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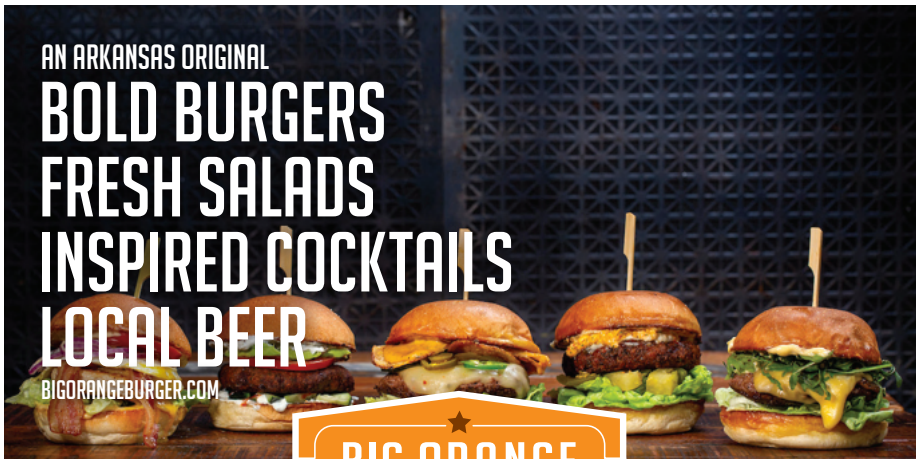
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2022-2023  
SEASON

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ARKANSAS TIMES

**SPAMILTON**  
AN AMERICAN PARODY

SEPT. 17

501E

**CHARLIE BROWN'S Christmas**  
LIVE ON STAGE

DEC. 10

**MNOZIL BRASS**

FEB. 23

**FLOYD NATION**  
LIVE MUSIC THEATRE

MAR. 10

**Celtic Angels Ireland**

MAR. 14

THE MAGIC OF KEVIN SPENCER

OCT. 7-8

**DOKTOR KABOOM!**

DEC. 12

**The Magic School Bus**  
SOFT IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM

MAR. 17

1:3985 Fairfield  
POWER 92.5

**PREACHER LAWSON**

OCT. 15

MARSHALL CHARLOTT  
**PURPLE PIANO**  
LIVE LAS VEGAS

JAN. 20

**AMY GRANT**

MAR. 31

Conway

**FRANK WARREN**

OCT. 28

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FEB. 5

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**STEVE BURNS**

APR. 4

**NEAL MCCOY**

NOV. 10

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501E

**BLUE MAN GROUP**  
ON TOUR

FEB. 8

**THE WIZARD OF OZ**

APR. 21

THE ARETHA EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER  
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A CELEBRATION OF THE GREAT  
QUEEN OF SOUL

NOV. 12

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**THE GRUFFALO**

FEB. 12-13

**Tapestry**  
the CAROLE KING SONGBOOK

APR. 29

theater by the bay  
**ANASTASIA**  
THE MUSICAL

NOV. 19

theater by the bay  
**LUCY LOVES DESI:**  
A FUNNY THING HAPPENED  
ON THE WAY TO THE SITCOM

FEB. 16

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# ARKANSAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

7 p.m. Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Clinton Presidential Center

## RIVER RHAPSODIES CHAMBER SERIES

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## Beach, Mendelssohn, & Coleridge-Taylor

BEACH, Amy  
(1867 - 1944)

Romance for Violin and Piano, Op. 23 6'

*Andrew Irvin, violin  
May Tsao-Lim, piano*

MENDELSSOHN,  
Felix  
(1809 - 1847)

String Quartet in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2 27'

- I. Allegro assai appassionato
- II. Scherzo: Allegro di molto
- III. Andante
- IV. Presto agitato

*Rockefeller Quartet*

### - INTERMISSION -

COLERIDGE-TAYLOR,  
Samuel  
(1875 - 1912)

Nonet in F minor, Op. 2 26'

- I. Allegro moderato
- II. Andante con moto
- III. Scherzo: Allegro
- IV. Finale: Allegro vivace

*Leanna Renfro, oboe  
Karla Fournier, clarinet  
Susan Bell León, bassoon  
David Renfro, horn  
Meredith Maddox Hicks, violin  
Katherine Reynolds, viola  
David Gerstein, cello  
Justin Cheesman, bass  
Jaeyeon Park, piano*

# ARKANSAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

7 p.m. Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Clinton Presidential Center

## RIVER RHAPSODIES CHAMBER SERIES

Sponsored in part by:



## Klughardt, Korngold, & Sibelius

KLUGHARDT, *Schilfflieder, Op. 28* 18'  
August  
(1847 - 1902)

- I. Langsam, träumerisch
- II. Leidenschaftlich erregt
- III. Zart, in ruhiger Bewegung
- IV. Feurig
- V. Sehr ruhig

*Leanna Renfro, oboe*  
*Timothy MacDuff, viola*  
*Haeshin Shin, piano*

KORNGOLD, *Piano Trio in D Major, Op. 1* 30'  
Erich  
(1897 - 1957)

- I. Allegro non troppo, con espressione
- II. Scherzo: Allegro
- III. Larghetto
- IV. Finale: Allegro molto e energico

*Geoffrey Robson, violin*  
*David Gerstein, cello*  
*Hee-Kyung Juhn, piano*

### - I N T E R M I S S I O N -

SIBELIUS, *String Quartet in D minor, Op. 56* 33'  
Jean  
(1865 - 1957)

(*"Voces intimae"*)

- I. Andante - Allegro molto moderato
- II. Vivace
- III. Adagio di molto
- IV. Allegretto, ma pesante
- V. Allegro

*Quapaw Quartet*



# ARKANSAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

7 p.m. Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Clinton Presidential Center

## RIVER RHAPSODIES CHAMBER SERIES

Sponsored in part by:



## Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Carter, Ran

SHOSTAKOVICH, String Quartet No. 7, Op. 108 13'  
Dmitri I. Allegretto  
(1906 – 1975) II. Lento  
III. Allegro

*Rockefeller Quartet*

PROKOFIEV, Sonata for Violin and Piano in D Major, 23'  
Sergei Op. 94bis  
(1891 – 1953) I. Moderato  
II. Scherzo: Presto  
III. Andante  
IV. Allegro con brio

*Kiril Laskarov, violin  
Carl Anthony, piano*

- INTERMISSION -

CARTER, Elliot Elegy 5'  
(1908 – 2012)

*Rockefeller Quartet*

RAN, String No. 3 "Glitter, Doom, Shards, Memory" 23'  
Shulamit I. That which happened  
(b. 1949) II. Menace  
III. If I perish, do not let my paintings die  
IV. Shards, memory

*Geoffrey Robson & Katherine Williamson, violins  
Timothy MacDuff, viola  
David Gerstein, cello*

# ARTISTS

**Quapaw String Quartet** - *As the ASO's original string quartet, The Quapaw Quartet was founded in 1980. All members of the quartet perform as part of the ASO's River Rhapsodies Chamber Music Series and the Intimate Neighborhood Concerts Series and are in demand for recitals at venues throughout the state. All members are heavily involved in teaching and have not only private studios, but teach at schools and universities around Arkansas.*

**Meredith Maddox Hicks (violin)** joined the Arkansas Symphony in 2002 after receiving her Master's degree in Music Performance and completing Doctoral coursework at Florida State University. A native of Nashville, Tennessee, she graduated from Belmont University with a Bachelor's degree in Violin Performance before becoming an exchange student in Moscow, Russia at the Russian Academy of Music, Gnessin Institute. Her teachers include Elisabeth Small, Karen Clarke and Eliot Chappo.

Meredith's orchestral experience includes the concertmaster position at both of the universities she attended, as well as holding positions with the Memphis, Jacksonville, Naples and New World Symphony Orchestras. As a chamber musician, she is a member of the Arkansas Symphony's flagship string quartet, the Quapaw Quartet and the Albani Trio at the University of Arkansas Little Rock.

While considering chamber music her first love, Meredith also enjoys teaching students of all ages. She teaches privately and is a member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas. She is the Visiting Lecturer of Violin and Viola at the University of Arkansas Little Rock; a position made possible through partnership between the University and the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra.

Meredith is thrilled to be the 2016/17 winner of the Belmont Encore Award for outstanding alumni in classical music. She became the Principal Second Violinist of the Arkansas Symphony in 2019.

**Charlotte Crosmer (violin)** lives in Little Rock and has been a member of the Quapaw String Quartet and the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra since 2016. Her violin studies began at the age of four and she quickly discovered a love for chamber music playing in a string quartet with her siblings as they grew up in Conway, Arkansas. An interest in oldtime fiddle music and bluegrass led her to win numerous fiddling contests around the state, including the Arkansas State Oldtime Fiddling Championship. She went on to study violin with Dr. Linda Hsu and voice with Dr. Martha Antolik at the University of Central Arkansas, and later earned masters degrees in violin and chamber music from the University of Michigan where she studied with Aaron Berofsky. During her time in Ann Arbor, she performed as a substitute violinist with symphonies across Michigan, maintained a private teaching studio, joined the folk/bluegrass band Wych Elm, and was an avid supporter of new music- premiering several new works by composition students at UofM. Honors include being named a Virtu Foundation Scholar and being loaned a beautiful David Burgess violin for three years, and being selected as a Performing Artist for the Amalfi Coast Music and Arts Festival in Maiori Italy. In the fall of 2015, Charlotte joined the high energy string group Barrage 8 and toured with them for one year through 23 U.S states, Canada, and Europe. In the summer of 2017, she toured Japan as a member of the New York Symphonic Ensemble. Currently, she is the director of the Hendrix College chamber orchestra and can also be heard fiddling with bluegrass band Runaway Planet.

**Timothy MacDuff (viola)** Violist Tim MacDuff joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and its flagship string quartet, the Quapaw Quartet, in 2019. Originally from upstate New York, Tim began his musical studies with support from his public school teachers. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the Crane School of Music under Dr. Shelly

Tramposh and a Master of Music degree from Rice University studying with James Dunham. After discovering a passion for education, Tim completed a Doctorate in Musical Arts at the University of Maryland under the guidance of his mentor Katherine Murdock. Tim's doctoral work focused on the relationship between music and written word.

Tim has performed with the National Repertory Orchestra, National Orchestral Institute, Round Top, and Lake George festival orchestras. He has also served as a substitute musician with New World Symphony. In 2017, Tim was awarded top prize in the University of Maryland's Concerto Competition and performed Ernest Bloch's Suite 1919 with the orchestra. Tim has also appeared as soloist with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra in Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante.

As a chamber musician, Tim has performed across the D.C. area including performances at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, the Smithsonian's Baird Theater, and the National Cathedral. He regularly appears on the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra's River Rhapsodies chamber series at the Clinton Library in Little Rock. Tim has coached student chamber groups at Manitou Springs Chamber Music Festival, Faulkner Chamber Music Festival, Crane Youth Music Camp, and the University of Maryland.

In addition to joining the University of Arkansas faculty, Tim teaches students of the Arkansas Symphony's Sturgis Academy and Youth Orchestras.

**Chava Appiah (cello)** Chava Appiah's performance experience spans from Tokyo's Suntory Hall and Carnegie Hall, to more intimate settings such as Emmanuel Church of Boston and The Cleveland Institute of Art. Passionate about orchestra and chamber music, Chava has played in the Grant Park Music Festival, Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, Colorado Music and Cabrillo festivals. She was principal cellist with Spoleto Festival USA, Pacific Music Festival, Youth Orchestra of the Americas, and New World Symphony. While at Spoleto, she performed in US premieres of Vivaldi's *Farnace* and Lachenmann's *Little Match Girl*.

A strong advocate for making the arts more accessible to a wider audience, Ms. Appiah has engaged with various communities through organizations such as the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston, the Community Performances and Partnerships Program of New England Conservatory, the Boston Philharmonic, Grant Park fellowship program, and her all-cello ensemble, Cellos Unleashed! She strives to break the wall between audience and performer, making music an interactive experience, and performed many lecture recitals during her four years as a New World Symphony fellow prior to joining ASO.

Ms. Appiah studied at the New England Conservatory and Oberlin College and Conservatory, earning degrees in both Cello Performance and Neuroscience. Her teachers were Natasha Brofsky, Catharina Meints, and Alan Rafferty.

In her free time, Ms. Appiah enjoys reading, traveling, and exploring nature. She is an enthusiastic animal lover.

**Rockefeller String Quartet** - *Responding to what was clearly a statewide need, the ASO and the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation began a partnership in 2000 to form the Rockefeller Quartet. Now nearly fourteen years later, the Quartet has developed a reputation for providing quality school programming, the quartet performs statewide as a chamber ensemble and with the Arkansas Symphony. The quartets' primary responsibilities include string education and outreach throughout the state reaching more than 24,000 Arkansas school children each year.*

**Trisha McGovern Freney (violin)** has been an Arts Partner of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and Rockefeller String Quartet since September 2013. A native of Kansas City, Ms. Freney completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Conservatory of Music where she studied Violin Performance with Benny Kim. She also holds Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music where she studied Violin Performance with Ian Swenson and chamber music with the late Mark Sokol. While a student at UMKC, she was awarded a fellowship with the Graduate Fellowship String Quartet and performed with that group for three years under the direction of Carter Eneart. Freney maintains an active and varied career as an orchestral musician, solo recitalist, chamber player, and teacher, with performing and teaching experience throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area, Des Moines, Iowa, Wichita, Kansas, Saint Joseph, Missouri, and the San Francisco Bay Area. She has held the Assistant Concertmaster position with the Saint Joseph Symphony, and tenure violin positions with the Des Moines Symphony and Wichita Symphony Orchestras. Her most recent concert engagements include performances with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Texarkana Symphony, Kansas City Ballet, Des Moines Symphony, Wichita Symphony, Saint Joseph Symphony, Oakland/East Bay Symphony, Monterey Symphony, Marin Symphony, Santa Rosa Symphony Orchestra, Sacramento Philharmonic, and the Oakland Opera Theatre as well as subbing with the New World Symphony in Miami, FL. Notable teachers include Noah Geller-Concertmaster of the Kansas City Symphony, and Catherine Van Hoesen of the San Francisco Symphony. Freney has performed in violin masterclasses of Charles Castleman, Brian Lewis, and Ellen Jewett, and chamber master classes with Sadao Harado, Robert Mann, Jorja Fleezanis, and Mack McCray, as well as the Parker, Ying, Formosa, and St. Lawrence String Quartets. Highlights of her time here in Little Rock include performing Mendelssohn's "Octet" with guest artist Tessa Lark in the River Rhapsody's Chamber Music Series, performing as violin soloist alongside the ASO in Astor Piazzola's "Winter" under the direction of Philip Mann, and performing in various small chamber ensembles with the New Deal Salon Concert Series directed by Tatiana Roitman. If not practicing or performing, Ms. Freney is selling real estate or spending quality time with her husband Kirk and their two children Ava and Knox.

**Linnaea Kathleen Brophy (violin)**, a violinist from Memphis, TN, has a versatile background as an orchestral player, chamber musician, soloist and teacher. In 2019, she joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and became a member of the Rockefeller String Quartet. She holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts from Stony Brook University where she was 2018 winner of the Stony Brook University Concerto Competition. While a student at SBU, under the auspices of the Emerson String Quartet, she formed the Anello String Quartet, which was hailed by the Woodstock Times in NY as "beautifully tonal, coordinated and balanced."

A veteran of the violin concerto repertoire, Linnaea has performed as a soloist with the Nashville Symphony, the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, the Alabama Symphony, and the Vidin Sinfonietta in Vidin, Bulgaria. At age 14, she gave her solo debut recital at the Neue Gallery in Manhattan, in a concert sponsored by the Perlman Music Program. Prior to her appointment with the ASO, Linnaea gained orchestral experience performing with A Far Cry, a Grammy-nominated self-conducted chamber orchestra from Boston. She also served as concertmaster of the New England Conservatory Philharmonia during her studies at the New England Conservatory, working with maestros Stephen Lord and Hugh Wolf.

Competitions she has won include 1st prizes at the Music Teachers National Association Competition, Junior Division; the Curb Concerto Competition in Nashville; the Alabama Symphony Concerto Competition; and the Concerto Soloist Award at the International Institute for Conductors in Bulgaria.



A familiar presence at summer festivals, Linnaea Brophy is an alumnus of the Juilliard String Quartet Seminar, the Keshet Eilon Summer Mastercourse, the International Holland Music Sessions, and the Perlman Music Program. Linnaea holds a B.A. and an M.M. from the New England Conservatory where she was awarded a Merit Scholarship as a student of Donald Weilerstein and Lucy Chapman.

**Katherine Reynolds (viola)** joined the ASO as principal violist and Arts Partner in 2000. She received a Master of Music degree from SUNY at Stony Brook (NY) and a Bachelor of Music degree from the St. Louis Conservatory. Katherine also holds a principal position in the Conway Symphony. In addition to teaching private lessons in Little Rock, "Kater" also teaches viola at the University of Central Arkansas. Most recently she was a member of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, Santa Fe Symphony and extra with the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra.

**Jacob Wunsch (cello)** joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and the Rockefeller String Quartet in the fall of 2019. Actively involved in orchestral performance, chamber music, and music education, he has made concert appearances across the United States, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Italy, and Austria. His accomplishments include 1st prize in both the inaugural Briggs Chamber Music Competition and the ASTA (American String Teachers Association) Competition. He has served as section cellist with the Ann Arbor Symphony, the Evansville Philharmonic, and the Owensboro Symphony.

A native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Wunsch began cello studies at age four and his teachers at university have included Eric Kim, Richard Aaron, Michel Strauss, Jan Ype Nota, and Roger Regter. He received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Indiana University and the University of Michigan respectively. Through fellowship grants he has attended the Aspen Music Festival and School, the Colorado College Summer Music Festival, and the Garth Newel Music Center.

Wunsch received a full tuition scholarship to attend the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, The Netherlands for graduate studies, where he received his second Master of Music degree as well as Artist Certificate. Among performance and study, he conducted research and the transcription of works with the purpose of expanding the range of quality repertoire for cello ensemble for professionals and students alike.

Wunsch is a dedicated cello educator and has teacher training certification.

**Andrew Irvin (violin)** started his violin studies in his hometown of Columbia, Missouri with Kathy Rollings. This childhood interest has led to a life of concerts throughout North America and abroad. After study with Kevin Lawrence at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Catherine Tait at Eastman, and Katy McLin at Arizona State University, he moved to Arkansas where he has been Concertmaster of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. His solo repertoire ranges from Bach and Vivaldi through Mozart and Haydn to Tchaikovsky, Dvorak, Korngold, and Vaughn-Williams and includes the world premier of Michael Fines' Double Violin Concerto.

Andrew's chamber music highlights include performances with artists including violinist Augustin Hadelich, the Ying Quartet, the Audubon Quartet, bassist Milton Masciadri, and composer Steve Mackey. Most exciting for him is the opportunity to make music with the excellent artists of the Arkansas Symphony which he considers his artistic home. He has numerous chamber ensembles playing everything from world premieres to the favorites of the chamber music repertoire. Recordings include the Camino Trio with clarinetist, Kelly Johnson, and pianist Gail Novak. The CD "Child's Play" is out on the Potenza label. He can also be heard in recording on the Naxos label with the Hot Springs Music Festival (HSMF). As an educator, Mr Irvin has worked with HSMF since 2003. Through the festival, he has mentored hundreds of musicians from over 19 countries and from every major

# CRESO BUILDING

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The ASO would like to thank and recognize these leaders for their support in making the ASO Stella Boyle Smith Music Center a reality for our community.

\* \* \*

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Charlie Fuller  
David Gerstein  
Jan Hundley  
Philip Kaplan  
Dr. Philip Kenney  
Cathy Mayton  
Mike Mayton  
Lee Ronnel  
John Rowland  
Belinda Shults  
Martin Thoma  
Gus Vratsinas  
Dr. Dick Wheeler

music school in North America. He also has worked with the Arkansas Symphony's Youth Orchestra program as a coach since 2003 and conductor for over 10 years.

**May Tsao-Lim (piano)**, Professor of Piano at Henderson State University, coordinates the group piano curriculum as well as teaches applied piano and piano pedagogy.

Prior to joining Henderson State University, Dr. Lim taught at Iowa State University and University College Sedaya International (Malaysia.) Besides college-level instruction, she enjoys teaching children of all ages. Her students have been winners of state competitions.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Lim has presented pedagogy workshops at state conferences, MTNA national conventions, universities across the country and in Malaysia. She is often invited to adjudicate piano festivals and competitions.

As an active chamber pianist, Dr. Lim has collaborated with guest artists from across the country and Europe, and members of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Texarkana Symphony Orchestra and Dallas Symphony Orchestra. She has performed at the ASO River Rhapsodies and Texarkana Symphony Orchestra's chamber series.

Dr. Lim earned her B.M. in piano performance with highest honor 'Bronze Tablet' and two Master's degrees (Piano Performance, Piano Pedagogy) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy at the University of Oklahoma with Jane Magrath.

**Leanna Booze Renfro (oboe)** joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra as Principal Oboe in September 2013. She was Principal Oboe with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra from 2007 to 2015. In previous positions she has served as Adjunct Instructor of Oboe at Belmont University in Nashville, Principal Oboe of the Kentucky Symphony and Lecturer in Oboe at the University of Louisville's School of Music.

A native of Kingsport, Tennessee, Leanna holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (D.M.A.), the San Francisco Conservatory (M.M.), and Vanderbilt University (B.M.). Primary teachers have included Bobby Taylor, John de Lancey, and Mark Ostoich. During the summer, she performs with the Peninsula Music Festival in Door County, Wisconsin.

**Karla Fournier (clarinet)** has served as the second clarinetist with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra since 1990. Alongside performing with the ASO, Mrs. Fournier enjoyed a distinguished teaching career, teaching at the River Oaks School and the Cole Music Conservatory in Houston, Texas, and retiring from the Conway Public Schools as the Director of Orchestras in 2017 where her ensembles earned top honors in Arkansas and Texas competitions. She has also served as an adjunct clarinet professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia.

A native of Oklahoma, Mrs. Fournier previously served as the principal clarinetist with the Pine Bluff Symphony for twenty-two years and earned her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Houston, Texas. She is married to Dr. Michael Underwood, principal trombonist of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and professor of music at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

**Susan Bell León (bassoon)** joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra as Principal Bassoonist in 1984. She previously held the position of Principal Bassoonist with the National Symphony Orchestra of Mexico and prior to that performed as a member of the bassoon section of the Mexico City Philharmonic. She has performed as a soloist several times with the Arkansas Symphony as well as with orchestras in Colorado, Missouri, and Mexico. An active chamber musician, Leon is a member of the Etesian Winds and



performs frequently on the ASO River Rhapsodies series. She co-founded the Pinnacle Players, a chamber orchestra which performs without a conductor. She has recorded Latin American chamber music with both Angel Records and The Musical Heritage Society.

Susan Bell Leon received a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri at Columbia and a master's degree in music performance from the Yale School of music, where she studied with Arthur Weisberg. Her first bassoon teacher was Kay McSpadden, who was also her immediate predecessor in the Arkansas Symphony. In addition, she studied with Willard Elliot, Robert Wisniewski, and Barbara Wood. She is active with various community organizations and recently retired from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences after nearly 30 years of service.

**David Renfro (horn)** A native of Kingsport, Tennessee, David Renfro is the Principal Horn of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, a position he has held since 2005. He also serves as the ASO's Chief Development Officer. Prior to that appointment, David taught horn and chamber music at Ouachita Baptist University and Henderson State University. He received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Horn Performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. His primary teachers have included Myron Bloom (The Cleveland Orchestra), Michael Hatfield (Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra), and Richard Seraphinoff (Baroque and Classical Horn specialist).

David has also served as the Principal Horn of the Texarkana Symphony Orchestra, Principal Horn of the Missouri Symphony Orchestra, and currently appears with other orchestras including the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Symphony of Northwest Arkansas, Tulsa Symphony, and Quad City Symphony Orchestra. In addition to his work as an orchestra musician, David maintains an active teaching studio and performs regularly as a chamber musician and soloist. The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette lauded David's performances as soloist in Richard Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 2 with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra as "sparkling" and a "musical glory". David also gave the Arkansas premiere of American composer James Beckel's Pulitzer Prize-nominated concerto for horn, "The Glass Bead Game," with the Henderson State University Wind Ensemble. Other recent solo engagements have included Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante with the Missouri Symphony Orchestra, Mozart's Horn Concerto No. 4 with both the Arkansas and Missouri Symphony Orchestras, and as guest soloist performing the Franz Strauss Horn Concerto with the Arkansas Symphony Youth Orchestra.

**David Gerstein (cello)** is currently the Principal Cellist of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, which he joined in 2008. Mr. Gerstein is regularly featured in orchestral solos with the orchestra which have been described as "absolutely gorgeous" by the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, and on many chamber music concerts throughout the state. Mr. Gerstein has been featured as soloist several times with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, most recently in 2019 in the Beethoven Triple Concerto. Mr. Gerstein has also appeared as soloist with the Pine Bluff Symphony, the Greece Symphony, and the University of Arkansas Symphony Orchestra as a faculty member.

An avid chamber musician, Mr. Gerstein has appeared in concert collaborating with violinist Jennifer Frautschi, pianist Norman Krieger, violinist Augustin Hadelich, the Ying Quartet, cellist Inbal Segev, violinist Vadim Gluzman, and members of Eighth Blackbird. He performed as the cellist of the ASO's Quapaw Quartet from 2010-2022.

During the summer season, Mr. Gerstein performs as Assistant Principal Cellist of the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz, CA, and has served on the faculty of the Music in the Mountains Conservatory in Durango Colorado.

Mr. Gerstein received a BM with Distinction from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with David Ying. He received an MM from Rice University under the direction of Norman Fischer. Mr. Gerstein is currently on faculty at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and has previously served on the faculties at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, the University of Central Arkansas, and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

**Justin Cheesman (bass)** studied Double Bass Performance at the Boston Conservatory and New England Conservatory where he received Bachelor and Master degrees respectively. He studied with Susan Hagen and Donald Palma.

**Jaeyeon Park (piano)** Korean pianist Dr. Jaeyeon Park's recent concerts in Korea were held in the Seoul Arts Center, Kumho Art Hall, Youngsan Art Hall, Cheongju City Hall, Gyeonggi Arts Center, Gwangju Arts Center, Gwangju Usquare Kumho Art Hall, Yongju Cultural Center, Suncheon Arts Center and Gwangju City Cultural Center. She has also appeared as a soloist with the Gangnam Symphony Orchestra, Gwangju Symphony Orchestra, Benusto Orchestra and the Ukraine Kiev National Radio Orchestra where her performance of Mozart's C major Piano Concerto K.467 was broadcast on KBS-FM. Other recent performances in Asia include Qingdao University and Osaka University.

She is a founding member of the trio Uno Animo which has been broadcast on MBC-FM and KBS-FM and KBC-TV. She has been the Music Director of Ensemble-On since 2018. She has received numerous grants from the South Korean government for support of her concerts.

Dr. Park graduated BM with highest honors from Seoul National University. Subsequently she graduated MM and DMA from the Butler School of Music at the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Park has taught for 12 years at Chosun University in South Korea as a Professor of Piano.

**Haeshin Shin (piano)** enjoys sharing her music through solo and chamber performances, teaching, and writing. She began musical training in her native country, South Korea, attending Seoul Arts High School, known as the country's premier school for arts programs.

Ms. Shin has appeared in solo recitals, competitions, chamber concerts, and festivals throughout the United States, Russia, UK, Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain, Ireland, Puerto Rico, China, and Korea. She has won prizes at American Protégé Concerto Competition, Richmond Piano Competition, Samick Piano Competition, International Competition for Pianists in Memory of Shande Ding and Bradshaw & Buono International Competition. In recent seasons she has performed at Seoul Arts Center, Stern Auditorium and Weill Recital Hall (Carnegie Hall), Harvard Musical Association, and Garth Newel Music Center. Her performance in the 75th anniversary of Leonard Bernstein Piano Recital at Lenox Library (Tanglewood Lecture Series) was broadcast on CTSB, the public channel in the Berkshires, MA. She also participated in the Scott Joplin centennial concert at Boston University, with her performance being recorded on Yamaha Disklavier for the Scott Joplin Online Archive.

Ms. Shin co-founded the Medtner Society of Korea in 2016, initially to introduce the music of Nikolai Medtner to audiences in South Korea, and currently serves as its Artistic Director. She has collaborated internationally with instrumentalists and singers to promote Medtner's works. She gave an all Medtner program recital at the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, the alma mater of the composer. She presented a lecture recital

on Medtner's piano literature at Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and has delivered concert series in Boston and Seoul.

Her paper on Medtner's piano music appeared in the Russian journal *Muzikant Klassik* in 2016 and has been selected at the International Conference "Russian Music Archives Abroad; Foreign Music Archives in Russia (2017)". Her doctoral dissertation, "Nikolai Medtner's Forgotten Melodies, op. 38: Sources, Analysis, and Interpretation", has been viewed and downloaded worldwide. *Eumak Journal*, one of the major music journals in Korea, featured her interviews and articles on music education and culture of the US.

Haeshin Shin holds a BM degree from Seoul National University (Cum Laude), and MM and DMA degrees from Boston University. During her study at Boston University, she received the Piano Department Award and College of Fine Arts Scholarship, and has been elected as a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, the national music honor society. She joined the piano faculty at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music in 2019, and continues to give online lessons to students from the Midwest to the East Coast after her move to Little Rock in 2021. In 2022, she joined Arkansas State University as a collaborative pianist.

**Geoffrey Robson (violin)** has emerged as a force of artistic leadership throughout the U.S. and the state of Arkansas. In 2017, he was awarded the Respighi Prize in Conducting by the Chamber Orchestra of New York. He currently serves as Artistic Director and is the principal conductor of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra.

His dynamic leadership of the ASO during the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in state-wide and national visibility for the organization. By overseeing an aggressive shift to virtual offerings of performances and educational content, Robson helped ensure the ASO's continued success and full employment of all musicians and staff.

The orchestra's online Bedtime with Bach series received nationwide acclaim and was featured by the Washington Post and the Kelly Clarkson Show. During his tenure in Arkansas, he has conducted critically acclaimed and sold-out masterworks, pops, chamber, and educational concerts throughout the state.

He frequently collaborates with organizations in the community, such as Ballet Arkansas, Arkansas Children's Theater, Opera in the Rock, the Chamber Music Society of Little Rock, and many local choral groups. He served on the faculty of Hendrix College from 2018-2021. In 2013-2014 he served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Central Arkansas and conducted the Conway Symphony Orchestra.

Robson serves as Artistic Director of the Faulkner Chamber Music Festival, a summer concert series and 10-day intensive chamber music camp that provides a unique immersive experience to music students in central Arkansas in the art of playing chamber music.

He has worked with renowned artists such as Gil Shaham, Midori, Rachel Barton Pine, Vadym Kholodenko, Alexander Markov, Mandy Gonzalez, Calvin Lee, and the Beach Boys. He regularly brings emerging world-class talent to Little Rock to entertain audiences and educate and inspire young musicians.

A champion of new music, he collaborates with and explores the music of renowned living composers. In 2016, he conducted the premiere of James Stephenson's Concerto for Hope with celebrated trumpeter Ryan Anthony and the San Juan (Colorado) Symphony. Recently, he conducted the premiere of *Into the Beautiful North*, by Joe Brent, performed by the trio 9 Horses. He has promoted works by composers with Arkansas connections, such as Jeremy Crosmer and Karen Griebing.

Robson is also an orchestral arranger, and his works have been featured in the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra's pops series concerts on numerous occasions. Additionally, he writes string arrangements for recording artists to assist them in achieving their musical goals in the studio. He also writes and produces *At the Symphony*, a concert preview radio series on KLRE Classical 90.5 in Little Rock.

As a violinist, he frequently performs on the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra's popular River Rhapsodies chamber music series, often sharing the stage with principal orchestra members. While in graduate school, he served as concertmaster of the Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra and assistant concertmaster of the Waterbury Symphony. Recognized for his skill and versatility as a violinist and fiddle player, he is increasingly sought after as a studio musician.

Robson studied orchestral conducting at the Mannes College of Music in New York City under the tutelage of David Hayes and holds violin performance degrees from Yale University and the Michigan State University Honors College. Primary violin teachers include Erick Friedman, Dmitri Berlinsky, and I-fu Wang.

He studied conducting at Yale University with Lawrence Leighton Smith, Edward Cumming, and Shinik Hahm. Other notable teachers include Leon Gregorian, John Farrer, Neil Thomson, and Larry Rachleff.

**Hee-Kyung Juhn (piano)** was described as "subtle, technically brilliant, a top notch, superb pianist" by New York Concert Review, "sensitive and imaginative" by the American Record Guide. Upon the release of her Bach's Goldberg Variations recording, Santa Barbara News-Press declared "We have a strong new Goldberg contender in the marvelous Hee-Kyung," and Gramophone noted "her acumen for voice-leading lends impressive clarity."

Hee-Kyung made her orchestra debut at age 16 with Orquesta Sinfónica de la Ciudad de Asunción playing Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto. She has also been featured as a soloist with New York Classical Players, Camerata Miranda, Pine Bluff Orchestra, Central Coast Philharmonia, Mass Brass, and others. She has performed in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie, Paul Hall, and 92 Street Y in New York, Utzon Room in Sydney Opera House, Schumannhaus in Leipzig, Teatro Municipal in Asunción, and performed extensively in Korea (Sejong Cultural Center, Seoul Arts Center Recital Hall, HoAm Art Hall, Youngsan Art Hall, Kumho Arts Center) and other venues in Belgium, Brazil, Japan, and Portugal. During 2020-22 season, Hee-Kyung toured with violinist Tai Murray, an Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient and BBC Artist, and performed a violin/piano duo program in New York City, Albany, Pittsburgh, and Boston.

Hee-Kyung was born in South Korea, lived her teenage years in Paraguay, South America, and was later trained at Rutgers University, The Juilliard School (MM), University of Michigan, and Indiana University (DM). She received further training at the summer festivals such as Aspen Music Festival, Bowdoin, Yale Summer Piano Institute, International Summer Institute in Brasilia, and Tanglewood Music Center in Boston as a fellow. Her teachers include Leonard Hokanson (a pupil of Artur Schnabel), Arthur Greene, Martin Canin, and collaborative pianists Martin Katz, Marshall Williamson, and Jonathan Feldman.

A versatile pianist, Hee-Kyung Juhn has worked as an opera coach/repetiteur, harpsichordist, staff/faculty accompanist at several summer institutions with vocalists and instrumentalists: Opera Lirico del Paraguay, Great Mountains International Music Festival in South Korea, Martina Arroyo Foundation in New York City, the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, and most recently the Bay View Summer Music Festival in

Michigan. As a church musician, organist and choirmaster, Hee-Kyung currently serves at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Little Rock as the music director.

As an academic, Hee-Kyung Juhn taught full-time at University of California in Santa Barbara and Henderson State University in Arkansas, and part-time as artist-in-residence at the University of Arkansas in Pine Bluff. She has taught masterclasses at University of Texas in Arlington, University of Georgia in Atlanta, Kennesaw State University, Baylor University, University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Daegu Catholic University, JoongAng University, Eastern China Normal University, etc.; and has served as a judge and adjudicator at various music competitions in the states of Alaska, California, Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Texas, etc.

Hee-Kyung was heard on NPR and other broadcasting venues such as TBS eFM in Seoul, Korea; and her recording of Bach's Goldberg Variations on MSR Classics is currently available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), [www.msrcd.com](http://www.msrcd.com), as well as digital download sites.

**Kiril Laskarov (violin)** is in his 24<sup>th</sup> season as Concertmaster of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. A native of Bulgaria, he graduated with a Master's in Music in Violin Performance from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale where he studied with Prof. Michael Barta. Laskarov has appeared as a soloist with the Arkansas Symphony, Las Vegas (NV) Philharmonic, Conway (AR) Symphony, Southern Illinois Symphony, Abilene (TX) Philharmonic, Symphony Irvine (CA), and the Texarkana (TX) Symphony. He will be performing the Tchaikovsky Concerto, Op. 35 with the Monroe, LA Symphony September 18, 2022; with the Arkansas Symphony in Russellville April 15, 2023; and with the Southern Illinois Festival Orchestra June 3, 2023.

**Carl Anthony (piano)** is the Principal Keyboardist of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, a position he has held since 1978. Dr. Anthony recently retired after 42 years as Professor of Piano and Theory at the University of Central Arkansas. As a chamber musician, he has given performances across the country and internationally, including at Yale and in New Orleans, Tokyo, Vancouver, and Brazil. He received his bachelor's degree from Bucknell University and earned his master's degree in piano and his doctorate in music theory from the University of Arizona. Dr. Anthony has performed as a soloist with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, most recently performing the Bach Harpsichord Concerto in D minor, and frequently collaborates in chamber music ensembles with other members of the ASO.

**Katherine Williamson (violin)** American violinist Katherine Williamson joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra in 2013 and assumed the Assistant Concertmaster post in the fall of 2019. Williamson started her tenure with the Orchestra as an Arts Partner with the Rockefeller String Quartet. With the quartet, she was able to work throughout the state, performing classical music for countless school children, playing in the oncology ward of the Arkansas Children's Hospital, and presenting numerous recitals to a variety of audiences across the state of Arkansas. In addition to her work with the Arkansas Symphony, she also frequently serves as Principal Second Violin of the Conway Symphony Orchestra.

Music has taken Ms. Williamson from the rolling hills of the Meadowmount School of Music in New York, to the mountains of Breckenridge, and to the Konzerthaus stage in Berlin, Germany. She has played as a semifinalist with the New World Symphony, been an associate member of the Chicago Civic Orchestra, and an extra with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. A native of Saint Paul, Minnesota, she still maintains musical connections to her home state as a freelance violinist with the Minnesota Orchestra and, until 2019, as a section violinist for the Mill City Summer Opera.

Director of the ASO's Sturgis Music Academy since the summer of 2019, Williamson is deeply passionate about music education and public service. She studied violin pedagogy with Dr. Brenda Brenner at Indiana University and with Ms. Christie Felsing at the Suzuki Institute at Ithaca College. Ms. Williamson is a registered Suzuki instructor, has maintained a successful private studio for the past seven years, and was on the violin faculty for UCA's Community Music School from 2015 - 2017. Beginning in the summer of 2017, she taught for the Sturgis Music Academy under the direction of fellow IU graduate and the Academy's Founding Director, Dr. Tze-Ying Wu.

In addition to instructing violin lessons, Ms. Williamson is very dedicated to bringing chamber music to the young musicians of Central Arkansas. Since 2017, she has been on the violin faculty for the Faulkner Chamber Music Festival and, since 2018, has served on the Chamber Music Society of Little Rock Board. Williamson also served on the ASO's Player's Committee as President for two years from 2016 - 2018. Named "Classical Innovator" by the Arkansas Times in 2018, she believes that all Arkansans should have access to inspiration through the power of world-class classical music. She is committed to this goal through her role both as an educator and performer.

Williamson earned a Bachelor of Music with Distinction from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University in 2012, where she studied privately with Mark Kaplan and orchestral studies with Jorja Fleezanis and Alexander Kerr. She currently resides in downtown Little Rock with her rescue dog, Bernie the beagle.



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