

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING



Symphony Orchestra

MICHAEL GRIFFITH, MUSIC DIRECTOR

2023-24 SEASON

OFF TO EUROPE

OCTOBER 5, 2023, 7:30 P.M.

HAYDN'S SURPRISE

The Ben Markley Trio
Seth Lewis, bass
Andy Wheelock, drums

Wagner, Prelude to Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg
Haydn, Symphony No. 94 (Surprise)
Rimsky-Korsakov, Procession of Nobles
Swindler, Concerto for Jazz Trio and Orchestra (world premiere)



NOVEMBER 16, 2023, 7:30 P.M.

SIBELIUS' 3RD

Carlos Costa, guest piano soloist

Kodály, Dances of Galanta
Guarnieri, Concertino for Piano and Orchestra
Sibelius, Symphony No. 3



DECEMBER 9 AND 10, 2023

GALA HOLIDAY CONCERTS

UW Choirs, Wind Symphony, and Symphony Orchestra
Jennifer Stucki, oboe soloist

Marvelous music of the holiday season, including the world premiere of Robert Wendel's Nativity Bells



FEBRUARY 29, 2024, 7:30 P.M.

CROUCHING TIGER

David Leibowitz, guest conductor
Beth Vanderborgh, cello soloist
Rod Garnett, Asian flutes

Verdi, La Forza del Destino Overture
Dun, Crouching Tiger Concerto
Still, Symphony No. 2 (Song of a New Race)



MAY 2, 2024 7:30 P.M.

THE MOZART REQUIEM

Sabina Balsamo, soprano
Amanda Silva, mezzo-soprano
John Lindsey, tenor
Erik Erlandson, baritone
UW Choirs

Ives, The Unanswered Question
Schubert/Luck, Erlkönig
Verdi, Addio, del passato from La Traviata
Puccini, E lucevan le stele from Tosca
Coleman, Seven O'Clock Shout
Mozart, Requiem



APRIL 11, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

BUCHANAN CENTER RECITAL HALL CONCERTMASTER FUND RECITAL

Giovanna Volpi, violin

The UWSO's Concertmaster, performing a recital to support the Moore Concertmaster Fellowship, with a private meet-the-artists reception to follow.



DUANE TORO
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The costs of printing and distributing this brochure have been covered by a generous and deeply appreciated gift from Duane Toro Real Estate.

All dates and times subject to change, following the release of the UW basketball schedule. (We don't want you to compete for parking!)

OFF TO EUROPE

Our season title, *Off to Europe*, isn't just about repertoire. After all, a huge percentage of orchestral music is European. No, we actually *are* off to Europe. Your UW Symphony will be performing in Nice and Avignon, France, and Barcelona, Spain, during spring break. And so this beautiful season brochure reflects all that – where the composers are from (Sibelius' Finland, Wagner's Germany), and where we're going (the Mediterranean coast)!

There's more, of course: the Austria of Mozart, Haydn and Schubert, Tan Dun's China, Rimsky-Korsakov's Russia, Kodaly's Galanta (Slovakia), Guarneri's Brazil, and the Italy of Verdi and Puccini. About a quarter of our choices are American: we'll have William Grant Still's Second Symphony, *Song of a New Race*; we're doing works by Ives and Valerie Coleman; and we've commissioned Colorado composer Wil Swindler to write a Concerto for Jazz Trio and Orchestra, to be performed by the incredible Ben Markley Trio.

Our soloists for the year are as exciting and as varied as the music. Ben Markley will be joined by drummer Andy Wheelock and bassist Seth Lewis for the jazz concerto premiere. Pianist Carlos Costa returns to Laramie for his third visit from Brazil. Cellist Beth Vanderborgh will play Tan Dun's fascinating *Crouching Tiger Concerto*, from the film score that was recorded by Yo-Yo Ma – and Rod Garnett will return to Laramie to play the Asian flute part. Finally we have four fabulous solo voices and the UW Choirs all joining us for the Mozart *Requiem*.

Truly, this will be an outstanding season. Order your season tickets now, and don't miss a performance!

You might ask, why are we embarking upon that exciting tour? Last spring we ended a Wyoming tour with an invited concert at Jackson's Grand Teton Music Festival. That large, sophisticated

audience, accustomed to their world-class summer orchestra, gave us *four* stand ovations. It was one of the most thrilling moments we've ever experienced. How can we follow that? Clearly, a bigger tour was in order.

Except for Bolivia in 2007, we've only performed near home, so it's time to spread our wings! A big tour will do wonders for the ensembles' esprit de corps, motivating the students' practicing, and the long, tiring rehearsals we do. When we went to Bolivia, many of them had never left the country, or even Wyoming. It will be a life-changing experience for them. This tour will burnish the orchestra's (and UW's) reputation, helping recruiting for years to come. For all those reasons, and more, an exciting trip like this is appropriate and well worth the effort.

You'll notice that the donation portion of the form has an extra line: "Special donation towards the European tour." We're trying to make this trip as affordable as possible for the students. While a great deal of funding has been identified, we need much more. Your regular Symphony Association donation will go where it always has, primarily to scholarships for talented musicians. I hope you'll consider the extra donation specifically towards our tour. The musicians and I would deeply appreciate it. If you'd like to sponsor a student – completely, or a significant portion of their cost – please contact me directly at 307-766-3069, or Message me on Facebook. I'd be more than happy to discuss it with you.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you on October 5!

— *Michael Griffith*

Dear Friends of the Symphony Association,

Not long after I graduated from UW an older friend invited me to accompany her to Ireland and the Scandinavian countries. My first trip abroad! Had the itinerary been left to me I am not sure I would have sought out the same cultural venues. But I learned a valuable lesson about seeking out concerts, plays, and operas when traveling to a new place. As Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote, "Music is the universal language of mankind." We experienced an immediate connection with others in the audience and with the performers in Stockholm, Copenhagen, and London.

Sometimes we are fortunate to pack our bags, leave on a jet plane, and go to new, exotic places. At other times we may become armchair tourists who explore foreign lands through books, movies, and documentaries. Music also transports us across time and space to new places. This year's symphony season promises that element of travel from the comfort of the concert hall. You are invited to reserve your tickets in preparation for an amazing journey. You may use the same form included with this brochure to become a member of or renew your membership in the UW Symphony Association.

The primary mission of the Association is to provide financial support for student scholarships, commissioned works, and travel. Membership at every level is greatly appreciated. Please consider making an additional gift, if you are able, to help finance the Orchestra's upcoming tour to France and Spain. As musical ambassadors from Wyoming our Orchestra members will experience first hand Kahlil Gibran's wisdom: "Music is the language of the spirit. It opens the secret of life bringing peace, abolishing strife."

To paraphrase the 14th century author of one of the world's most famous travel logs, Ibn Battuta, "Travel (like music) leaves you speechless, then turns you into a story teller." May your concert hall journey with the UW Symphony Orchestra render you speechless and may your support of the Orchestra's travel make them speechless and story tellers, too.

— *Marilyn Engstrom*, President, Symphony Association for the University of Wyoming

 Please join the group "UW Symphony Orchestra" on Facebook!

Brochure designed by Jessica Perry.

Benefits of Joining the Symphony Association

We understand that your main purpose in joining the Symphony Association is to provide the UW Symphony Orchestra musicians with the best educational opportunities and to help bring the finest possible music to UW. But what else do you receive? We want to recognize you for supporting our efforts, so the Symphony Association offers you various incentives based on your level of giving.

ALL members receive the following:

- Symphony Association Newsletter before each concert.
- Their name(s) listed in UWSO programs.

At the \$250 (Benefactor) level, all of the above, plus:

- An invitation to the Symphony Association picnic.

At the \$500 (Musician) level, all of the above, plus:

- A backstage tour of the Concert and Recital halls, led by the Music Director following one of the symphony concerts.

At the \$1,500 (Principal) level, all of the above, plus:

- At your request, one of the Symphony Association scholarships will be named in your honor. Under the student's name in the program will be the following: The John and Jane Doe Symphony Association Scholarship.

At the \$2,500 (Soloist) level, all of the above, plus:

- At your request, a pair of season tickets for the following season.

At the \$4,000 (Maestro) level, all of the above, plus:

- At your request, a student chamber performance, at a time and location of your choice (subject to availability), and to be negotiated between the donor and the Music Director of the UWSO.

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS: If you find that you have purchased tickets to an upcoming concert and will not be able to attend, please consider donating those tickets to musicians in our local schools! Available tickets will be given to the fine arts departments in the Laramie Middle School and Laramie High School and awarded to students who may be experiencing the thrill of a live symphony performance for the first time. Contact the Box Office at (307) 766-6666 and they will assist you with your donation.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING



Symphony Association for the University of Wyoming
Fine Arts Box Office, Dept. 3951
1000 E. University Avenue
Laramie, WY 82071

SEASON INFORMATION ENCLOSED!

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Please check if this is a new address

Symphony Association pre-concert *Newsletters* will all be sent electronically. Please supply your email address so you don't miss out.

Email _____ @ _____ *Email address is required, as all tickets and Newsletters are sent electronically.*

Check here if you would enjoy the camaraderie of those whose goal is to promote great music, great students, and a great UW Symphony Orchestra! You can become involved at any level with the UW Symphony Association, helping out with the smallest project or investing your time by serving on the board. Please let us know of your interest.

Season ticket holders MUST check one of the following.

For the Gala Holiday Concert, do you want tickets for:

Saturday or Sunday (*times to be announced pending release of the UW basketball schedule*)

Please print name(s) as you want it listed in the program for membership, or

Please check if you do not wish to have your name in the program

Requested seat location _____

Indicate "same" if you want the same seats as last year. Seats will be held until September 25.

Check here if you'd like "Tweet Seats." The last two rows have been reserved just for you if you'd like to (silently) share your experience on social media.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH CREDIT CARD INFORMATION ENTERED OR YOUR CHECK MADE OUT TO: Fine Arts Ticket Office, UW Department 3951, 1000 E. University, Laramie, WY 82071. Upon receipt of your order, we will reserve the best available tickets for you at the Box Office. Your tickets will be emailed to you once processed. Call 766.6666 for telephone orders.

TICKETS — *Season tickets save 20% over individual tickets*

	Quantity:	Price:
Regular Season Tickets	_____ x \$56 each	= _____
Senior Citizen Season Tickets (60 or over)	_____ x \$40 each	= _____
Student Season Tickets	_____ x \$16 each	= _____
<i>UW Music students (Majors, minors, or any students enrolled in a MUSC class), may attend Music Department events for free. Simply ask for your ticket at the box office in the days leading up to each event. This does not apply to the Concertmaster Fund Recital.</i>		
Concertmaster Fund Recital Tickets	_____ x \$40 each	= _____
		Ticket total _____

SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

Maestro	\$4,000 & up = _____
Soloist	\$2,500-3,999.99 = _____
Principal	\$1,500-2,499.99 = _____
Musician	\$500-1,499.99 = _____
Benefactor	\$250-499.99 = _____
Patron	\$100-249.99 = _____
Donor	\$50-99.99 = _____
Contributor	\$5-49.99 = _____

Special donation to help the UWSO's European tour _____
Membership total _____

A \$5 processing fee is added to all orders \$ 5.00

GRAND TOTAL _____

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