecskemét, Hungary. In 2024, she began her doctoral studies in music education at Kent State University.

Her professional background includes conducting positions with the San Francisco Boys Chorus and Peninsula

Girls Chorus, alongside K-8 choir and general music teaching experience in Cleveland, San Francisco, and Chicago. Rozsa is a frequent presenter for NAfME, OAKE, and OMEA, and currently serves as a Repertoire and Resource Chair for the Ohio Choral Directors Association. An accomplished choral singer, she has performed with The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus and San Francisco Symphony Chorus and is currently a member of the Cleveland Chamber Choir.

Jacob Young

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA CHILDREN'S CHORUSES
DIRECTOR, THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA CHILDREN'S PREPARATORY CHORUS



Jacob Young is the Assistant Director of the Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus and Director of the Preparatory Chorus. Jacob has taught music at a variety of schools and levels in Ohio and Kentucky for over a decade including teacher preparation courses at the University of Akron. He has directed choral ensembles from young children through adults and is active as a clinician and presenter. Choirs under his direction have earned Superior and Distinguished ratings at OMEA and Kentucky Music Education Association (KMEA) Adjudicated Events. He enjoys working with developing singers to find their individual voices while promoting music literacy and musicianship in the choral rehearsal.

Jacob holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree and a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from Ohio University and holds memberships in OMEA and ACDA. He studied choral conducting with Dr. **Peter Jarjisian**, **Charles R. Snyder**, and Dr. **Stephen Carraciolo**. He spends his free time with his wife and four children, supporting their music and dance events, and coaching their athletic teams.



Jacob Bernhardt is the collaborative pianist for the Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus, and he has regularly collaborated with all the Cleveland Orchestra Choruses since 2017. He was recently named Principal Keyboard of the Akron Symphony Orchestra. During the 2022–23 season, he made his debut as a soloist with the Asheville Symphony. Jacob is a member of the music theory faculty and collaborative piano staff at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he earned his doctorate and master's degrees studying with **Anita Pontremoli** and **Joela Jones**. He won concerto competitions both at CIM and at Bob Jones University, where he received his bachelor's degree in piano performance. Jacob was also a

two-time prizewinner in CIM's Milhaud Competition. Upon graduating with his master's degree, he received CIM's Rosa Lobe Memorial Award for the highest level of achievement in the collaborative piano department. Apart from his musical pursuits, Jacob enjoys spending time with his wife and their three boys, working out, reading **Agatha Christie**, and participating in the music ministry at his church.

Acknowledgements

Support of The Cleveland Orchestra Youth and Children's Choruses is provided by:

The Wesley Family Foundation

The Edward and Ruth Wilkof Foundation

The Friends of The Cleveland Orchestra

The Musical Arts Association and The Cleveland Orchestra Youth and Children's Choruses would like to thank the following for making this evening's performance possible:

Disciples Christian Church

Teachers, parents, family, and friends

Thank you for your continued support of music education.

Youth and Children's Choruses Events

Debussy Three Nocturnes

Saturday, Aug 22, at 7 PM

Blossom Music Center

Featuring *The Cleveland Orchestra Youth Chorus*

Youth and Children's Choruses Fall Concert

Monday, Nov 9, at 7 PM

Severance Music Center

Holiday Concerts at Severance

December 12, 13, 19 & 20

Severance Music Center

Matinee performances on these concert dates feature The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus

Children's Choruses Spring Concert

Friday, Apr 30, at 7:30 PM

Severance Music Center

Want to sing with us for these concerts?



FIND YOUR VOICE
in The Cleveland Orchestra Choruses

Students in grades 4–12 and adult singers are invited to join our vibrant community of singers.

Auditions/Registration now open for the 26–27 Season



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