















TOGETHER, WE ARE A SYMPHONY!

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT





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MISSION STATEMENT

The Harrisburg Symphony
Orchestra will present inspiring
symphonic performances and
educational programs for
audiences of all ages, thereby
fostering an appreciation
for and knowledge of music
to enrich the cultural life of
Central Pennsylvania.





Dear Friends,

We are extremely proud to present this 2024-2025 Annual Report, which shows highlights from the season and your support in action. Your gifts are behind our every note, and we thank you.

Our 2024-2025 Season was a season of milestones. The Symphony itself celebrated 95 years; our music director, Stuart Malina, marked his 25th season here in Harrisburg; and the Harrisburg Symphony Society celebrated 35 years of fundraising.

In his proclamation for our anniversary Governor Josh Shapiro noted, "...music and arts are an essential part of the soul of our Commonwealth and our nation..." We could not agree more, and each year we strive to bring more music to more people in the Capital Region.

New this season, in collaboration with our friends at the Dauphin County Library System, we invited over 100 library card holders to check out the symphony with a free first-visit ticket. The Symphony and youth orchestra combined to perform for over 3,000 young listeners in three Young Persons' Concerts, we sent four HSO musicians to four

high schools, and guest artists Valentin Kovalev and Mark Markham visited Lebanon Valley College and Gettysburg College to give masterclasses.

During our Masterworks series we heard music from three centuries with extraordinary soloists. The Malina family was featured in our Masterworks finale, with the world premiere of a composition by Zev, and Stuart as soloist conducting *Rhapsody in Blue* from the piano. Our Capital Blue Cross POPS Series was hit after hit, from Motown to Country to Cirque Goes Broadway.

And the highlight of our season, *Symphony in Silver*: Celebrating 25 Years of the Maestro, the Harrisburg Symphony Society's April gala, exceeded all expectations and raised a record \$214,000!

Because of your generous support, the Harrisburg Symphony remains in solid artistic, financial, and institutional condition and continues to make an impact.

Together, we are a symphony: The Harrisburg Symphony! Sincerely,



Patricia

Patricia Ferris Harrisburg Symphony Association Chair



Stuart MalinaHelen F. Whitaker
Music Director



Matthew Herren Rolen & Patricia Ferris Executive Director

2024-2025 HARRISBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

We are proud of our musicians' commitment to the HSO. Those who have been contract musicians with us for more than 25 years are noted in parenthesis by their name. Thank you to our musicians for their dedication to our symphony family.

Stuart Malina

Music Director (25 years)

Helen F. Whitaker Chair*

Gregory Woodbridge

Associate Conductor

First Violin

Peter Sirotin, Concertmaster (29)
Frank M. Masters, Jr. Chair
in Memory of Frank M. &
Margaret Wilson Masters*
Tallie Brunfelt, Assistant
Concertmaster
Bill & Beverlee Lehr Chair*
Walter Choi (35)
Ervin Dede
Carl Iba (50+)

Yehong Xiong Second Violin

Ha-Young Kim

Fransico Salazar (25)

Connie Trach (40)

Sodam Kim

Nicole Sharlow, Principal Randy & Ginny Aires Chair*
Justin Gopal, Assistant Principal Clifford Bernzweig
Gabriel Meza
Rachel Schenker (25)
Chaerim Kim Smith
Rachael Stockton (25)
Lisa H. Welty (44)
Sarah Zun
Patrick Desrosiers (31)

Viola

Julius Wirth Fuentes, Principal (33)

Donald B. & Dorothy L. Stabler
Foundation Chair*

Elias Goldstein, Assistant Principal
Alice Bish (33)

Marjorie Goldberg (34)

Adriana Linares
Linda Numagami

Katie Overfield-Zook
Petula Perdikis (30)

Rebecca Rothermel (25)

Derek Smith

Cello

Fiona Thompson, Principal (26)

Dr. & Mrs. William Kanenson
Chair*

Igor Zubkovsky, Assistant
Principal (26)

Jennifer Devore (25)

Jonathan Fink (26)

Elyssa Gilmar (34)

Naomi Gray

Erik Jacobson (25)

Sheldon Lentz (40)

Daniel Pereira

Bass

Todd Thiel

Devin Howell, Principal Duane Botterbusch (50+) Charles Breaux (41) Peter Paulson (41)

Flute

David DiGiacobbe, Principal (27)

In Memory of David A. Elias, Jr.
& Marie Graupner Elias*

Kimberly O'Hare Bonacorsa

Karen Botterbusch (50+)

Piccolo

Karen Botterbusch (50+)

Oboe

Andreas Oeste, Principal

The Hershey Company Chair*

Thomas Rowe (39)

English horn

Richard Basehore

Clarinet

Eric Just, Principal
Dr. & Mrs. William M. Murray
Chair*
Linda Farrell (49)
Joshua Kovach (25)

Bassoon

Joseph Grimmer, Principal Darryl Hartshorne

Contrabassoon

Richard Spittel (42)

Horn

Sara Cyrus, Principal Joy Hodges Jonathan Clark William Hughes (35)

Trumpet

Kevin Gebo, Co-Principal Capital Blue Cross Chair Honoring James Mead* Scott Sabo (26)

Trombone

Tanner Antonetti, Principal Jeff Woodruff Family Chair* Timothy Soberick (37) Philip McClelland (35)

Tuba

Michael Anderson, Principal Harrisburg Symphony Society Chair

Timpani

Peter Wilson, Principal (27) Elsie W. Swenson Chair*

Percussion

Christopher Rose, Principal (27)

Jerry & Hilary Simpson Family

Chair in Memory of Rodney J.

Sawatsky*

Barry Dove (36)

Harp

Rebecca Kauffman Weaver, Principal Elizabeth J. Dunlap Chair*

Keyboard

Principal Ronald & Marjorie Katzman Chair*

* Endowed in Perpetuity

Rebecca Kauffman Weaver



It has been a great honor to serve as Principal Harpist of the HSO for 46 years. Over that time the organization has grown into a highly regarded regional orchestra, and it has been one of the great joys of my life to be part of that growth. As a recent college graduate, I was thrilled to be part of a professional orchestra under the direction of Larry Newland. During his tenure I was privileged to be asked to solo with the orchestra on two occasions performing Ravel's *Introduction et Allegro* and the Ginastera Harp Concerto. The repertoire performed under Maestro Newland was invaluable to my growth as a professional harpist. In the mid 1990s Richard Westerfield continued the tradition of excellence and it was a thrill to perform with such a talented conductor.

But it has been a wonderful journey of amazing concerts since Stuart Malina began his tenure with the HSO. Honestly, these twenty-five seasons have been an incredible musical experience with too many highlights to mention, although this past season's performance of the Shostakovich 7th Symphony particularly stands out. One of the best parts of being a member of this symphony is the community feeling we all have for each other because of Stuart's leadership. It is with a mixture of pride and a little sadness that I announce my retirement, but new adventures await. Long live HSO!

CHEERS TO 25 YEARS

Celebrating Music Director Stuart Malina's 25th anniversary turned into a city-wide event! We partnered with six Downtown Harrisburg restaurants to offer a drink in his honor. Our friends were given Stuart's favorite libation (bourbon) and free reign to be as creative as they wanted. And they did not disappoint! Each restaurant made an incredibly delicious cocktail approved by Stuart during a tasting tour. Thank you to our partners and everyone who helped us celebrate!



231 Liberio

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar • Stuart's Amaro Legato Hilton Harrisburg – Ad Lib Craft Kitchen & Bar • Malina's Mule El Sol Mexican Restaurant • The Fiery Finale 704 Lounge • The Stuart Home 231 • Stuart's Smoked **Bourbon Sour**

Mangia Qui/Rubicon • Various

drinks throughout the year







DAUPHIN COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP

Check Out the Symphony

We proudly partnered with the Dauphin County Library System this Season for a program called *Check Out the* Symphony. First time Symphony attendees requested a bookmark with a code from their local library good for free Masterworks or Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra concerts during the 2024-2025 Season. From January through May of 2025, over 100 tickets were provided to library members.

We are thrilled to share that for the 2025-2026 Season we will continue working with the Dauphin County Library, and will expand the program to the Cumberland County Libraries, Middletown Public Library, and Hershey Public Library.



STUBBT MALINA | MUSIC DIRECTOR 2024-2025

January 11 & 12, 2025 uch, Coleman, Sibelius

nuary 25 & 26, 2025 stakovich Celebration

pruary 15 & 16, 2025 lavel & Bernstein

arch 15 & 16, 2025 Mahler 4

ay 17 & 18, 2025 ina Madness 2.0

O Concerts

inter Concert February 3, 2025 7:00 pm

r's Day Concert y, May 11, 2025 3:00 pm







performance, please call the HSO Box Office at 717-545-5598 with code Library2425

Library Card Number

Box Office Hours Wednesday-Friday 10 AM-2 PM

Concerts are held at The Forum Auditorium 500 Walnut Street Harrisburg, PA





2024 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES Presented by Highmark

We were thrilled to play all our Summer Concerts outside for the first time in years! You came out to hear us play such favorites as Duke Ellington, Summon the Heroes, and the ever popular Armed Forces Salute. Singing, dancing, and cheers greeted our musicians as they filled the air with amazing patriotic and nostalgic pieces.

Thank you to Reservoir Park (Harrisburg), Millerstown Community Park (Millerstown), and Summerfair, Dickinson College Campus, (Carlisle) for allowing us to bring our musicians to town, sharing the music with you while celebrating our country's birthday. And thank you for coming out to hear us perform and your generous donations for your Symphony.

We are grateful to ALL our sponsors, who made our Summer Concert Series possible.





2024 Summer Series Sponsors



July 5, Reservoir Park, Harrisburg

with a pre-concert performance by Scarlet Rose Marion & Bill Alexander Priscilla & Larry Bashore Karen Diener Best Dauphin County Commissioners Paul & Allison Coppock Joyce Davis & Russell Goodman David Fedele & Matthew Herren Patricia & Rolen Ferris John & Ginny Hall Friends of the Harrisburg Symphony Stephen MacDonald & Mary Warner Linda R. Pheasant Peter & Shannon Powers Bill & Sue Rothman **RSR Realtors** Christyan Seay Dave Skerpon & Chris Baldrige Jill & James Smeltzer Debra Yates

July 6, Millerstown, Millerstown **Community Park**

The Lawrence L. & Julia Z. Hoverter Charitable Foundation **Presenting Sponsor** Pennian Bank Perry County Community

July 7, Summerfair, Dickinson College Campus, Carlisle

Foundation at TFEC

The second annual June Shomaker Summerfair Concert, named in memory of Harrisburg Symphony Association Director Emerita and founder of Summerfair, June Shomaker.

G. B. Stuart Charitable Foundation **Presenting Sponsor**

Steve & Lin Anderson Cletus & Dorene Benjamin Ann & Tom Benjey

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Morgan Plant & Associates Helen Delano & Noel Potter Bob & Jackie Powell Ginny Rahal-The Rahal Family Foundation Michael & Karen Railing Bob Rains & Andrea Jocobsen Dave, Stacy, & Sydney Rohrer Rick & Karen Rovegno The Sentinel Mary & Kevin Silva Jane Steinour Stephen D. Tompkins Diane R. Vaughn Vicki & Jim Whitmore Carol Williams Deb Fulham-Winston & Bob Winston



LEGACY SOCIETY

The Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra's Legacy Society recognizes visionary friends who have planned a special gift to the Orchestra in their will or estate plan. The HSO gratefully acknowledges the following generous individuals and couples as part of our Legacy Society.

A Friend (6) Carole E. Anderson* Jane Best Karen Diener Best Russell A. Bower Joan Frey Boytim* Melvin J. Bownold* Ms. Doris Brytz Beth & Truman* Bullard Chris & Diane Carvell Philip & Nancy Cerveny Anthony A. Ciucci* Carlynn E. Crouse Harvey Danowitz* Thomas S. Davis, M.D. Danielle Dersin & Ted Shellhammer Mary Dietrich Wayne L. Dietrich David Fedele & Matthew Herren Patricia & Rolen Ferris Judy Forshee Susan H. Fulginiti Donald Gingrich Frieda & Ray Gover James & Jean Grandon Jack R. Greenwood* Estelle Hartranft Mrs. Sally G. Hoffman Kim Little Hoover Eric & Amy Huck Caryn & Rob Irving Ronald M. Katzman, Esq.* Rose M. Kessler Dorothy L. Linn Linda T. Litton, MD Dr. Stephen C. MacDonald & Mary C. Warner John & Judy Maietta Leslie S. March, Ph.D.

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* Endowed in Perpetuity



Planned Giving

Gifts that are planned today will support the Orchestra of the future. We appreciate and encourage donors to consider naming the Harrisburg Symphony Association in your estate plan. Donors are advised to consult with their tax advisor and/ or their financial advisor to determine specific tax savings



and/or the planned giving opportunity which best fits their particular need. Please feel free to review more options on our webpage at: harrisburgsymphony.plannedgiving.org

Contact Cheri Comasco, Director of Development, to discuss any issues or concerns. 717-612-4964

Harrisburg Symphony Association Tax ID number is: 23-1355180



Carole and I are longtime supporters of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra. Each year we look forward to spending time enjoying the Capital Blue Cross POPS concerts and listening to the HSO, its talented musicians, and outstanding guest performers. Thank you Stuart, and the HSO staff, for organizing and presenting a wonderful experience for us and Central Pennsylvania. Because of this, we recently included the HSO in our estate plans and look forward to attending future HSO concerts for a number of years to come.

Carole and Bill O'Donnell

MAESTRO CIRCLE & LEGACY SOCIETY DINNER

Members of the Maestro Circle and Legacy Society provide the foundation on which we build our musical future together in Central Pennsylvania. Maestro Circle members support the HSO with gifts of \$1,200 or more, while Legacy Society members provide for the HSO through their will or estate plan. Their generosity is greatly appreciated by the Board, Musicians, and Staff.

On Wednesday, May 21st, we gathered at the West Shore Country Club to thank these friends for their loyal and heart-felt support of the Orchestra. A special performance was provided by Rebecca Kauffman Weaver, Principal Harp (in one of her last performances before her retirement). We wish to thank our sponsors for the evening: Dan and Cheryl Hayward, Danielle Dersin and Ted Shellhammer, III, and Linda Pheasant.









CRESCENDO CLUB & DA CAPO CLUB RECEPTION

As a thank you for their generous support, we invited members of the **Crescendo Club** and **Da Capo Club** to a special open rehearsal with Maestro Stuart Malina and the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra on Friday, May 16th at The Forum. Donors were treated to homemade refreshments while taking the time to enjoy each other's company. Before they were admitted to the auditorium, Maestro Malina greeted and thanked everyone for their support of the HSO and explained how a rehearsal prepares the musicians for the performances that weekend. That evening, our guests had the opportunity to watch *Rhapsody in Blue* being rehearsed.

To become a Crescendo Club member, you must increase your contribution by 10 percent or more from the previous year. Members of the Da Capo Club support the HSO through monthly, quarterly, or bi-annual gifts. We currently have **438** members of the Crescendo Club and **38** members of the Da Capo Club. We hope you'll join us next year when we celebrate our Crescendo Club and Da Capo Club members!











VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are the heart and soul of the HSO, bringing warmth, expertise, and dedication to every performance. From offering a friendly welcome at the door to guiding you to your seat and answering any questions, they are always ready to enhance your concert experience. Their passion for music and commitment to making each event seamless ensures that every performance is special. We are incredibly grateful for their tireless efforts and the vital role they play in creating memorable experiences for our audience.

We would love to welcome you to our volunteer family. To join us, fill out the volunteer application at https://harrisburgsymphony.org/contribute/volunteer/

Steele Andrews Earl Beyer Jon Box Barbara Boyarsky Kathy Bozek Jill Bradley Susie Brehm Brian Brightbill Pam Brightbill Peg Bryant Lois Burns David Burns Ingeborg Coulter Dawn Darkes Joshua Dean Donna Denby Bill Denham Sharyn Denham Patricia Dodd Joan Duffield Lauren Dungan Jane Earle Christian Edwards Margaret Ferraro Jo Ellen Frist Holly Gainor Ray Gainor Jim Gates Kathy Gates Harry Gerhart Carol Graves

Margaret Green

Elaine Groff Clarissa Grunwald Sue Hanna Beth Harfmann Lana Harper Eric Hartranft Kathy Herring Cindy Hogeman Bernadette Howard Andy Jiang Anthony Jiang Ethan Jiang Shu Jiang Helen Katz Cathy Kehler John Keister Rich King Deb King Richard Klein Leann Klingensmith Ed Kraus Keith Lampel Mindy Lange Brenda Lee Randy Lee Mary-Teresa Lee Erik Lindquist Molly Lindquist Sue Lucas Mick Lucas Nancy Lucia Joe Martin

Rebecca McClinton Denise McEntee Iill Miller Brenda Milletics Lois Natale Len Neidig Ann Ohme Judy Packheiser Nancy Patrick Susan Pennay Dennis Pfannenschmidt Debbie Pfannenschmidt Viola Pressley Jill Provins Sue Quigley Josh Rappaport Lillian Rappaport Bonnie Rhoads Evelyn Rixey Therese Rogers Marty Rosenbloom Christle Rushoe Ron Sachs Roseann Sachs Victoria Sailer

Judy Schaefer

Carol Silvestri Mike Silvestri

Richard Sis

Louise Sis

Grace Siguenza Armando Siguenza Jim Smilev Jodie Smiley Gene Smith Linda Spatz Debra Tobias Veselina Topalova Leigh Twiford Paula Unger Carol VanderHeyden Debi Vreeland Paul Wade Barbara Warfel Pam Weaver Laura Wilkinson Judy Winslow Carolyn Woods Chandra Yoder David Yoder Sharon Younes Bianca Zimmerman Chris Zuzack

Terri Slocum

Scan the QR code to fill out the application.









MESSAGE FROM MARKETING & THE BOX OFFICE

Hello Friends!

Thank you for making our 95th anniversary and Music Director Stuart Malina's 25th Season on the HSO podium such a big success! With performances by iconic composers and new compositions proving symphonic music is still a living, breathing thing, you celebrated with us all year long! It was fantastic meeting so many of you, learning why you're symphony attendees, and hearing how the music made you feel.

You jumped right into all our fun activities to celebrate this year! Photos with Flat Stuart came in weekly, from all over the world. You headed downtown to participate in our Cheers to 25 Years drink promotion, visiting our six partners throughout the Season. Many of you attended the Harrisburg Symphony Society's *Symphony in Silver* at Ashcombe Mansion in April. We all felt your love!

We partnered with the Dauphin County Library System this year for Check Out the Symphony. This partnership provided free tickets to library card holders to attend their first symphony performance. You can learn more about that on page 5.

Thank you for making everything we do so easy. Your passion and love of the HSO makes what we do so much more enjoyable. I look forward to chatting with you next season!

See you at the Forum!



Christina M. Stetler Director of Communications & Engagement

Chris

Dear Friends,

Another wonderful year with the symphony is in the books! Thank you all for your support as I stepped into the Patron Services Manager position this past season. Getting to greet and interact with all of you at every concert and event throughout the season truly is the highlight of my job.

We welcomed three new faces to the Box Office staff this season! Mabelle Gako Davison-Vasey, Tim Vasey, and Sorcha Moreland. They all stepped into their roles with confidence and grace, and I truly could not have gotten through this season without them. Thank you all for welcoming them to the Box Office with kind words of encouragement and smiles throughout the 2024-2025 season.

To sign this off I'd like to congratulate Sorcha Moreland on her graduation from Greenwood High School. We will miss her dearly next season, but we know she will shine throughout her studies at Lock Haven University!

Thank you all for another wonderful season, and I look forward to our 2025-2026 season together! As always, if you need assistance with tickets, or subscriptions, call our Box Office at 717-545-5598, or email us at info@harrisburgsymphony.org.

See you soon!



Mary Cote
Patron Services
Manager

WELCOME TO OUR

2025-2026 SEASON







September 27 & 28, 2025

Symphonie Fantastique

Gioachino Rossini • Overture to La Gazza Ladra James Stephenson • Piano Concerto Jeffrey Biegel, piano **Hector Berlioz** • Symphonie fantastique



November 8 & 9, 2025

Orchestral Odysseys

Benjamin Britten • Four Sea Interludes **Richard Strauss** • Death and Transfiguration **Stacy Garrop** • Becoming Medusa **Igor Stravinsky** • Suite from *The Firebird*



January 10 & 11, 2026

Beethoven and Barber

Zoltán Kodály • Dances of Galánta Samuel Barber • Violin Concerto William Hagen, violin **Ludwig van Beethoven** • Symphony #6, *Pastorale*



February 14 & 15, 2026

Mozart and More

W.A. Mozart • Symphony #35, Haffner **Viet Cuong** • Re(new)al The Harrisburg Symphony Percussionists Louise Farrenc • Symphony #3



March 14 & 15, 2026

Masquerade

Anna Clyne • *Masquerade* **Kurt Weill** • Symphony #2, Fantaisie Symphonique Sergei Rachmaninoff • Symphony #3



April 18 & 19, 2026

The Verdi Requiem

Othalie Graham, soprano; Sabrina Carten, mezzo-soprano; Israel Lozano, tenor; Ben Wager, bass; The Susquehanna Chorale; The Messiah University Concert Choir & Choral Arts Society



May 9 & 10, 2026

Joyce Yang plays Tchaikovsky

Jean Sibelius • The Swan of Tuonela **Béla Bartók** • Concerto for Orchestra

Pyotr Tchaikovsky • Piano Concerto #1 Joyce Yang, piano

SUBSCRIBE NOW DON'T MISS A SINGLE SHOW!







October 25 & 26, 2025

To Whitney with Love

Join American Idol Finalist LaKisha Jones in a celebration of the great ladies of soul — Diana Ross, Donna Summer, Tina Turner, the legendary Aretha Franklin and the one and only Whitney Houston. Lakisha Jones was a single mother and bank employee from Flint, Michigan who dreamed of making it big in the music business. Today, she regularly appears with orchestras around the globe to great acclaim.



December 6 & 7, 2025

Come Swing with Me!

Paul Loren stars in a program of swinging hits made famous by Frank Sinatra: Come Fly With Me, Ain't That A Kick In The Head, I've Got You Under My Skin, My Way, The Best Is Yet to Come, New York, New York, Summer Wind, and more. Paul's crooning voice, tailored style, and twinkle-in-his-eye delivery has won over fans and devotees from coast to coast. Gregory Woodbridge conducts.



January 31 & February 1, 2026

Bravo Broadway!

A delightful and exciting array of music from Hamilton, Wicked, Phantom, My Fair Lady, Company, Spamalot, Sound of Music, Rent, and more, starring Broadway veterans Nikki Renee Daniels (Company, The Book of Mormon, Les Mis), Ben Davis (Dear Evan Hansen, A Little Night Music, Thoroughly Modern Millie), and Jeff Kready (A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder, Billy Elliot, Sunday in the Park with George).



February 28 & March 1, 2026

The Golden Age of the Silver Screen

In this latest edition of A Night at the Movies, relive some of the greatest moments in film which were made even greater with music. It's a survey of scores from the silver screen, including themes from Casablanca, Cinema Paradiso, Gone with the Wind, The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, and others.



April 25 & 26, 2026

The Music of Billy Joel Starring Michael Cavanaugh

Called 'the new voice of the American Rock 'n' Roll songbook' by Billboard Magazine, Michael Cavanaugh was the original star of "Movin' Out", the Broadway show based on the songs of Billy Joel. In his lead role, Michael received both Tony and GRAMMY nominations. He'll sing Joel's greatest hits, including *My Life, Just the Way You Are, Piano Man, You May Be Right,* and *A New York State of Mind*. Experience a voice and sound rivaling the "Piano Man" himself.

More than 2,500 Symphony patrons have discovered the many benefits of being a subscriber:

Subscription pricing provides **significant savings** over single-ticket prices. Subscribers get **early access** to additional tickets - before they go on sale to the general public and the first opportunity to **select their seats**.

Being a subscriber provides the ultimate **flexibility** to exchange tickets for another performance, or transfer them to a friend.

Visit our website or call the Box Office at 717-545-5598 Wednesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. 717-545-5598

www.harrisburgsymphony.org info@harrisburgsymphony.org

"The savings is like getting FREE concerts."

DEVELOPMENT



Dear Symphony Family,

Amid this joyful and bustling fall season, as we eagerly prepare for our much-anticipated opening weekend on **September 27th & 28th**, I'm delighted to share that the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra remains exceptionally strong. This strength is due in large part to the unwavering support of our generous and dedicated community of friends—**you**!

Each year, we pause to recognize and thank the remarkable generosity of the HSO family through this **Annual Report of Gifts**. Your contributions are instrumental in presenting inspiring performances, welcoming world-class musicians to the Forum Auditorium, and nurturing a lifelong love of symphonic music across all generations.

As you'll see in this year's report, our community has come together to support the HSO's immediate needs through gifts to the **Symphony Fund**, **Concert and Event Sponsorships**, **Education Initiatives**, the **Symphony Society**, and our **Youth Orchestras**. Many of you have also made thoughtfully planned gifts that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the orchestra—an investment in our shared future.

Thanks to your continued commitment, **Maestro Stuart Malina** and the entire HSO team are empowered to create extraordinary musical experiences that deepen our region's appreciation for the arts and enrich the cultural life of Central Pennsylvania. Your support not only helps us meet today's needs but also secures a vibrant future through planned giving.

It is a joy and an honor to work for you at the Harrisburg Symphony. The Symphony Family has been incredibly good to me, and for that, I am truly grateful. I look forward to seeing you at a concert or event this season, and please don't hesitate to say hello and introduce yourself.

Thank you for believing in our mission, in our music, and in the power of community. The collective dedication of the HSO family is truly extraordinary—and deeply appreciated!

Together, we are a Symphony.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Cheri Comasco

Director of Development

P.S. To learn more about ways to give or planned giving options, please use the **QR code** provided or visit our website at https://harrisburgsymphony.org/contribute/





Symphony Society Hoe Down at the Ryans' home.



Cheri, Dr. David Bronstein and Chris at the Arts Awards



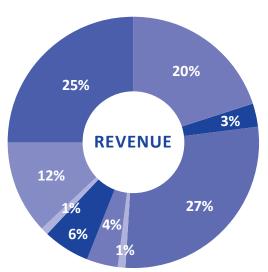
Becky Lawson, Marion Alexander, and Cheri at Kina Mansion.

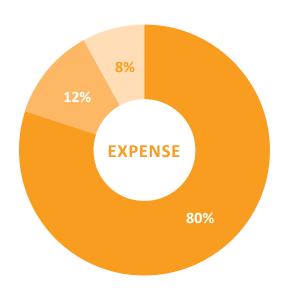


Fun reunion - Cheri, Sue Klick, Matthew, and Greg at King Mansion.









Revenue

100%	Total Revenue	\$3,456,000.00
	Endowment & Investment Income	\$707,000.00
3%	Other Income	\$104,000.0020%
27%	Ticket Sales	\$924,000.00
Total Giving		\$1,721,000.00
1%	Other	\$35,000.0
4%	Bequests	\$142,000.00
6%	Symphony Society Fundraisers	\$214,000.00
1%	Government Grants	\$31,000.00
12%	Grants & Sponsorships	\$431,000.00
25%	Symphony Fund	\$868,000.00

Expenses

100%	Total Expense	\$3,579,874.00
8%	Fundraising	\$286,390
12%	Administrative	\$429,585
80%	Artistic	\$2,863,899

Net Result \$(123,874.00)

Endowment & Investment Balances \$10,638,535.00

Please note: Any gift made after June 30, 2025, will be included in the 2025-2026 Annual Report.

^{*}This is an unaudited report as of July 31, 2025.





25 Years...

A quarter of a century seems like an amazingly long time. It's not all that much less than half of my lifetime. During that period, I've gone from being a newlywed with an infant daughter to a still-happily, married husband of 26 years and the father of two college graduates (one now in medical school).

And yet, the time has flown by. I believe that's the nature of time—long days, fleeting years. But certainly, it also has something to do with the enormous satisfaction I've found in both my personal and professional life. Since I began my tenure as Music Director of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, there have been very few days when I've felt anything but gratitude for my association with this marvelous organization.

It has been a joyride.

I'm often asked what I'm most proud of as the artistic leader of the HSO. If I had to boil it down to one overarching theme, it would be culture. Along with my Executive Director partners, I've helped foster a culture of trust, respect, collegiality, transparency, and passion. This is reflected not only in the concerts we perform, but also in the way our extraordinary staff works and in the superb governance and support of our volunteer board.

Our players—contracted and substitute alike—know that when they come to Harrisburg to play, they are entering a joyful and proud workplace where everyone brings their A-game. They know that the management of the Orchestra has their backs, and that the board respects their talents. They know they will be fairly compensated. They know they will enjoy working hard at rehearsals—and playing hard afterwards. And they know the artistic product presented at the Forum will be magnificent - I venture to say, as magnificent as many orchestras with much larger budgets than ours.





The Malina Family: Stuart, Marty, Sarah, Nancy, Joel, Michael (dad) and Anita (mom).

I'm extremely proud of the programming we've brought to this community. I've always believed that the key to programming is variety. Without a doubt, we've performed our fair share of central works from the orchestral repertoire—what we call the "warhorses." But we've also performed many more contemporary and even brand-new works, as well as lesser-known pieces from the canon. Our audience has proven time and again that they are able and willing to listen to—and appreciate—all sorts of music.

One of my greatest accomplishments with the HSO has been the growth of our Capital Blue Cross POPS series—a series that was on the brink of extinction when I arrived. I convinced our board to take the risk, and through our partnership with Capital Blue Cross (thank you, Jim Mead!), we've grown to a five-concert, highly successful (money-making!) pops series, bringing extraordinary shows to Harrisburg.

Our education program has also flourished, bringing the joys of orchestral music to many thousands of students across Central Pennsylvania.

As proud as I am of the artistic quality of the orchestra, I also know that it stems from the virtuoso musicians who make up the HSO. When I arrived in 2000, the level was already high—and it keeps getting better. When we hold auditions now, talented players come from across the country (and sometimes the world) to try out for our orchestra. I can say without hesitation that there is nothing in the orchestral repertoire—pops or classical—that I wouldn't feel absolutely comfortable putting in front of this orchestra. Their combination of dazzling ability, great attitude, and laser focus is truly unique. I am an incredibly lucky man to get to work with these musicians year after year.

Highlights? There are too many to list. Suffice it to say that any one of the concerts we presented just this past season could easily qualify as a high point of my tenure here.

I'm so grateful to all of those beyond our players who have made these 25 years possible. Our staff would probably still be overworked if it were twice as large, and yet they do their jobs brilliantly—with smiles on their faces and joy in their contributions. I hope they realize just how much of our success is due to them.

Our board—under the leadership of some of the finest people I have ever met—has not only provided financial oversight and advocacy but also demonstrated time and again that they understand our mission and support me and our executive directors in steering the ship.

The Harrisburg Symphony Society has been tireless in raising money to help us continue pursuing artistic excellence. And our patrons—both individual and corporate—continue to dazzle me with their generosity.

And every single person who comes to an HSO concert and allows us to touch them with the magic of great orchestral music holds a special place in my heart. We are nothing without you.

Here's to the last 25 years, to the entire 95 years of HSO concerts, and to the (hopefully) countless years to come!

-Stuart Malina











A special evening surrounded by the beauty of music and warmth of shared experiences as we celebrated three remarkable milestones: The 25th Anniversary of our esteemed Maestro, the 35th Anniversary of the Symphony Society, and the 95th Anniversary of our Orchestra.

On Saturday, April 5th, the Willows at Ashcombe Mansion sparkled with elegance as over 290 guests gathered to celebrate the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra and Maestro Stuart Malina at *Symphony in Silver*.

Thanks to the generosity of our Exclusive Presenting Sponsors, Ron and Pat Ferris, and all our event sponsors, the evening raised over \$214,000 in support of the HSO!

Guests were welcomed by Board Chair Patricia Ferris and Executive Director Matthew Herren and treated to a beautiful evening of music and celebration. Steve Rudolf and Kevin MacConnell performed jazz in the living room. From a surprise video performance, created by Peter Miller and The Harvard Krokodiloes (a group of Stuart's friends from Harvard), to the captivating violin performances of Peter Sirotin and Alex Kerr, music filled every corner of the mansion

Special appreciation goes to gala co-chairs Shelly Page and Dave Skerpon, who shared:

"Each note played, each performance shared, and each moment of inspiration has woven a rich tapestry that connects us all. We are especially grateful to our Maestro, whose visionary leadership and unwavering passion have guided us through the years, elevating our artistry and bringing us together in harmony."

Joel Malina—Stuart's younger brother—served as a witty and heartfelt emcee, even debuting a self-composed song in honor of his brother. Alicia Richards of ABC27 offered a celebratory toast, and Jeff Woodruff and Greg Woodbridge delivered witty remarks.

A lively auction, led by Ted Reese and Chris Baldrige, and an energetic paddle raise added to the evening's success.

Maestro Malina closed the night with touching words of gratitude, noting that he was especially moved by the presence of his parents at the celebration.

To everyone who attended, sponsored, volunteered, donated, or joined as a Friend of Stuart—thank you. The Symphony Family came together in harmony, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

Gala Committee Members: Marion Alexander, Chris Baldrige, Sarah Bauder, Karen Best, Susan Coble, Alison Coppock, Megan Coyne, Carole DeSoto, Pat Ferris, Suzanne Gale, Jean Grandon, Amy Hall, Pam Inners, Holly Leggett, Asha Makam, Susan Moran, Jenifer Neely, Debra Ryan, and Debra Yates.



Mike & Shelly Page



Dave Skerpon & Chris Baldrige

The Harrisburg Symphony Society thanks our Sponsors, Friends of Stuart, Donors, and advertisers for their support of Symphony in Silver...25 Years of the Maestro!

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HSO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



Photo by Doug Nicotera

Greetings from the Education Department!

It was a wonderful year for the young people who benefit from the programs the Harrisburg Symphony provides.

For starters, instruments were delivered to the Harrisburg School District that were donated to us and repaired at the end of last season. These included band and string instruments and were received with tremendous appreciation

by the faculty and students alike. It afforded me the opportunity to not only deliver the instruments, but to work with the elementary orchestra as well just prior to their Spring concert. The Harrisburg School District has caring music teachers who go out of their way to help their students, and the students I met were kind, well-behaved, and interested in improving.

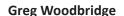
The HSO performed for over 3,200 students and teachers representing over 50 school districts at our Young Persons' Concerts, and the Youth Orchestra program boasts a membership of 190 students across the three orchestras (Elementary, Junior and High School-aged) representing 50 schools from 20 school districts.

We sent three HSO musicians to work with school students several times throughout the school year, and two of our HSO soloists gave masterclasses to advanced high school and college students. Even I went back into the trenches and worked with high school orchestra programs in Hershey and Palmyra in preparation for their upcoming performances.

And of course, the HSO continues to make concerts affordable to families with children K-12 in addition to students from high schools and local colleges and universities.

All of these programs exist to create in our young people a passion for symphonic music. Whether by making the music or listening to the music, we provide opportunities to do both in the hopes of fostering the next generations of symphonic music lovers.

See you at the Forum!



Associate Conductor, HSO, Music Director, HSYO, and Director of Education





The culmination of just one of the ways the HSO impacts our youth—our Spring Young Persons' Concert featuring our Youth Orchestra side-by-side with members of the HSO, performing for a packed hall of elementary students in The Orchestra Moves!



Scott Sloat, VP Corporate Communications for Penn National Insurance presents an EITC check to the staff.

Thank You to our Partners!

Our education and HSYO programs are made possible by support from generous donors, organizations, and foundations. We are grateful for their partnership and support and the impact it has on our community.

- Dr. Mark & Mrs. Renee Blanchard
- Mooney Family Foundation
- Mark and Jane Mendlow
- Andy Jiang Kind Insurance Agency
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- Charles A. and Elizabeth G. Holmes Foundation
- The Hall Foundation
- The Harrisburg Symphony Society
- The Friends and Family of Gloria Saleh Giambalvo
- The Derek & Martha Hathaway Family Foundation

Supporters through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program:

- Penn National Insurance
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ABOUT OUR YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

Our flagship experience for young musicians in grades 4 through 12 lies in our youth orchestras. It is comprised of three orchestras that highlight nearly 200 talented musicians from varied backgrounds; public schools, independent schools, charter schools, and homeschools. It is our mission to provide an educational ensemble experience of the highest quality, starting with the faculty we provide, who then thoughtfully choose repertoire that appropriately challenges and rewards the players from a technical and musical standpoint. We also seek to provide a social experience for like-minded kids who come together with a shared love for playing together—and then discover other wonderful things about each other that lead to beautiful friendships, some of which last lifetimes.

Krista Kriel, Director of our Junior Youth String Orchestra (JYSO), says "Not only did students play difficult and challenging music, but more importantly, relationships were made. It is incredibly beautiful to see students from all walks of life together, laughing and having a wonderful time on Monday nights."

Michael Gamon, Director of the Elementary String Orchestra (ESO) brings



music to life with students in grades 3-5. His joyful nature, encouraging words, and boundless energy help to bring the students' abilities to heights they never dreamt possible.

Greg Woodbridge, Director of HSYO, finds inspiration and musical satisfaction working with this youth orchestra. "I get a kick introducing music that I love to the students, especially when they react the same way I did to the exact same parts of the work when I first heard it! They're young...but they certainly 'get' it."

Together, the three conductors provide educational inspiration, encouragement, and enjoyment to so many students, giving them the ability to soar to new heights. We encourage you to bring your children to the concerts or to try out for one of our orchestras.



Members of the youth orchestra pose outside of the Kimmel Center where they attended a performance of Mahler's Third Symphony by the Philadelphia Orchestra.



HSYO silliness after a Philadelphia Orchestra concert. See? Our kids are serious musicians AND fun, too!









HSO musicians perform side-by side and coach HSYO students during our Link-Up concert.

SAVE THE DATES

Fall Young Persons' Concert

Friday, November 7, 2025

Our Young Persons' Concerts are available to students through their schools. They are approximately one hour in length, and feature music from the upcoming weekend's Masterwork's program. Music Director Stuart Malina has a knack for engaging with young people and making seemingly complex concepts understandable and enjoyable. Our YPC's spark the imaginations and interests of the next generation of symphonic music lovers!

Spring Young Persons' Concert

Thursday, May 7, 2026

The Education Department of the HSO is making a departure from their previous Carnegie Hall programs, *The Orchestra (Sings, Rocks, Moves, or Swings)*. This year we celebrate one of the most beloved works from educational concerts all over the world, Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*. Performed exclusively by the HSO, this concert also features the theatrical musings of the *Really Inventive Stuff Troupe*.





Our 2025 Sue Klick HSYO Concerto Competition winner was Carson Kime, clarinet. Carson is senior at Susquehanna Township High School.

Youth Orchestra Concerts

Sunday, November 2, 2025

Parmer Hall at the Calvin and Janet High Center on the campus of Messiah University

Monday, February 9, 2026

Parmer Hall at the Calvin and Janet High Center on the campus of Messiah University

Monday, May 4, 2026

The Forum Auditorium in downtown Harrisburg



Join us at the Masterworks Concerts with your family for just \$49 per subscription!

Immerse your children in classical music at an astoundingly low cost. Offered for families with students in kindergarten through 12th grade, a Musical Chairs Masterworks Subscription is just \$49 per person. With seven concerts included that is only \$7.00 per person, per concert!

Musical Chairs subscriber also may participate in our *Welcome to the Concert* program offered at intermission on Sundays which includes an age appropriate printed program with musical activities and listening guides and an intermission workshop. Through *Welcome to the Concert*, young listeners learn about the different instrument families in the orchestra, musical forms, and even how to conduct an orchestra.

For more information contact Greg Woodbridge at Greg@HarrisburgSymphony.org or visit our website and download the application form.



https://harrisburgsymphony.org/education/musical-chairs/

Just this year, my child has been exposed to exciting works from composers including Beethoven, Brahms, Bruch, Mahler, Mendelson, Mozart, Ravel, Sibelius, Shostakovich, Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky. His knowledge of music, and the history behind it, has grown tremendously from these new experiences.

-Parent of a Musical Chairs Subscriber



HSYO Alumni return to the Forum to hear an HSO concert and visit with HSYO Conductor, Greg Woodbridge.





ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ZEV MALINA HYSO Class of 2020

In the months since graduating from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, I've been able to enjoy some some long-awaited free time with very little to infringe upon my repose, and that's granted me the chance to reflect on the experiences that have shaped my identity and led me where I am. The more I consider my time in the HSYO, the more it dawns on me just how formative it was. I can say without question that being in this ensemble improved my musicianship substantially. I had been playing the piano for several years before I joined, but I had only picked up the bassoon fairly recently, and to play in a section for the first time enhanced my playing as an ensemble member and as a soloist. I also attribute a lot of my growth as a composer to playing in the HSYO; working so closely on the great repertoire we played provided some early insights about musical form, harmony, and orchestration. I very recently had my largescale orchestral tone poem Clever Elsie premiered by the Harrisburg Symphony, and the satisfaction I felt with how I wrote the piece is truly a testament to the invaluable time I spent familiarizing myself with orchestral playing and rehearsing firsthand.

All this is to say that I certainly reaped the musical benefits of playing in the HSYO, but that's burying the lead that playing in this group was, above all else, an absolute delight. The ethos of the ensemble was always one of communal joy and support, in no small part because of Mr. Woodbridge's infectious positivity and adept leadership. Even when stuck on the oom-pahs that second bassoonists are so accustomed to, that collective excitement to play music with friends consistently prevailed. As much as my technique developed, my character and values did too, and while I'm still unsure what my future has in store for me, I hope and intend to pursue that degree of camaraderie and zeal wherever I end up.







Mendlow Scholarship

The Eric Morris Mendlow Scholarship is presented annually to a member of the Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestras, in memory of Eric M. Mendlow, by his parents, Mark and Jane Mendlow. This scholarship affords an HSYO student the opportunity to attend an intensive summer music program at no cost. Thank you to Mark and Jane for continuing to make impactful musical opportunities possible for HSYO students, and congratulations to 2024-2025 Mendlow Scholarship winner, HSYO violinist Elijah Brye.

The HSO welcomes many student groups throughout the season from local high schools and colleges. Here are some of the friends who visited us this season!

Lower Dauphin High School Orchestra Students

Gettysburg College Music Students

Brazilian Exchange Students from LVC

Messiah University Honors College Students

Gettysburg College Music Students

Susquehanna University Music Students

Delta Sigma Theta Members

HARRISBURG SYMPHONY SOCIETY

Dear Friends,

The Harrisburg Symphony Society had an extraordinary 2024–2025 season as we celebrated our **35th anniversary!**

September 28-29, 2024 – Through the hard work of HSS member **Kathy Santiago,** we welcomed concertgoers to the Opening Weekends of both the HSO Masterworks and Capital Blue Cross POPS (October 19-20) concert series with candy donated by **M&M Mars.**

October 8, 2024 – We came together for our Annual Member Reception to meet up with old friends and welcome new members at the historic King Mansion. We enjoyed the music of two Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra musicians, Keegan Zicko (flute) and Lace Hilbocky (harp), and shared a delightful afternoon of food and drink. Thank you to **Debra Ryan** and **Alison Coppock** for co-chairing this event.

February 13, 2025 – Our Friendraiser, *West Side Story at the West Shore Theater,* was a lively and well-attended evening. Special thanks to board member **Judy Henry,** a renowned choreographer, who had us all dancing the Mambo! Kudos to **Holly Leggett,** chair of the event, and to the fabulous singers and entertainers who brought our community together.

April 5, 2025 – Our *Gala, Symphony in Silver,* was a magical night at The Willows at Ashcombe Mansion. It was a heartfelt tribute to our beloved **Maestro Stuart Malina,** with his brother, family, and friends in attendance. The evening featured special performances and raised an incredible **\$214,000!** Thank you to cochairs **Shelly Page** and **Dave Skerpon** for their leadership.

June 11, 2025- The *HSS Annual Meeting & Luncheon,* was at the West Shore Country Club. The HSS celebrated its 35th Anniversary with a special take-home history book featuring all the past Board Presidents, and other information. The luncheon also recognized the **Keep The Music Playing** awardee, Carole DeSoto. HSYO musician Carson Kime, clarinet and Benjamin Wesley, piano, performed Allegro from Concerto in A Major, K.622, by W. A. Mozart. Thank you to co-chairs: Jean Grandon and Carole DeSoto for a wonderful event.

I also want to recognize those members who shared their talents on our **Hospitality Committee**, chaired by Debra Ryan; **Membership Committee**, chaired by Karen Best; **Social Media Committee**, chaired by Justine Fabian Davis; **Long-Range Planning Committee**, chaired by in-coming HSS President Jenifer Neely; and our **Education Committee**, chaired by Kathy Santiago

As I step down as the President of the Harrisburg Symphony Society, I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to all our Society and Board members for your continued support and dedication.

Warm regards,

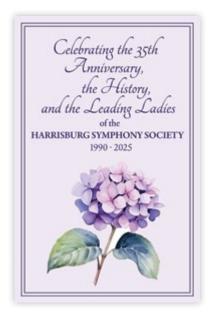
Debre

Debra Yates

President, Harrisburg Symphony Society

P. S. Save the Date:

March 22, 2026 – We are excited to announce *Symphonic Swing*, featuring the Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra, at the West Shore Country Club. Mark your calendars for another unforgettable evening!

























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We sincerely appreciate all donors who support the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra. Ticket revenue covers about one-third of the symphony's operating costs, and donor support of our Symphony Fund allows us to attract and retain world-class artists, while keeping ticket prices affordable.

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