

The Symphony Starting Lineup

Field Trip and Concert Guide



Symphony
FOR THE SCHOOLS

 The Phoenix Symphony



 The Phoenix Symphony

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FOR THE SCHOOLS

October 30, 2025
10:00 AM and 11:40 AM

November 13, 2025
10:00 AM and 11:40 AM

April 30, 2026
10:00 AM and 11:40 AM

May 12, 2026
10:00 AM and 11:40 AM

Symphony Hall
75 N 2nd St
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Symphony Hall 75
N 2nd St
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Preparing for the Concert

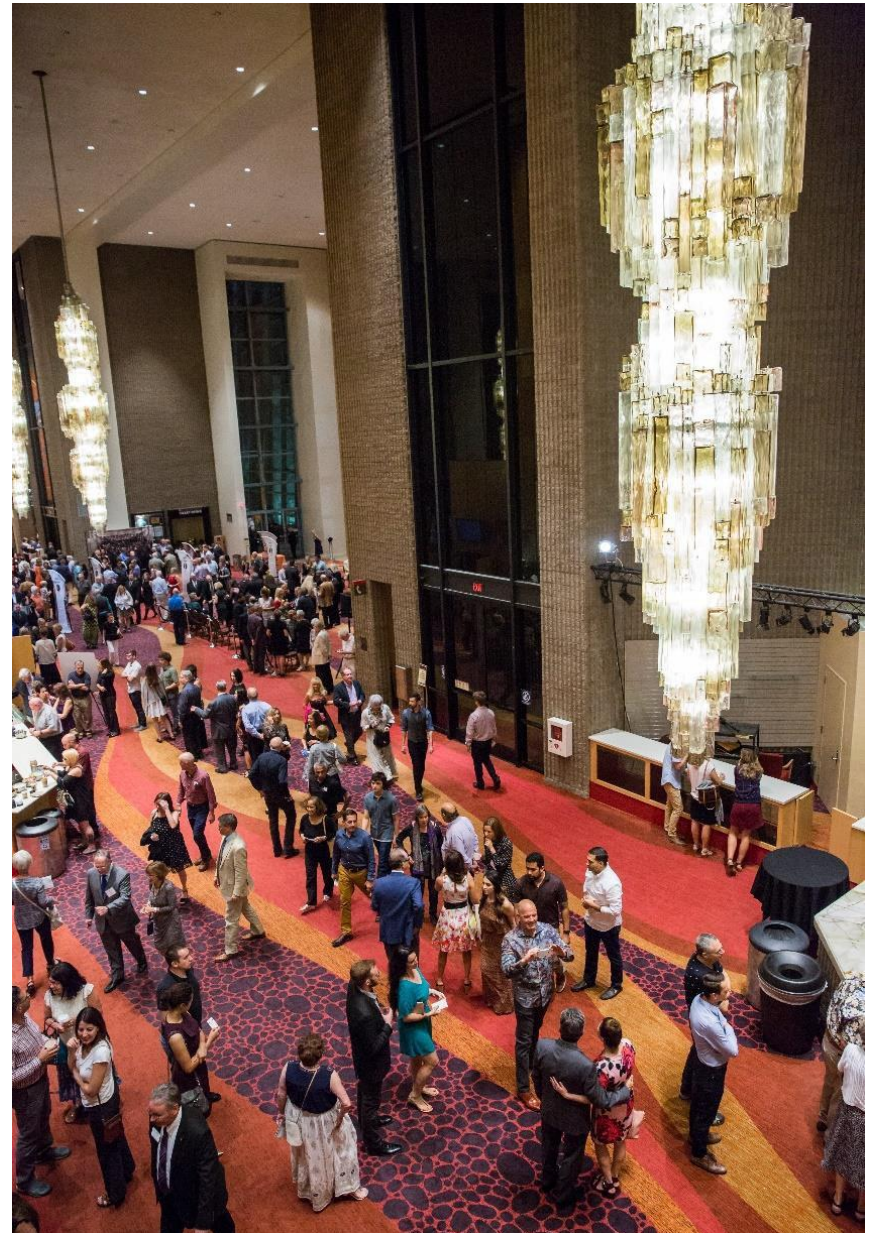


- The Phoenix Symphony is excited that you will be joining us for our 2025-2026 Symphony for the Schools “The Symphony Starting Lineup” Field Trip!
- This guide includes information about the composers you will hear at the performance, a description of the pieces and a link to recordings on YouTube. Consider playing these excerpts throughout the school day to help familiarize students with the music; you may find that it has a dramatic effect on their engagement in their field trip.

Field Trip Introduction

This season's Symphony for the Schools Field Trip is all about teamwork, communication, and the power of playing in sync. Designed specifically for Arizona students and teachers, the 2025/2026 program puts the orchestra in the spotlight like a championship team. Each section of the orchestra – strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion – bringing their unique skills to the performance. Students will discover how the conductor and the musicians use non-verbal communication during performances.

Recommended for Grades K-8



Parking and Getting to Symphony Hall



- When you arrive downtown you will find bus parking on Third Street, one block from Symphony Hall, but stay tuned to your email and The Phoenix Symphony website for possible parking changes!
- A Phoenix Symphony staff member will board your bus and give your bus captain a pink, blue or green sheet of paper with a number on one side and instructions on the other.
- Another copy of the color / number sheet will be affixed to you bus, so you can easily find it after the concert.
- You will find your way into Symphony Hall by following the arrows placed outside the busses that correspond to the color of your sheet / number.
- For more information on bus parking and procedures, please visit: <https://www.phoenixsymphony.org/education-community/field-trips/>

About Symphony Hall

- Symphony Hall was built in 1972, and received major upgrades in 2004.
- Every year, The Phoenix Symphony performs around 100 concerts at Symphony Hall.
- There is enough space for 2,241 people to attend a concert here, making it the perfect home for The Phoenix Symphony!



Meet the Orchestra

The Phoenix Symphony is made up of all kinds of different people from all over the world!

Let's meet everyone that's part of an orchestra and learn about their role in making each performance successful.



About the Conductor

- Alejandro Gómez Guillén is the Director of Orchestras at [Arizona State University](https://www.arizona.edu/)!
- To learn more about Alejandro, please visit: <https://www.alejandrogomezguillen.com/>



About the Teaching Artist

- **Jordanna Matlock** is the Manager of Education and Community Engagement at The Phoenix Symphony!
- Jordanna has worked with the symphony as a teaching artist and in the education department since 2018.
- Jordanna is a professional bassoonist graduating from Arizona State University with her Masters in Bassoon Performance.
- Jordanna has a passion for teaching! Look for her on stage the day of your field trip!



About the Teaching Artist

- **Michael Kary** is the Professor of Theatre at [Grand Canyon University](#) (GCU)!
- Michael is an Alumni of GCU and hold an M.F.A. from the University of San Diego Old Globe Professional Actor Training Program.
- Michael is an actor and playwright!
- Michael has a passion for teaching!

Look for him on stage the day of your field trip!



About the Teaching Artist

- **Cassie Chilton** is a professional actress in Arizona.
- She is a songwriter and multi-instrumentalist that daylights as a 7th grade science teacher. Select theatre credits include *Always... Patsy Cline*, *Once*, and *Ring of Fire* (Phoenix Theatre Company); *Lizzie and Murder Ballad* (A/CTC); *Silence! The Musical* (Stray Cat Theatre); and *Toxic Avenger* (MET). In addition to theatre, Cassie performs with country tribute band Rhinestone Country and with indie-folk duo, Cass & Crossland (original music streaming on all platforms).
- She most recently the star of the show “Waitress” at Phoenix Theatre in Arizona.

Look for her on stage the day of your field trip!



The Strings Section

The strings section is made up of the Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass.

Each one makes sound when the musician moves their bow across the instrument's strings.

**This is Karen Sinclair.
Karen plays a violin that
was made in 1690!**



The Woodwinds Section



The Woodwinds section is made up of the Clarinet, Flute, Oboe and Bassoon. Woodwinds make sound by vibrating a tiny piece of wood at the end of their instrument called a “reed”.

**This is Damien Shindelman.
He plays the oboe!**



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The Brass Section



The Brass section includes the Trumpet, Trombone, Horn and Tuba.

Brass players make sound on their instruments by “buzzing” their lips together into their instruments!

This is Cristina Cutts Dougherty. She plays the Tuba!



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The Percussion Section

The Percussion Section includes anything you could strike, shake or scrape to make a sound.

You have probably played a percussion instrument before!

This is Bruce Pulk playing the timpani, or kettle drums.



Stage Management Crew

You may see our crew running around the stage before, during and after the concert. Their job is to work behind the scenes to make sure the stage is set up and safe for the musicians at every concert and rehearsal. They also coordinate everything during a concert including the announcements, lights, microphones, equipment and instrument moves, and doors.

Without them, we couldn't have a concert!



The Playlist

- The Cowboys: Overture - John Williams
- American Salute - Morton Gould
- Adagio for Strings - Samuel Barber
- Chokfi' - Jerod Tate
- Fanfare for the Common Man - Aaron Copland
- Gaelic Symphony, II Andante - Amy Beach
- West Side Story Suite - Leonard Bernstein, arr. Maurice Peress

*The program and pieces may not be played in its entirety



The Cowboys: Overture – John Williams



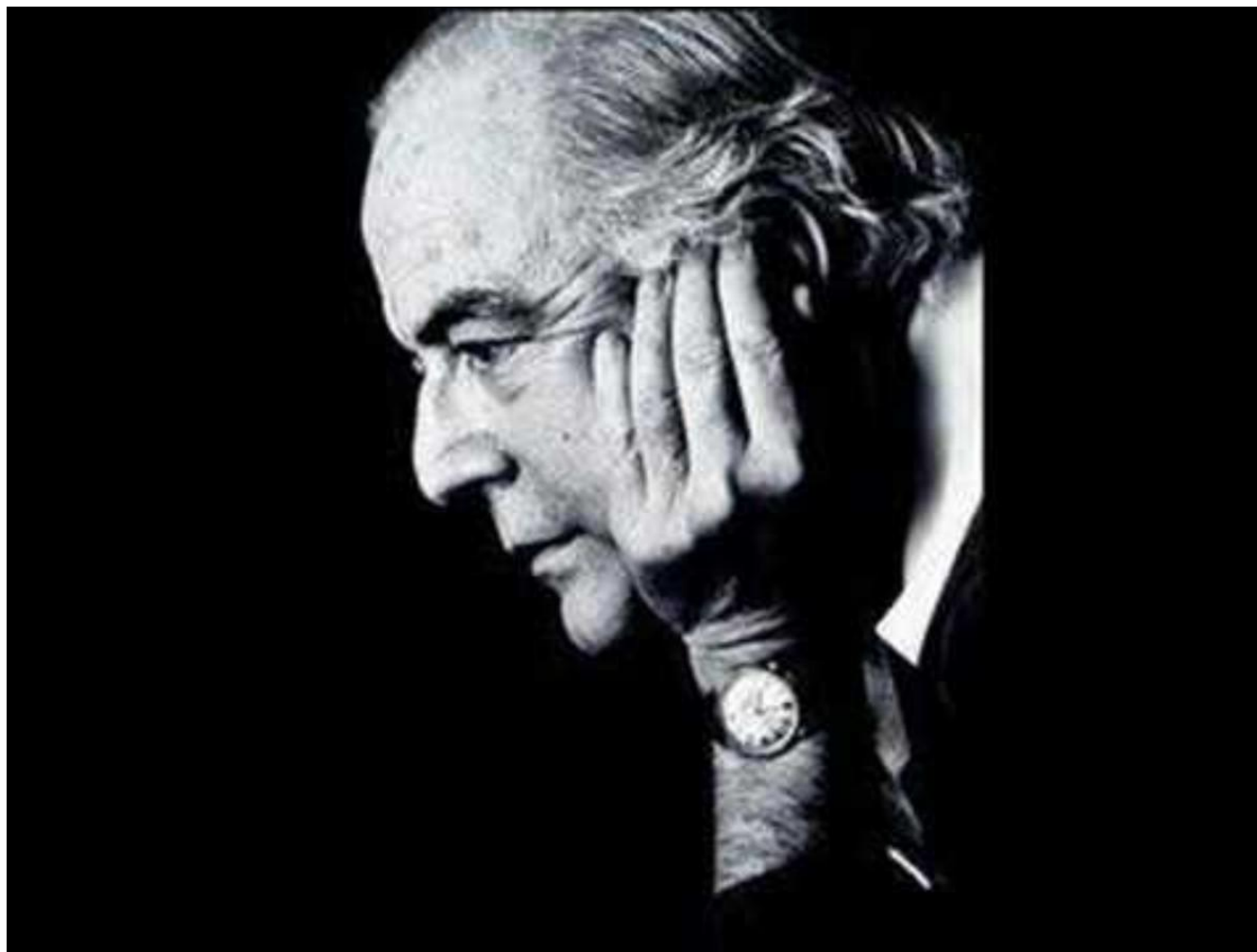
American Salute – Morton Gould



Listen here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeNSliHUE1A&list=RDLLeNSliHUE1A&start_radio=1

Adagio for Strings – Samuel Barber



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Listen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izQsgE0L450>

Chokfi' - Jerod Tate



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Listen here:

<https://jerodtate.com/chokfi/>

Fanfare for the Common Man - Aaron Copland



Listen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKgk6G0lekQ>

Gaelic Symphony, II Andante - Amy Beach



Listen here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2mcA_k5rYo

West Side Story Suite - Leonard Bernstein



Listen here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J859pZ_VWN8&list=RDJ859pZ_VWN8&start_radio=1

Karna – Nevin Atodaria

Nevin Atodaria is a junior-year high school student at Brophy College Preparatory. He's passionate about music and has been learning the piano since the age of six, has developed an affinity for the viola through his school's orchestra, and loves the electric guitar. Nevin is a big fan of classical music — but loves contemporary works of all sorts, too, being especially drawn towards Christopher Larkin's style.

His piece is called *Karna*, and it comes from the *Mahabharata*, one of the great epic stories from India. Karna is a hero who grows up to be the best archer in the world, and then discovers his real family. In the end, he chooses loyalty to his friends, even though it costs him his life. The music takes us through his journey — from birth, to training, to family, and finally his last battle.



Arizona State Education Standards

English: K.RI.4, 1RL.3

Math: K.MP.7, 1.MP.7, 2.MP.7, 3.MP.7, 4.MP.7, 5.MP.7

Social Studies: K.SP1.2, K.SP2.1, K.C1.1, K.C1.3, K.C2.1, K.G1.2, K.H1.1, 1.SP1.2, 1.SP2.1, 1.H4.1, 2.SP1.2, 2.SP2.1, 2.H1.2, 2.H1.3, 3.SP1.2, 4.SP1.2

Music: MU.CR.1Kb, MU.CR.1.1b, MU.CR.2.Ka, MU.CR.2.1a, MU.PR.4.Kd, MU.PR.4.1d, MU.PR.6.3b,

MU.PR.6.4b, MU.PR.6.5b, MU.PR.6.6b, MU.PR.6.7b, MU.PR.6.8b, MU.CN.10.Kb, MU.CN.10.1b, MU.CU.19.2b, MU.CN.10.3b, MU.CN.11.Ka, MU.CN.11.1a, MU.CN.11.2a, MU.CN.11.3a, MU.CN.11.4a, MU.CN.11.Kb, MU.CN.11.1b, MU.CN.11.2b

The Phoenix Symphony's "Symphony for the Schools" series aims to aid in the development of the skills and abilities that support a young person's capability to learn and grow socially, emotionally and academically.

Contact Information

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What's Next?

- We have a variety of education programs that you and your students can be a part of!
- See how you can be a part of education at the symphony:
<https://www.phoenixsymphony.org/education-and-community/>
- Check out our learning page with more videos of our musicians here:
<https://www.phoenixsymphony.org/education-community/learning/>

Hope to see
you again soon!

