

## The Cleveland Orchestra Takes Europe!

You might be surprised to learn that people all around the world know about The Cleveland Orchestra! The Orchestra is famous for its beautiful music and is considered one of the best in the world. One reason so many people know about it is because the Orchestra has spent many years traveling, or touring, both domestically (within the United States) and internationally (around the world).

Tours are a wonderful way to share Cleveland with the world. In fact, many people in other countries know The Cleveland Orchestra even if they don't know much about Cleveland, Ohio. Around the world, the Orchestra is one of our greatest ambassadors, and more well known than the Cleveland Browns, the Cleveland Guardians, and the Cleveland Cavaliers!

When an orchestra goes on tour, it means much more than simply getting on an airplane. A tour is like taking a small city on the road! More than 130 people — including musicians, stage crew, librarians, staff members, and tour managers — travel together. They also bring instruments of all shapes and sizes, sheet music, concert clothes, and other important equipment. All of these people and supplies have to arrive at the right place at the right time, so the concert can begin as planned.

The Cleveland Orchestra's fall 2026 European tour included 15 concerts in 12 cities across Europe. Imagine arriving in a new city, maybe somewhere you've never been. That day you might unpack your things, rehearse your music, and then perform a concert. The next day, you pack up your belongings, board another plane, train, or bus, and start the whole process over again. Touring is so exciting, but it is a very busy schedule to keep!



### TOUR CITIES

Planning a tour like this takes years of preparation. Long before the first concert, people work to book concert halls, reserve hotels, arrange buses and airplanes, plan meals, and safely transport all necessary music equipment. Every detail matters!

Even with careful planning, surprises still happen. Inevitably, someone will get sick and miss a performance. Luggage or cargo sometimes gets delayed, leaving players hoping their clothes or instruments will arrive before the performance. There are many factors that can affect the schedule, but thanks to the Orchestra's tour manager, stage crew, and many others working behind the scenes, more than 130 people and millions of dollars' worth of instruments travel safely from country to country. Their hard work helps The Cleveland Orchestra share its music with audiences around the world.

[Click here](#) to read more about The Cleveland Orchestra's touring history all over the world!

### TOUR BY THE NUMBERS:

- 112** musicians
- 2** conductors
- 10** staff
- 2** doctors
- 5** stagehands
- 24** days / **23** nights
- 15** performances
- 12** cities
- 8** flights
- 20** bus rides
- 2** train rides
- 13,000+** total miles traveled
- 2** types of special permits to bring instruments containing ivory, endangered species/banned materials across international borders
- 124** trunks carrying everything from concert clothes, backstage signs, rolls of blue tape, tools, and more!
- 56** wardrobe trunks
- 9** double bass cases — they are 7½ feet tall!
- 8** trunks for timpani and other percussion instruments
- 1** music library trunk with 12 scores, 732 parts, and more than 6,500 pages of music



# See the Sounds



This is a page of the conductor's music for Symphony No. 9, "From the New World," by composer Antonín Dvořák. It is called a "full score" because it includes all of the musicians' parts. This printed page takes only seconds to perform and shows the notes for every instrument that plays the piece. Music is read from left to right, just like a book, and all notes that line up vertically are being played at the same time!

Notice how the instruments are grouped into their families: woodwinds, brass, percussion, and strings! Click each instrument family name to learn more about the instruments!

## Woodwinds

8 players  
4 instruments



Flutes

Oboes

Clarinet

Bassoons

## Brass

9 players  
3 instruments



Horns

Trumpets

Trombones

## Percussion



Timpani

## Strings

35–60 players  
4 instruments



Violins I

Violins II

Violas

Cellos

Basses

# THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA

FRANZ WELSER-MÖST • MUSIC DIRECTOR

*Kelvin Smith Family Chair*

## FIRST VIOLIN

**Joel Link**  
CONCERTMASTER  
*Blossom-Lee Chair*

**Elizabeth Fayette**  
FIRST ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTER  
*Virginia M. Linsdeth, PhD, Chair*

**Philip Marten**  
ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTER  
*Gretchen D. and Ward Smith Chair*

**Zhan Shu**  
ASSISTANT CONCERTMASTER  
*Clara G. and George P. Bickford Chair*

**Stephen Tavan**  
ASSISTANT CONCERTMASTER  
*Dr. Ronald H. Krasney Chair*

**Wei-Fang Gu**  
*Drs. Paul M. and Renate H. Duchesneau Chair*

**Kim Gomez**  
*Elizabeth and Leslie Kondorossy Chair*

**Chul-In Park**  
*Harriet T. and David L. Simon Chair*

**Miho Hashizume**  
*Theodore Rautenberg Chair*

**Jeanne Preucil Rose**  
*Larry J.B. and Barbara S. Robinson Chair*

**Alicia Koelz**  
*Oswald and Phyllis Lerner Gilroy Chair*

**Yu Yuan**  
*Patty and John Collinson Chair*

**Isabel Trautwein**  
*Trevor and Jennie Jones Chair*

**Katherine Bormann**  
*Paul and Lucille Jones Chair*

**Analise Handke**  
*Gladys B. Goetz Chair*

**Genevieve Smelser**

## SECOND VIOLIN

**Stephen Rose**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Alfred M. and Clara T. Rankin Chair*

**Eli Matthews**  
FIRST ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Patricia M. Kozerefski and Richard J. Bogomolny Chair*

**Jason Yu**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*James and Donna Reid Chair*

**Sonja Braaten Molloy**

**Carolyn Gadiel Warner**

**Elayna Duitman**

**Ioana Missits**

**Jeffrey Zehngut\***

**Kathleen Collins**

**Beth Woodside**

**Emma Shook**  
*Dr. Jeanette Grasselli Brown and Dr. Glenn R. Brown Chair*

**Yun-Ting Lee**  
*Deborah L. Neale Chair*

**Jiah Chapdelaine**

**Liyuan Xie**

**Gawon Kim**

**Dustin Wilkes-Kim**

## VIOLA

**Wesley Collins**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Chaillé H. and Richard B. Tullis Chair*

**Gareth Zehngut\***  
FIRST ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Charles M. and Janet G. Kimball Chair*

**Stanley Konopka**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**Lisa Boyko**  
*Richard and Nancy Sneed Chair*

**Lembi Veskimets**  
*The Morgan Sisters Chair*

**Eliesha Nelson\***  
*Anthony and Diane Wynshaw-Boris Chair*

**William Bender**  
*Thomas Lauria and Christopher Lauria Chair*

**Sean Juhl**

**Gabriel Napoli\***

## CELLOS

**Mark Kosower**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Louis D. Beaumont Chair*

**Richard Weiss**  
FIRST ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*The GAR Foundation Chair*

**Charles Bernard**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Helen Weil Ross Chair*

**Bryan Dumm**  
*Muriel and Noah Butkin Chair*

**Tanya Ell**  
*Thomas J. and Judith Fay Gruber Chair*

**Ralph Curry**

**Brian Thornton**  
*William P. Blair III Chair*

**David Alan Harrell**

**Martha Baldwin**

**Dane Johansen**  
*Marguerite and James Rigby Chair*

**Paul Kushious**

## BASS

**Maximilian Dimoff**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Clarence T. Reinberger Chair*

**Charles Paul**  
FIRST ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Mary E. and F. Joseph Callahan Chair*

**Derek Zadinsky**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**Mark Atherton**

**Thomas Sperl**

**Henry Peyrebrune**  
*Charles Barr Memorial Chair*

**Charles Carleton**

**Scott Dixon**

**Brandon Mason**

## FLUTE

**Joshua Smith**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Elizabeth M. and William C. Treuhaft Chair*

**Saeran St. Christopher**

**Jessica Sindell\***  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Austin B. and Ellen W. Chinn Chair*

**Mary Kay Fink**

## OBOE

**Frank Rosenwein**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Edith S. Taplin Chair*

**Corbin Stair**  
*Sharon and Yoash Wiener Chair*

**Jeffrey Rathbun**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Everett D. and Eugenia S. McCurdy Chair*

**Robert Walters**

## CLARINET

**Afendi Yusuf**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Robert Marcellus Chair*

**Robert Woolfrey**  
*Victoire G. and Alfred M. Rankin, Jr. Chair*

**Daniel McKelway**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Robert R. and Vilma L. Kohn Chair*

**Amy Zoloto**

## BASSOON

**John Clouser**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Louise Harkness Ingalls Chair*

**Gareth Thomas**

**Catherine Van Handel**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Sandra L. Haslinger Chair*

## HORN

**Nathaniel Silberschlag**  
PRINCIPAL  
*George Szell Memorial Chair*

**Michael Mayhew**  
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL  
*Knight Foundation Chair*

## Jesse McCormick-Stepp

*Robert B. Benyo Chair*

**Hans Clebsch**

**Richard King**

**Meghan Guegold Hege\***  
*Gay Cull Addicott and Robert R. Cull Chair*

## TRUMPET

**Michael Sachs**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Robert and Eunice Podis Weiskopf Chair*

**Jack Sutte**

**Lyle Steelman\***  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*James P. and Dolores D. Storer Chair*

**Michael Miller**

## TROMBONE

**Brian Wendel**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Gilbert W. and Louise I. Humphrey Chair*

**Richard Stout**

**Shachar Israel**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**Luke Sieve**

## TUBA

**Yasuhito Sugiyama**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Nathalie C. Spence and Nathalie S. Boswell Chair*

## TIMPANI

**Peter Nichols**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
*Mr. and Mrs. Richard K. Smucker Chair*

## PERCUSSION

**Marc Damoulakis**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Margaret Allen Ireland Chair*

**Thomas Sherwood**

**Tanner Tanyeri**

**Peter Nichols**

## HARP

**Trina Struble**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Alice Chalifoux Chair*

## KEYBOARD

**Carolyn Gadiel Warner**  
*Marjory and Marc L. Swartzbaugh Chair*

## LIBRARIAN

**Michael Ferraguto**  
PRINCIPAL  
*Joe and Marlene Toot Chair*

## ENDOWED CHAIR CURRENTLY UNOCCUPIED

*Jean Wall Bennett Chair*  
Sunshine Chair

*Otto G. and Corinne T. Voss Chair*  
Rudolf Serkin Chair

## CONDUCTORS

**Taichi Fukumura**  
ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR  
*Elizabeth Ring and William Gwinn Mather Chair*

**James Feddeck**  
PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR & MUSICAL ADVISOR OF THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
*Sidney and Doris Dworkin Chair*

**Lisa Wong**  
DIRECTOR OF CHORUSES  
*Frances P. and Chester C. Bolton Chair*

\* Alum of The Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra

*Listing as of September 16, 2026. This roster lists full-time members of The Cleveland Orchestra. The number and seating of musicians on stage varies depending on the piece being performed. Seating within the string sections rotates on a periodic basis.*

## ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR



### Taichi Fukumura Assistant Conductor

**BIRTHPLACE:** Tokyo, Japan

**FAMILY MEMBERS:** My wife and I welcomed a new baby last fall, and we also have a cat called Miya.

**MUSICAL PATH:** I started playing violin at age 3. Music helped me find my voice, literally. I struggled with selective mutism when I was 5 — I could talk before, but suddenly stopped talking at school for over a year! My teachers and parents believed in me and organized my first violin performance for my classmates. This changed everything. I was able to gradually find my voice again, and music became a major part of my identity.

I went on to play in youth orchestra, and became fascinated with conducting. I founded and conducted my own orchestra in high school with a group of friends.

**EDUCATION:** Boston University violin major; Northwestern University, Masters and then Doctorate degrees in conducting.

**FAVORITE CONDUCTING MOMENT (SO FAR!):** Coming back from the pandemic for the first time was unforgettable. I conducted Beethoven 5 in Paris, and it was amazing to make music together with other people again.

**FAVORITE PIECE:** Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, among many others.

**FAVORITE FOOD:** Italian food!

**HOBBIES:** Board games with friends. We try to do it once a week.



# MUSICAL STORYTELLING



Taichi Fukumura



Nicole Sumlin

**NOV 11–13, 2026**

10 AM & 12 PM

The Cleveland Orchestra  
Taichi Fukumura, *conductor*  
Nicole Sumlin, *narrator*

LISTEN  
TO THE  
PLAYLIST



**Musical Storytelling** explores how composers use the orchestra to bring stories to life without words. Using the familiar tale of *Cinderella* as a guide, students will discover how melody, rhythm, tempo, and orchestral color can create characters, settings, and emotions. From the sparkling magic of Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite* and Jessie Montgomery's *Starburst* to the ticking urgency of Haydn's "Clock" Symphony, the elegance of Dvořák's Symphony No. 8, the midnight chaos of Saint-Saëns' *Danse macabre*, and the romance of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5, each piece becomes a chapter in Cinderella's journey. Framed by Rossini's Overture to *La Cenerentola* and ending with the joyful celebration of Smetana's Polka from *The Bartered Bride*, this concert invites students to use their imaginations while discovering the power of music as a storytelling tool.

**ROSSINI**

**RAVEL**

**JESSIE MONTGOMERY**

**HAYDN**

**DVOŘÁK**

**SAINT-SAËNS**

**TCHAIKOVSKY**

**SMETANA**

Overture to *Cinderella*

The Fairy Garden from *Mother Goose Suite*

*Starburst*

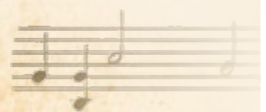
Andante from Symphony No. 101, "The Clock"

Allegretto grazioso from Symphony No. 8

*Danse macabre*

Andante cantabile from Symphony No. 5

Polka from *The Bartered Bride*



# All About the Music



## Gioachino Rossini (1792–1868)

Gioachino Rossini was an Italian composer best known for his lively and entertaining operas. As a child, he sang, played music, and traveled with his parents, who were both musicians. At age 24, he wrote *The Barber of Seville*, one of the most famous operas ever composed. Rossini's music is filled with energy, humor, and memorable melodies, and his fast-growing musical buildups became known as the "Rossini Crescendo."

In this performance, you will hear the overture from Rossini's opera *Cinderella*.

### LISTEN FOR

- A quiet opening that quickly grows more exciting
- Fast-moving melodies that seem to race from one instrument to another
- Sudden changes in volume and energy
- The famous "Rossini crescendo," where the music repeats and gradually gets louder
- Playful, dramatic sounds that help tell the story of an opera without using any words

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Unlike the fairy tale, Rossini's version of the Cinderella story does not include a fairy godmother or a glass slipper.
- An overture is an opening piece that introduces the energy and spirit of a show.

## Maurice Ravel (1875–1937)

Maurice Ravel was a French composer, pianist, and conductor. He grew up in a family that loved music and encouraged him to learn. Ravel began taking piano lessons when he was 7 years old and started writing his own music when he was 12.

He studied at the Paris Conservatory, a famous music school in France. Even though he was not the best student at first, he worked carefully and thoughtfully on his music and became one of the most well known impressionist-era composers.

Ravel's ***Mother Goose Suite*** is a great example of music that tells a story without words.

### LISTEN FOR

- Bright, exciting music that sounds like a big celebration
- Music that grows from mysterious and quiet to joyful and powerful
- Shimmering sounds from the orchestra that create a magical feeling
- Different instrument groups taking turns telling parts of the story
- A triumphant ending that sounds like a happy-ever-after

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- This movement is called The Fairy Garden, the final movement of Ravel's *Mother Goose*.
- Ravel based the suite on famous fairy tales and wrote it with children in mind.
- In this movement, Sleeping Beauty awakens after a long sleep and enters a magical garden.





## Jessie Montgomery (b. 1981)

Jessie Montgomery is an American composer, violinist, and teacher. Growing up in New York City, she was inspired by the many cultures, sounds, and stories around her. Her music blends classical, jazz, folk, and popular styles. Montgomery also composed the music for *Because*, a children's book by Mo Willems that became a narrated orchestra piece about how music can change a person's life.

Montgomery's ***Starburst*** is an exciting piece full of movement and energy.

### LISTEN FOR

- Violins, violas, cellos, and basses creating fast, sparkling sounds
- Short musical ideas that seem to shoot across the orchestra like rays of light
- Players plucking their strings (pizzicato) as well as using their bows (arco)
- Sudden changes in volume and energy to create the feeling of motion

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Jessie Montgomery wrote *Starburst* in 2012 for string orchestra.
- The composer imagined a sudden burst of energy inspired by the shape and motion of a starburst.
- Using only string instruments, Montgomery creates a wide range of sounds, from whisper-soft textures to powerful musical explosions.

## Franz Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Franz Joseph Haydn was a famous Austrian composer from the Classical period. He was sent to Vienna to attend choir school when he was 7 years old, and began composing music when he was a teenager. Haydn grew up to become a successful composer and conductor, writing music and leading performances for a royal family. Often called the “Father of the Symphony,” Haydn was very influential to composers around the world. During his lifetime, he wrote a large amount of music, including 106 symphonies, 68 string quartets, 47 piano sonatas, and more.

Haydn's “**Clock**” **Symphony** uses different musical sound effects to create the illusion of a clock ticking.

### LISTEN FOR

- Bassoon and pizzicato strings creating a “tick-tock” rhythm to make a clock-like beat.
- A graceful melody that seems to float above the ticking accompaniment
- Sudden, loud surprises that interrupt the calm mood
- Different sections of the orchestra taking turns with the main melody

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Haydn was famous for adding humor and surprises to his music, and this movement includes several unexpected moments.
- Even though it sounds simple at first, Haydn cleverly changes the melody and accompaniment throughout the movement to keep listeners engaged.





## Antonín Dvořák

(1841–1904)

Antonín Dvořák was a famous composer from what is now the Czech Republic who mixed folk music with classical music. His music is lively and full of melodies inspired by the traditional songs and dances of his country. Dvořák became known around the world for writing music that was powerful and full of emotion. He was also a respected teacher who mentored many young musicians.

Dvořák's **Symphony No. 8** highlights his love of folk music through a dance-like melody.

### LISTEN FOR

- Violins playing a singing tune over a gentle accompaniment
- Woodwinds adding colorful answers to the melody
- Changes between calm, flowing music and brighter, more energetic sections
- A lively ending that brings back the spirit of a village celebration

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- The third movement of Dvořák's Symphony No. 8 is not a minuet or scherzo like many symphony movements. Instead, it is a beautiful dance inspired by the waltz.
- Its mix of elegance, energy, and folk-inspired character makes it one of the most beloved movements in the symphony.

## Camille Saint-Saëns

(1835–1921)

Camille Saint-Saëns was a prominent French composer, conductor, and pianist of the Romantic period. He was known as a child prodigy, demonstrating extreme musical talent at a very young age. Saint-Saëns wrote nearly every type of music, and many of his works remain extremely popular today, including *The Carnival of the Animals* and *Danse macabre*.

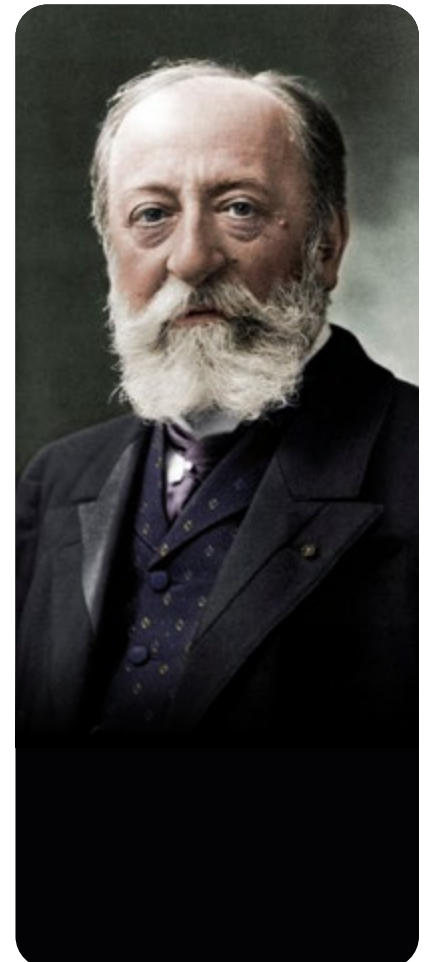
Often played during Halloween, Saint-Saëns's ***Danse macabre*** tells a spooky story using unique special effects on the string instruments.

### LISTEN FOR

- The solo violin playing the role of Death, with eerie and twisting melodies
- The harp striking twelve notes at the beginning to represent midnight
- Xylophone sounds that suggest rattling skeleton bones
- The oboe's rooster call near the end, signaling that morning has arrived

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- *Danse macabre*, or "Dance of Death," is based on an old legend about skeletons rising from their graves at midnight to dance.
- Saint-Saëns uses different instruments to tell the story, almost like characters in a play.
- When the rooster crows at dawn, the spell is broken and the skeletons return to their graves.





## Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky is a beloved Russian composer who began his musical studies at the age of 5. His skills as a composer were incredible, inspiring other Russian composers for many years. While Tchaikovsky is very famous for his many ballets, such as the *Nutcracker*, he also composed symphonies, operas, and concertos that continue to be performed by orchestras around the world.

Tchaikovsky's **Symphony No. 5** is a deeply expressive part of our Musical Storytelling journey.

### LISTEN FOR

- The horn sets a calm and reflective mood with a solo section
- Warm string melodies that sound thoughtful and emotional
- Woodwinds echoing and answering the main themes
- Music that grows from quiet and gentle to powerful and dramatic

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Tchaikovsky was known for writing music filled with strong emotions, and this movement explores feelings of hope, longing, and determination.
- Throughout the symphony, a special theme returns again and again, connecting the different movements.
- The music moves through many moods, from peaceful moments to exciting climaxes, before ending quietly.

## Bedřich Smetana (1822–1884)

Bedřich Smetana was a Czech composer who helped create a musical voice for his homeland. He loved sharing the stories, landscapes, and traditions of the Czech people through music. His most famous work, *Má vlast* ("My Homeland"), includes *The Moldau*, a piece that follows the journey of a river as it flows through the countryside. Even after losing his hearing later in life, Smetana continued to compose.

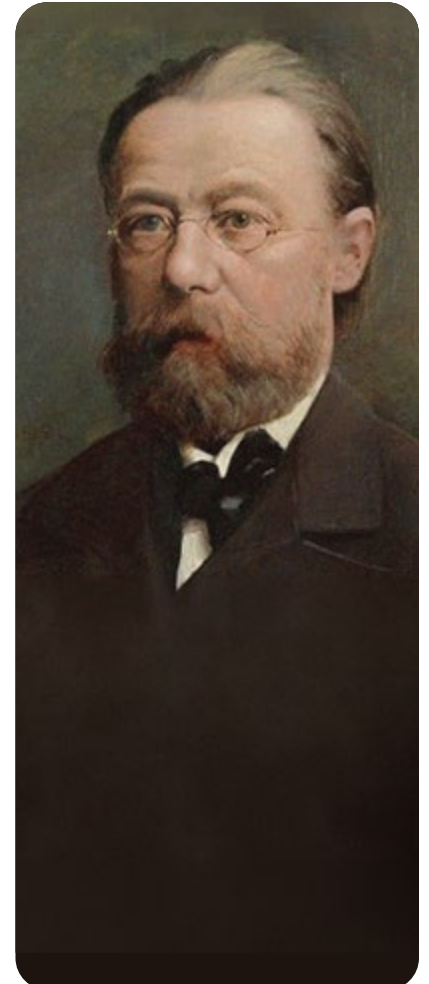
**The Polka from *The Bartered Bride*** ends the performance with excitement and movement.

### LISTEN FOR

- A lively dance rhythm that makes you want to tap your feet
- Bright sounds from the woodwinds and brass
- Strings playing fast, energetic passages
- Strong accents that help drive the dance forward
- Changes between playful melodies and powerful full-orchestra moments

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

- This polka comes from Smetana's opera *The Bartered Bride*, a comic story set in a Czech village.
- A polka is a fast, cheerful dance that began in Central Europe and became very popular in the 1800s.
- The music captures the excitement of a village festival, with dancers, musicians, and townspeople joining in the celebration.



# Listening Toolbox

There's so much to discover when you listen closely!

Use these listening tools to explore, describe, and share what you notice in the music.

## DYNAMICS *How loud or soft is it?*

Dynamics are the volume of the music. Music can be anywhere from very quiet to very loud! Changing dynamics create exciting and interesting moments in a piece of music.

(very quiet) **pianissimo** — **piano** — **mezzo piano** — **mezzo forte** — **forte** — **fortissimo** (very loud)

*pp p mp mf f ff*

## TEMPO *How fast or slow is the beat?*

Tempo is the speed of the music. Like dynamics, the tempo can change throughout a single piece. Listen for how the tempo affects the energy of each musical example.

We measure tempo in **beats per minute** or **bpm**. If you clap along to the second hand on a clock, that would be 60 beats per minute.

**ADAGIO** (66–76 bpm) — **ANDANTE** (76–108 bpm) — **MODERATO** (108–120 bpm) — **ALLEGRO** (120–168 bpm)



## INSTRUMENTATION *What instruments are making the music?*

An orchestra includes so many different instruments and each one has its own personality. As you listen and watch the stage, see if you can identify which instruments or instrument families are featured throughout the performance.

### STRINGS



### BRASS



### WOODWINDS



### PERCUSSION



## MOOD *How does the music feel?*

All of these elements combine to create a mood — the emotion we feel when listening to music. Moods can shift and change, and they allow us to express so many emotions throughout a concert.

**Mood Word Bank:** peaceful, exciting, mysterious, playful, tense, powerful, spooky, sad, happy, gentle



## IMAGERY *What does the music make you imagine?*

From rattling skeleton bones to heroic celebrations, composers use instruments to represent specific characters and sounds. Listen for these moments as you imagine the story unfolding.



# Severance Music Center

## *Cleveland's Giant Jewel Box*

Severance Hall opened in 1931 as the home of The Cleveland Orchestra. John Long Severance and his wife, Elisabeth, pledged \$1 million to build this beautiful hall. Elisabeth passed away unexpectedly during the project, so Mr. Severance decided the hall would be a tribute to his late wife. Designed by Cleveland's top architects, Walker & Weeks, the hall was completed after 14 months of construction and has been named a historic building. When visiting Severance Music Center, you can't miss the tall, white columns lining the front entrance. The exterior of Severance is made of Indiana limestone and Ohio sandstone, designed to complement the Cleveland Museum of Art just across the street. Intricate carvings and large windows add to its beauty, making the front entrance elegant and grand.

### Spot it at Severance!

#### Lotus Blossoms

Supposedly the favorite flower of Elisabeth Severance, the lotus blossom has been incorporated in design details everywhere: inlays in the floor, light fixtures, woodwork, and more! *How many can you spot during your visit?*



#### Musical Murals

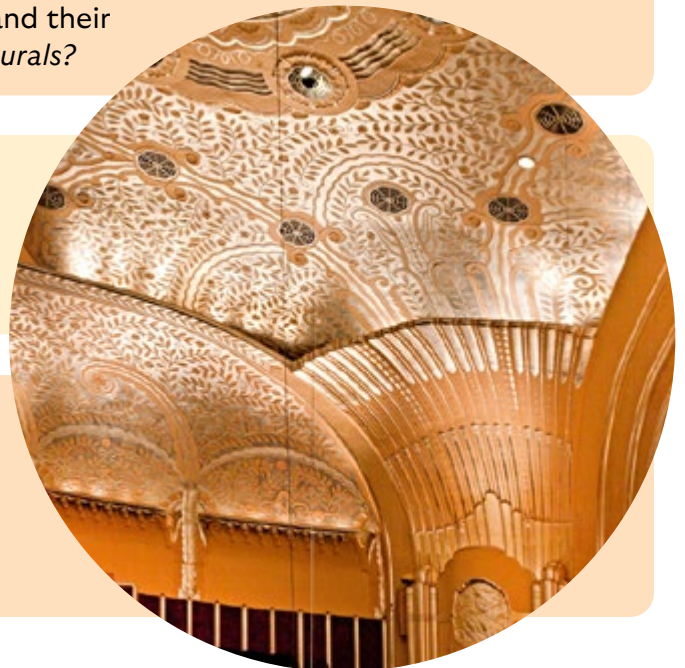
Circling the Grand Foyer, you will see 14 murals painted by Cleveland artist Elsa Vick Shaw. The murals depict different cultures and their instruments. *Can you identify any of the instruments in the murals?*

#### Red Jasper Columns

The Grand Foyer is full of bronze, brass, and marble details — including 24 red jasper marble columns. These massive figures were imported all the way from Italy!

#### Lace Details

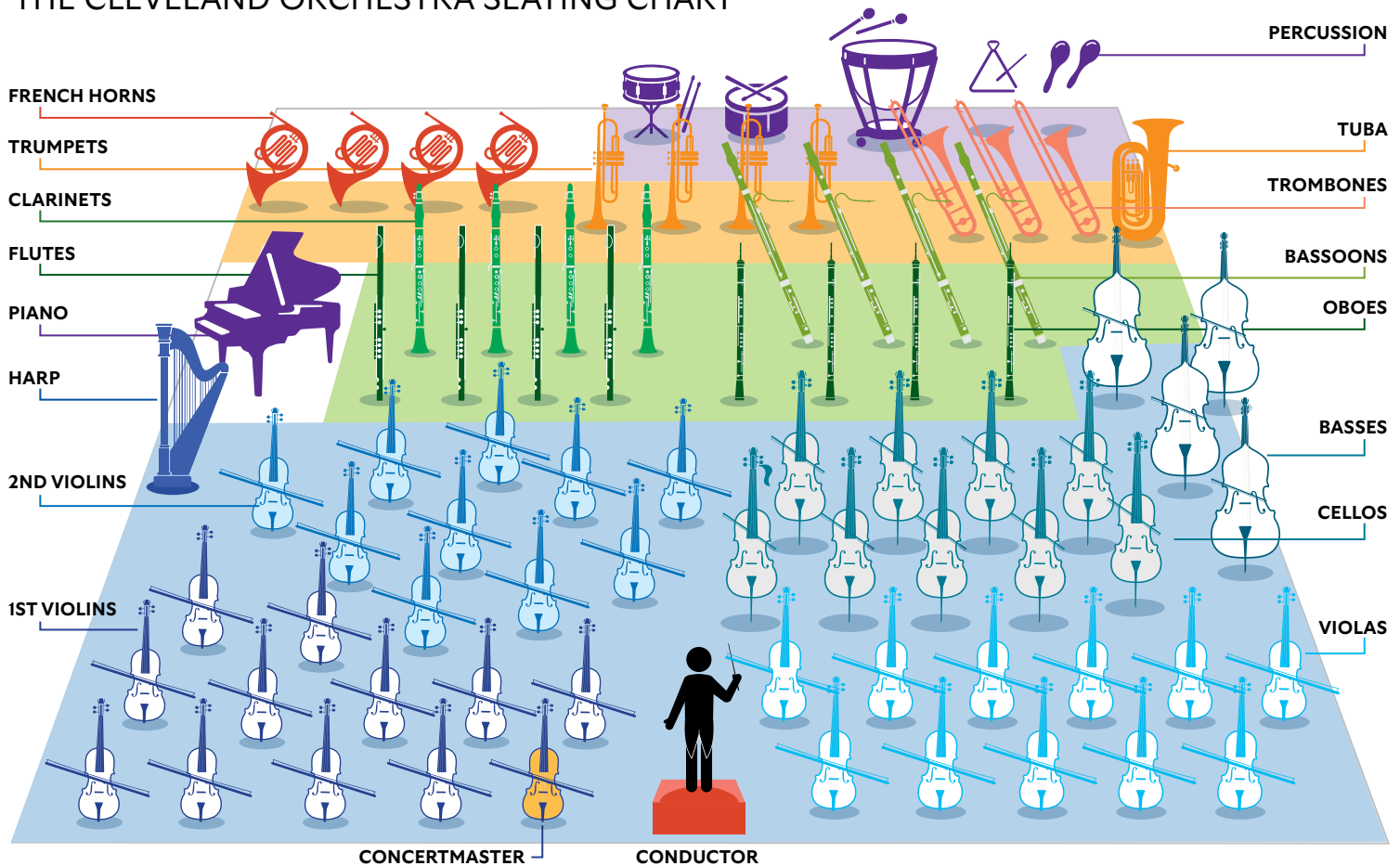
The ceiling of Mandel Concert Hall is decorated with aluminum leaf in a lace pattern inspired by Elisabeth Severance's wedding gown. *You might see a few more lotus blossoms as you look up at the beautiful ceiling design as well.*



# Know Before You Go

Before your Nord Education Concert with The Cleveland Orchestra, get to know the orchestra! Explore the instruments you'll hear, learn how they're grouped into instrument families, and see where each family sits on stage.

## THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA SEATING CHART



Strings

Woodwinds

Brass

Percussion

## BE A GREAT AUDIENCE MEMBER!

- **Keep electronics put away** — Phones, smart watches, and other devices should be silenced and out of sight so they don't distract others.
- **Listen carefully** — Stay quiet while the music is being played so everyone can hear every note.
- **Save your applause** — Clap when a piece is finished or when the conductor lowers their arms and turns to face the audience.
- **Stay in your seat** — Unless there's an emergency, remain seated until the concert is over.
- **Watch the conductor** — Notice how the conductor leads the orchestra and helps the musicians play together.
- **Enjoy the experience!** — Watch, listen, and let the music spark your imagination. Every concert has something new to discover.



A live concert is an exciting experience — and you're part of it! By listening carefully and showing respect for the musicians and other concertgoers, you'll help make the performance special for everyone.

# Get Involved!

Cleveland Orchestra Youth Ensembles give young musicians exciting opportunities to grow, perform, and make music with other dedicated students from across Northeast Ohio. Whether you dream of performing on stage or simply enjoy hearing talented musicians your own age, youth ensemble concerts are a fun way to experience the next generation of musical talent.

All youth ensemble performances are free of charge. Reserve your free tickets at [clevelandorchestra.com](https://clevelandorchestra.com)!



## THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA

### YOUTH ORCHESTRA

The **2026–27 season** marks the **40th anniversary of The Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra (COYO)**. For four decades, COYO has provided talented middle and high school musicians with an opportunity to grow as performers through challenging repertoire, professional mentorship, and meaningful ensemble experiences. This season, COYO will present three concerts at **Severance Music Center** on **November 20, 2026, February 28, 2027, and May 8, 2027**. In honor of the 40th anniversary, tickets to all COYO concerts are **FREE!**

The Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra offers a unique pre-professional experience for dedicated young musicians. Members rehearse weekly, perform in Severance Music Center, are led by a member of The Cleveland Orchestra's conducting staff, and receive sectional coaching from Cleveland Orchestra musicians. In addition to developing their musical skills, students gain valuable experience working in a high-level orchestral setting.

Membership is by competitive audition each spring. For audition information, call **216-456-8410** or visit [clevelandorchestrayouthorchestra.com](https://clevelandorchestrayouthorchestra.com).

As COYO celebrates its 40th season, we invite students, teachers, families, and community members to join us in recognizing the dedication and accomplishments of these young musicians. [See COYO from the inside — go behind the scenes and hear from students about their experience!](#)

## THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA

### YOUTH CHORUS

For over 30 years, directors of The Cleveland Orchestra Youth Chorus have provided choral training of the highest caliber to northeast Ohio high school students. Choral singers in grades 9–12 are chosen through audition, and members represent over 40 schools and communities from across the region. The Chorus is **tuition-free**.

On average, the Youth Chorus presents five concerts each season and collaborates with other musical ensembles such as The Cleveland Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, and The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus. In addition to performances at Severance and Blossom music centers, their activities include concerts and community engagement programs throughout the greater Cleveland area, as well as workshops and masterclass opportunities with highly regarded choral directors and clinicians. For information, please contact the Chorus Office at [chorus@clevelandorchestra.com](mailto:chorus@clevelandorchestra.com) or visit [coyc.cochorus.com](https://coyc.cochorus.com). [Click here to learn more about COYC from the directors and students involved!](#)

## THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA

### CHILDREN'S CHORUSES

The **Cleveland Orchestra Children's Preparatory Chorus** is open to students in grades 4–6 through registration. There is no audition required to participate in the Preparatory Chorus. The Preparatory Chorus collaborates with the Children's Chorus on two to three independent community concerts each season.

The **Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus** is open to students in grades 6–8 through audition and application. The Children's Chorus, founded in 1967, performs with The Cleveland Orchestra and Chorus throughout the subscription and holiday season.

The Cleveland Orchestra Children's Choruses are **tuition-free**. Members in both groups build a foundation of skills in leadership, vocal production, and musicianship, through weekly rehearsals and regular performance opportunities. For more information about the Children's Choruses, please contact the Chorus Office at [chorus@clevelandorchestra.com](mailto:chorus@clevelandorchestra.com) or visit [cocc.cochorus.com](https://cocc.cochorus.com). [Click here to learn more about joining the Children's Choruses!](#)

# Family Concerts



This popular series, designed for young people ages 7 and up, is a perfect introduction to live orchestral music by one of the world's top orchestras. The 26–27 Family Series is sponsored by Anne H. Jenkins and Tom H. Jenkins. Family Concerts qualify for our “Under 18s Free” program to encourage families to attend Cleveland Orchestra concerts together.

## HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

**OCT 25, 2026** | SUN 1 PM  
(Sensory-Friendly Performance\*)

**OCT 25, 2026** | SUN 4 PM

*Please note: This concert will be presented by the Baldwin Wallace Symphony Orchestra.*



Celebrate Halloween with a spine-tingling family concert featuring dancing skeletons, witches, trolls, and galactic villains in thrilling favorites by Mussorgsky, Saint-Saëns, Berlioz, Grieg, John Williams, Disney, and a brand-new Halloween-inspired work by Cleveland composer Clint Needham.

*Halloween Spooktacular is sponsored by The Meisel & Pesses Family Foundation.*

## THE SNOWMAN

**JAN 10, 2027** | SUN 3 PM

Bundle up for a heartwarming musical adventure the whole family will enjoy featuring the classic animated film, *The Snowman*, with live orchestral accompaniment, plus works by Sibelius and Jessie Montgomery.



## THE MAGICAL WORLD OF MUSIC

**APR 9, 2027** | FRI 7:30 PM

**APR 10, 2027** | SAT 11 AM  
(Sensory-Friendly Performance\*)



Step into the Magical World of Music and discover enchanted creatures, soaring adventures, and spellbinding melodies in a family concert featuring favorites from *Harry Potter*, *The Nutcracker*, *Carnival of the Animals*, *The Firebird*, and more.

**Free pre-concert activities begin one hour before concert time.**



*Concerts are subject to change.*

*\*Sensory-Friendly Concerts support a welcoming and inclusive experience for people of any age with autism spectrum disorder or sensory sensitivity, as well as anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed concert environment. The Sensory-Friendly Concert is presented in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and is generously sponsored by an anonymous donor.*

# Thank You, Supporters!

The Cleveland Orchestra's 2026–27 Nord Education Concerts are made possible with major support provided by the **Jane B. and Eric T. Nord Education Fund**.

Tickets are free for all schools attending **Nord Education Concerts** with support from the **Jane B. Nord Concert Access Fund, established in 2019**.

We also thank the following donors for their dedicated support of Cleveland Orchestra Education Programs:

## Education

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## Education Funders

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\* In memoriam



In addition to the funders listed above, donors to The Cleveland Orchestra Annual Fund provide support for Education and Community programming. We thank all of these supporters for connecting young people across our city and region to the Orchestra, sparking a lifelong joy of classical music.

Learn more and make your gift for music education at [clevelandorchestra.com/give](http://clevelandorchestra.com/give).

List as of August 2026