

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

Clarinets

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

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Blossom-Lee Chair

Elizabeth Fayette
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Jiah Chapdelaine

Liyuan Xie

Gawon Kim

Dustin Wilkes-Kim

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Charles Carleton

Scott Dixon

Brandon Mason

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Saeran St. Christopher

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Afendi Yusuf
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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

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PRINCIPAL
Robert and Eunice Podis Weiskopf Chair

Jack Sutte

Lyle Steelman*
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Michael Miller

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PRINCIPAL
Gilbert W. and Louise I. Humphrey Chair

Richard Stout

Shachar Israel
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Luke Sieve

TUBA

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

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Thomas Sherwood

Tanner Tanyeri

Peter Nichols

HARP

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* 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.



Taichi Fukumura



Nicole Sumlin

APR 6–9, 2027

10 AM & 12 PM

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

LISTEN
TO THE
PLAYLIST



Spirit of America celebrates the rich diversity of people, cultures, and traditions that have shaped the American experience through music. From *The Star-Spangled Banner* and Dvořák's "New World" Symphony to works by Aaron Copland, Margaret Bonds, Duke Ellington, and Gabriela Lena Frank, students will explore how composers have drawn inspiration from the nation's history, communities, and evolving identity. The program concludes with the exuberance of Bernstein's *Candide* and the cinematic triumph of John Williams's *Star Wars*, demonstrating how American music continues to inspire audiences through concert halls, theaters, and film. Together, these works reveal a nation whose story is told through a vibrant tapestry of musical voices.

SMITH

DVOŘÁK

COPLAND

BLOCH

BONDS

ELLINGTON

GABRIELA LENA FRANK

BERNSTEIN

JOHN WILLIAMS

The Star-Spangled Banner

Allegro molto from Symphony No. 9, "From the New World"

Variations on a Shaker Melody from *Appalachian Spring*

Prelude from Concerto Grosso No. 1

Benediction from *Montgomery Variations*

Giggling Rapids from *The River Suite*

The Mestizo Waltz from *Three Latin American Dances*

Overture to *Candide*

Throne Room and Finale from *Star Wars: A New Hope*

All About the Music



John Stafford Smith (1750–1836)

John Stafford Smith was an English composer and music teacher. He wrote the melody for a popular song called “To Anacreon in Heaven.” More than 100 years later, that same tune became *The Star-Spangled Banner*, the national anthem of the United States. Because of this, millions of people have heard his music without even knowing his name.

Probably the most well-known piece on this concert, ***The Star-Spangled Banner*** is played at all sorts of venues, including sporting events!

LISTEN FOR

- A bold melody that many people know by heart
- Brass instruments helping create a proud and ceremonial sound
- The full orchestra joining together on important moments in the music

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- In 1814, Francis Scott Key wrote the words after watching a battle during the War of 1812.
- The song celebrates the American flag and the country’s resilience during a difficult time.
- In 1931, *The Star-Spangled Banner* was officially named the national anthem of the United States.

Antonín Dvořák (1841–1904)

Antonín Dvořák was a famous composer from the Czech Republic who mixed the folk music of his homeland with classical music. His compositions are vibrant and full of rich melodies inspired by the traditional dances and songs of Bohemia, giving his music a distinct and lively character. Dvořák became known worldwide for creating music that was both deeply emotional and connected to his country’s traditions. In addition to his work as a composer, he was a respected teacher who mentored many young musicians. Dvořák is one of the most celebrated composers of the 19th century, and his music is still performed all around the world.

Dvořák’s Symphony No. 9, “From the New World” remains one of the most famous symphonies ever written.

LISTEN FOR

- The horn introducing an important theme near the beginning
- Powerful brass fanfares and dramatic full-orchestra moments
- Flutes, clarinets, and other woodwinds playing song-like melodies
- Rhythms and musical ideas inspired by the sounds Dvořák heard in America
- Music that shifts between quiet, mysterious passages and exciting bursts of energy

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Dvořák wrote his Symphony No. 9 while living in the United States, fascinated by America’s landscapes, cultures, and musical traditions.
- The first movement introduces many of the themes and ideas that return throughout the symphony.





Aaron Copland

(1900–1990)

Aaron Copland is one of the most popular American composers of classical music. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, and was the youngest of five children. Copland began writing songs when he was 8½ years old. After finishing high school, he traveled to Paris, France, to study composition with a famous teacher named Nadia Boulanger. She helped him to create his musical style. Copland is known for writing music with a very “American” sound, with ballets that often tell stories about the Wild West. He also wrote music for Hollywood movies.

Variations on a Shaker Melody is a great example of how American folk music has influenced classical composers.

LISTEN FOR

- A simple melody called “**Simple Gifts**” that returns in different ways
- Woodwinds, strings, and brass each taking turns playing the tune
- Changes in speed, volume, and orchestration as the melody is transformed
- Moments when the full orchestra plays the melody in a grand and powerful way

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Variations on a Shaker Melody is based on “Simple Gifts,” a song written by the Shakers, a religious community known for living simple lives.
- Aaron Copland first used the melody in his ballet *Appalachian Spring*.
- In this piece, Copland presents the main melody and then changes it in different ways, creating a set of musical variations.

Ernest Bloch

(1880–1959)

Ernest Bloch was a Swiss American composer who loved telling stories through music. He was born in Switzerland and later moved to the United States. Bloch held several teaching positions throughout his time in the United States, and was the first musical director of the Cleveland Institute of Music when it opened in 1920. Influenced by his strong religious upbringing, many of Bloch’s pieces were inspired by Jewish history and traditions.

Concerto Grosso No.1

was composed in the “neoclassical” style, combining traditional composing techniques with more modern ideas.

LISTEN FOR

- A conversation between the piano and the string orchestra
- Fast scales and sparkling passages in the piano part
- Contrasts between loud, dramatic sections and quieter moments
- Different musical ideas being passed from one group of instruments to another

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Bloch wrote Concerto Grosso No. 1 in 1925 for students at the Cleveland Institute of Music.
- A **concerto grosso** is a piece that features a small group of players performing against a larger ensemble.
- In this movement, the piano often takes a leading role, but the strings are equally important partners in the musical conversation.





Margaret Bonds

(1913–1972)

Margaret Bonds was an American composer and pianist. She loved using music to tell stories and share hope. Her music was inspired by spirituals, poems, and the fight for civil rights. The first African American woman to perform with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Bonds helped bring Black voices and experiences into classical music. Her work in music extended to composing music for film, theater, and ballet.

Margaret Bonds's **Benediction** is inspired by a visit to Montgomery, Alabama in 1963 during the Civil Rights movement.

LISTEN FOR

- A calm, peaceful melody
- Warm sounds from the strings and woodwinds
- Music that moves slowly and gently, creating a feeling of comfort
- A quiet, hopeful ending rather than a loud, dramatic finish

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Bonds wrote the work during the Civil Rights movement and dedicated it to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- The music is based on the spiritual **"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me."**
- After movements that portray struggle, courage, and sorrow, *Benediction* offers a message of peace, hope, and love for all people.

Duke Ellington

(1899–1974)

Duke Ellington was a legendary composer and musician who profoundly influenced the world of jazz music. As the director of his own big band for over 50 years, he created a unique and sophisticated sound that set him apart from others. Ellington was a brilliant composer, writing film scores, musicals, and famous songs like "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)" that became jazz classics. His ability to blend different musical styles and improvise made his performances exciting and unforgettable.

The River Suite showcases Ellington's unique composition style and ability to tell a story through his music.

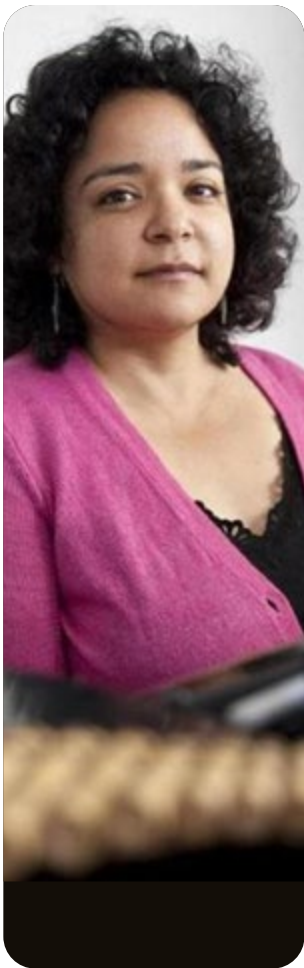
LISTEN FOR

- Fast, bubbling melodies that sound like moving water
- Playful rhythms that seem to skip and splash
- Woodwinds and brass trading short musical ideas
- Bright, energetic sounds that create a feeling of excitement and motion

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- Ellington wrote the suite to describe different parts of a river's journey.
- In this movement, the music captures the energy of rapids as water tumbles and twists downstream.
- Instead of using words, Ellington paints a picture with sound, showing how a river can be playful, unpredictable, and full of life.





Gabriela Lena Frank (b. 1972)

Gabriela Lena Frank is an American composer and pianist who grew up in California. She grew up learning about both her Peruvian and Jewish roots, and those traditions inspire her music. Her compositions serve as a way of reflecting her multicultural background, frequently utilizing sounds of Latin American instruments and Western classical ensembles such as the symphony orchestra. Frank enjoys writing pieces that celebrate different cultures, nature, and history.

The Mestizo Waltz combines Western classical instrumentation with the energetic folk ideas of South America.

LISTEN FOR

- A dance-like 1–2–3 waltz rhythm
- Violins and woodwinds playing lively, colorful melodies
- Rhythms and musical ideas inspired by South American folk music
- Sudden changes in mood, from playful and energetic to warm and lyrical
- Different sections of the orchestra taking turns leading the dance

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- The Mestizo Waltz is part of Gabriela Lena Frank's *Three Latin American Dances*.
- Frank was inspired by her Peruvian heritage and the many cultures that shape Latin America.
- The word mestizo refers to the blending of different cultural traditions.
- In this piece, Frank combines the elegance of a waltz with lively folk-inspired rhythms and melodies, creating music that feels both familiar and new.

Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990)

Leonard Bernstein was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He started teaching himself piano and music theory when he was only 10 years old. He majored in music at Harvard University and the Curtis Institute of Music (studying conducting, piano, and composition). He moved to New York City after college and eventually became the conductor of the New York Philharmonic. He was also a composer, and won many awards in his lifetime including seven Emmy Awards (television), two Tony Awards (theater), 16 Grammy Awards (music), and a nomination for an Academy Award (film).

Bernstein's **Candide Overture** comes from the operetta *Candide*, which opened on Broadway in 1956.

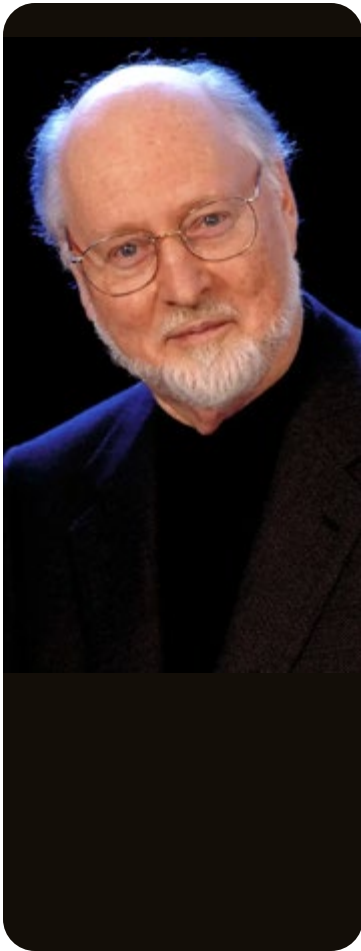
LISTEN FOR

- Bright brass fanfares that grab your attention right away
- Woodwinds and strings playing quick, sparkling passages
- Sudden changes in mood, from heroic and grand to playful and humorous
- A thrilling ending that builds excitement from start to finish

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- The *Candide* Overture comes from Leonard Bernstein's operetta *Candide*, based on a story by French writer Voltaire.
- An overture is an opening piece that introduces the energy and spirit of a show.
- Bernstein filled the music with humor, adventure, and excitement to match the story's fast-paced journey.





John Williams

(b. 1932)

John Williams is a famous composer known for creating some of the most memorable film music. He has written iconic scores for movies like *Star Wars*, *Jaws*, and *Harry Potter*, making him one of the most recognized composers in Hollywood. Williams's music is known for its powerful themes and dramatic orchestration, which help to bring movies to life. He has won 26 Grammy Awards and received the National Medal of Arts in 2009 from President Obama.

Possibly one of Williams's best known works is **The Throne Room** from *Star Wars*.

LISTEN FOR

- Powerful brass instruments playing a heroic melody
- Snare drum rhythms that sound like a royal ceremony
- Trumpets and horns creating a grand, triumphant feeling
- The full orchestra building to exciting musical climaxes
- A majestic ending that sounds like a celebration

ABOUT THE MUSIC

- The Throne Room comes from the original *Star Wars* film released in 1977.
- In this scene, the characters Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, and Chewbacca are honored for their bravery.
- John Williams wrote the music to sound like a grand royal procession and victory celebration, and it became one of the most memorable moments in film music.

LISTENING TOOLBOX

Learn how to describe the music you're hearing — check out our listening tips below!

DYNAMICS — 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.

TEMPO — 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 piece.

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

THEME — A theme is an **important musical idea** that returns throughout a piece. Composers often repeat, change, or develop a theme to create variety while helping listeners recognize familiar melodies.

IMAGERY — From rushing water to heroic celebrations, composers use instruments to represent specific characters, sounds, and ideas. Listen for these moments as you imagine the story unfolding.

ARCO — String players use their bows to play the strings, creating long, sustained sounds. Watch the orchestra and see how the bows move together.

PIZZICATO — String players pluck the strings with their fingers instead of using a bow. Listen for the short, bouncy sound!



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

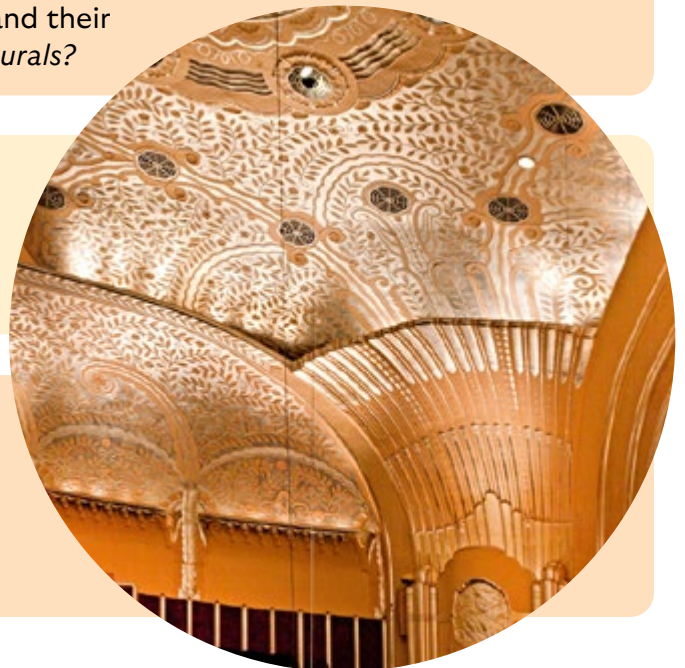
Circling the Grand Foyer, you will see 14 murals painted by Cleveland artist Elsa Vick Shaw. The murals depict different cultures and their instruments. *Can you identify any of the instruments in the murals?*

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

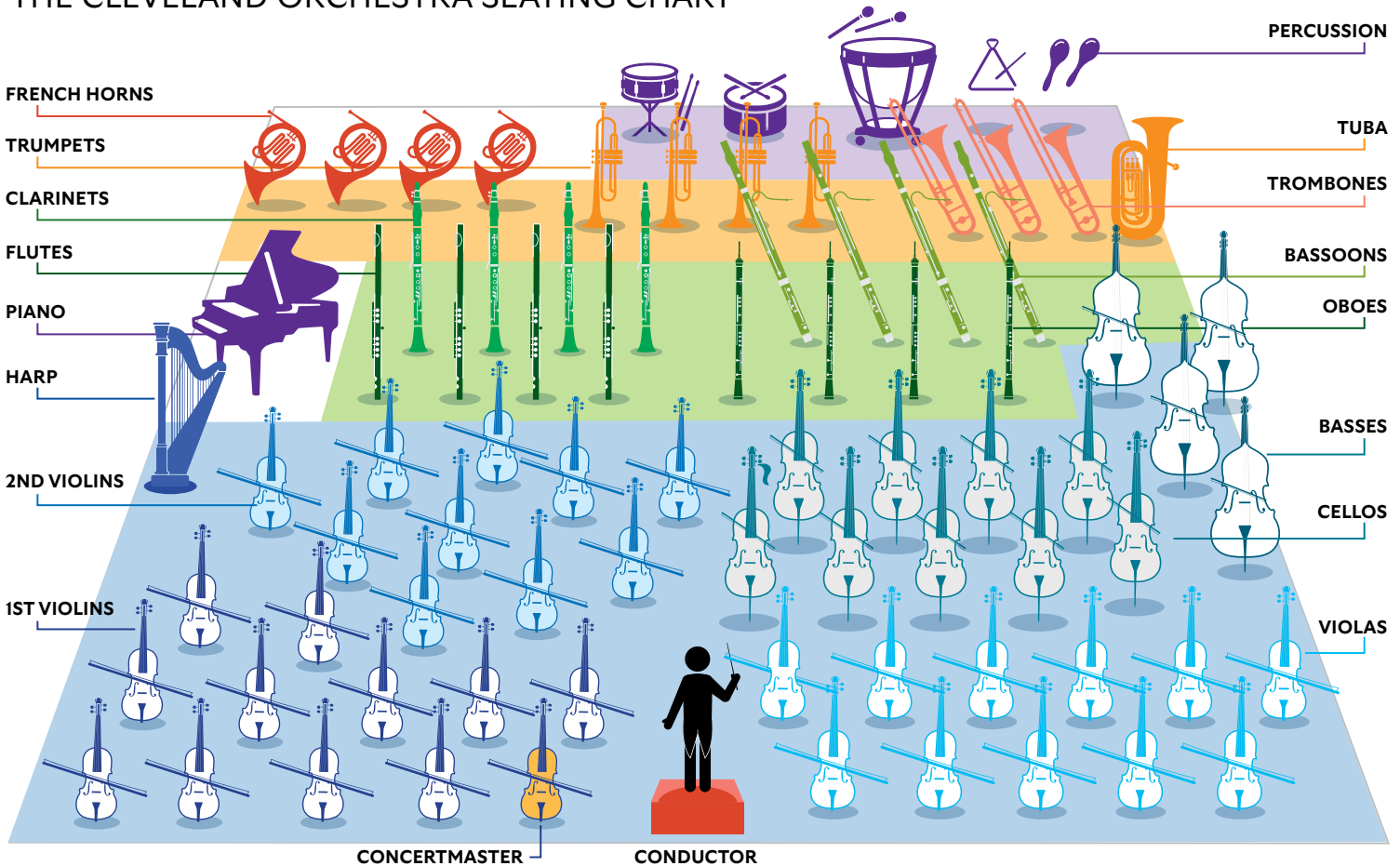
The ceiling of Mandel Concert Hall is decorated with aluminum leaf in a lace pattern inspired by Elisabeth Severance's wedding gown. *You might see a few more lotus blossoms as you look up at the beautiful ceiling design as well.*



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!



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.

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 or visit 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 or visit 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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* In memoriam



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Learn more and make your gift for music education at clevelandorchestra.com/give.

List as of August 2026