

*The* COLUMBIA  
*Orchestra*  
*Your Community's Music*

**2021–2022**  
**Member Handbook**

The Columbia Orchestra  
Howard County Center for the Arts  
8510 High Ridge Road  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Phone: (410) 465-8777  
Fax: (410) 465-8778  
[www.columbiaorchestra.org](http://www.columbiaorchestra.org)  
[execdir@columbiaorchestra.org](mailto:execdir@columbiaorchestra.org)

Created by  
The Columbia Orchestra  
“Orchestra Committee”, 1997  
Penny Zahn, Joyce Thayer, Marlene Brown

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# CONTACT INFORMATION

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[execdir@columbiaorchestra.org](mailto:execdir@columbiaorchestra.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                                |                |                             |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Melissa Sandlin, President     | (410) 499-6076 | melissa.sandlin@att.net     |
| Audrey Johnson, Vice President | (443) 255-8027 | igoaka13@yahoo.com          |
| Bruce Kuehne, Secretary        | (410) 997-7925 | kuehnebe@verizon.net        |
| Elaine Newhall, Treasurer      | (410) 258-4224 | newhall.flute@gmail.com     |
| Elizabeth Berman               | (410) 804-9367 | elizabethhkberman@gmail.com |
| Robert Carpenter               | (410) 913-2206 | rcarpenter@bwfa.com         |
| Naomi Chang-Zajic              | (443) 878-6726 | naomi@columbiaorchestra.org |
| Kendall Hayman                 | (443) 326-0776 | kjhayman1994@msn.com        |
| Ilana Heintz                   | (240) 535-3151 | ilana.afs@gmail.com         |
| Sonia Kurian                   | (410) 596-2421 | sonia@columbiaorchestra.org |
| Barbara Russell                | (410) 730-4024 | robwalrus@gmail.com         |
| Dami Soh Schlobohm             | (443) 280-4885 | info@damzsound.com          |
| Anne Ward                      | (410) 409-0500 | cornio.anne@gmail.com       |
| John Zontek                    | (443) 538-0103 | jzontek@hotmail.com         |

## ARTISTIC STAFF

|                            |                |                             |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Jason Love, Music Director | (443) 831-8450 | jlove@columbiaorchestra.org |
| Brenda Anna, Concertmaster | (301) 699-5079 | baviolinist@verizon.net     |
| Fred Hughes, CJB Director  | (410) 703-0755 | FredHughesMusic@gmail.com   |

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

|  |                |                                  |
|--|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Katherine Keefe, Executive Director      | (410) 465-8777 | execdir@columbiaorchestra.org    |
| Sarah Casey, Marketing Manager           | (410) 465-8777 | scasey@columbiaorchestra.org     |
| Jill Thomassen, Production Assistant     | (410) 465-8777 | jthomassen@columbiaorchestra.org |
| Bruce and Elaine Newhall, Librarians     | (410) 258-4224 | library@columbiaorchestra.org    |
| Annette Szawan, Personnel Mgr. (Strings) | (410) 461-3933 | aszawan@comcast.net              |
| Anne Ward, Personnel Mgr. (Winds/Brass)  | (410) 409-0500 | cornio.anne@gmail.com            |
| CJB Business Manager                     | TBD            | jazzbandmanager@gmail.com        |

## OTHER

|  |                |                                    |
|--|----------------|------------------------------------|
| David Zajic, American Composer Competition | (410) 869-1444 | compcomp@columbiaorchestra.org     |
| Annette Szawan, Young Artist Competition   | (410) 461-3933 | youngartists@columbiaorchestra.org |
| Holly Thomas, Board Member Emerita         | (410) 715-1327 | info4hht@verizon.net               |

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the Columbia Orchestra! We hope that this handbook will answer any questions you may have about your participation as a member of the orchestra. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Personnel Managers. Current rehearsal information is posted in the Members' Section of the orchestra's website ([www.columbiaorchestra.org](http://www.columbiaorchestra.org)) and sent to members by e-mail.

## CONCERT ATTENDANCE

Performance is vital to our mission. Every member is expected to perform at each concert in the season (unless there are not parts for your instrument in the repertoire for a concert). Consistent participation is key to our artistic integrity. **If you have an unavoidable conflict with a performance, please notify the Music Director and Personnel Managers at the beginning of the season.**

### Full-Orchestra Concert Attendance

We ask that members avoid missing more than one of this season's seven full-orchestra programs (i.e., four classical, two Symphonic Pops (April and June), and Young People's concert). If a situation arises that would make a second concert absence necessary, please contact the Music Director and Personnel Manager as soon as possible. We are happy to work with members about maternity leave; please contact the Music Director and Personnel Manager in such situations.

### Reduced-Orchestra Service Attendance

Like most orchestras, we must perform some contracted services each year in order to pay our bills! Most require a slightly reduced orchestra. (There are typically three such services per season.) The three reduced-orchestra services this season are the Holiday Family Concert (December), the Howard County In-School Concert (April), and the St. Louis Church Choral Concert (June). Because of the players required, each member will likely need to play only two of the three concerts. (You are welcome to play them all!) Please contact your principal (strings) and/or personnel manager (Anne Ward or Annette Szawan) about any of the concerts for which it would be impossible for you to play and if you have a preference about the ones you would like to do.

## REHEARSAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND ATTENDANCE

### Attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals is expected and necessary for high artistic standards. We understand that conflicts will arise; please notify your Section Leader and a Personnel Manager *before the start of a concert cycle* if you will need to miss a rehearsal (see e-mail addresses, below).

- ***Concert participation will be at the discretion of the Music Director for anyone missing the dress rehearsal or more than 2 regular rehearsals.***
- Wind/Brass/Percussion: We want our many substitutes to have the opportunity to fill in for a single rehearsal, so please give us time to notify them and arrange to have music for them. Except in the case of emergency or illness, it's important *to give the Personnel Manager and Librarian advance notice to contact subs for our rehearsals.*
- In the event you must miss a rehearsal, please contact another member of your section or section leader to discuss any musical instructions and other missed information for the

following rehearsal. While you can't find out everything, any information gained is critical to the performance.

- If you cannot play a concert but would like to sit in during the rehearsals (especially strings), this is generally fine. You will probably need to sit in the back so others' stand partners remain consistent for the concert.
- *Please don't bail at the last minute!* While emergencies right before the concert are unfortunate but inevitable, please avoid missing concerts for anything other than very serious reasons. We really depend on each other in the orchestra!

### Personnel Managers

|                          |                |                       |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Annette Szawan (Strings) | (410) 461-3933 | aszawan@comcast.net   |
| Anne Ward (Winds/Brass)  | (410) 409-0500 | cornno.anne@gmail.com |

### String Section Principals

|           |                 |                               |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Violin 1: | Brenda Anna     | baviolinist@verizon.net       |
| Violin 2: | Chris Nibali    | cdnibali@comcast.net          |
| Viola:    | David Zajic     | dmzajic@columbiaorchestra.org |
| Cello:    | Elizabeth Davis | fictacello@gmail.com          |
| Bass:     | Kevin Taylor    | kp-taylor@comcast.net         |

### Locations

Weekly rehearsals are generally held each Monday from 7:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at The Gathering Place (6120 Day Long Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029). Please refer to the complete schedule for any location changes. Dress rehearsals are typically held the Friday preceding the concert at the performance venue, unless announced otherwise. **Please consult the concert schedule at the back of this handbook and note all services in your calendar at the beginning of the season.** *Please bring a music stand to rehearsals at the Gathering Place since none are available on site.* It is not necessary to bring a stand to rehearsals/concerts at the Jim Rouse Theatre, though folding stands may be required for occasional run-out services.

The Music Director provides a schedule for each concert as well as a breakdown of what pieces will be rehearsed at each rehearsal. This schedule is generally announced at rehearsal and posted to the Members' Section of the website. Please consult the website for changes.

### Rehearsal Location Responsibilities

The ability of the orchestra to rehearse at The Gathering Place is contingent on the members abiding by certain conditions. These conditions include taking care to not damage the walls and doors in the building when moving musical instruments and other equipment. In addition the orchestra is required to reset the positions of chairs and tables in the room at the conclusion of rehearsals. All orchestra members are requested to assist in this process to ensure that the room reset responsibility does not fall unfairly on a small number of individuals.

### Inclement Weather

Rehearsal changes due to inclement weather will be posted on the orchestra answering machine 410-465-8777, extension 8) and sent via e-mail if time allows. *In any inclement weather situation, the orchestra's website will reflect the final decision*, with the same information being placed on the orchestra's answering machine. You may also call the Personnel Managers for information.

## MUSIC

The librarian will distribute music by assigned number at rehearsal. (Strings typically receive at least one original part per stand; some members may receive photocopies.) All music should be returned to the librarian at the concert unless otherwise directed. Please use only an erasable pencil to mark the music. Please bring your music to all rehearsals and performances, and keep it in an appropriate music folder.

**Each member is financially responsible for fees incurred for any lost or unreasonably damaged parts. Members will also be responsible for any late fees incurred by returning their music after the deadline.**

Please direct all questions concerning music to the Orchestra Librarians:

Bruce and Elaine Newhall - (410) 258-4224

or send them an e-mail at: [library@columbiaorchestra.org](mailto:library@columbiaorchestra.org).

## REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

Please ...

- Display courtesy!
- Be seated 5 minutes prior to the beginning of rehearsal.
- Be attentive to the Music Director.
- Practice at home – rehearse at rehearsals.
- Display courtesy during late arrival/early departure.
- Following the rehearsal, return chairs to the requested post-rehearsal configuration (and return percussion equipment to its storage location).
- Refrain from talking during rehearsals, but enjoy each other's company before and after rehearsals and during breaks! Talking during rehearsal and tuning is extremely counter-productive and must not take place.

## CONCERT ETIQUETTE

Please ...

- Maintain a professional demeanor.
- Refrain from using fragrance products. Some of your colleagues are *very* sensitive to these.
- Use discretion in selection of formal concert attire (see below).
- Leave cases and personal belongings in offstage areas.
- Remain backstage before concerts and during intermission.
- Obtain concert programs as made available backstage.
- Enter/exit the stage by the stage doors only (rather than from the audience).
- Avoid the public lobby area before the concert and during intermission.
- Be in place on stage 10-15 minutes prior to performance (unless directed otherwise).
- Keep all personal items out of view of the audience if brought onto stage.
- Refrain from the purchase of refreshments during intermission.

- Tune to the oboe as directed by the Concertmaster.
- Stand/sit as directed by the Concertmaster/Music Director.
- Access lobby/backstage restrooms through stage doors.
- Wait backstage when not performing (unless directed otherwise).

## **CELL PHONE / TEXT MESSAGING**

Orchestra members are to give the conductor their undivided attention during rehearsals and concerts. Cell phone use and texting are counter to this requirement and are extremely distracting to fellow orchestra members. Hence, cell phones and texting devices may not be used during rehearsals and concerts. We understand that there are times when a cell phone must be turned on during a rehearsal (such as for a doctor who is on-call). In this case, the phone must be on vibrate mode and the call must be taken outside of the rehearsal space. Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off during concerts. Text messaging during either rehearsals or a concert is strictly prohibited.

## **COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY**

At this time, the Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band are requiring all individuals (members, soloist, substitutes, and any other performers) to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 before attending rehearsals or performing with the Orchestra or Jazz Band for the 2021-2022 season. Members who do not feel comfortable sharing their vaccination status are welcome to take a leave of absence for the season. All participants will be asked to show their vaccination cards at the first rehearsal in which they participate. Members with any questions regarding this policy may contact Katherine Keefe at [execdir@columbiaorchestra.org](mailto:execdir@columbiaorchestra.org) or 410-465-8777. This policy will be revisited, as necessary.

## **MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY**

Members of the Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band organization, including its Board Members, are expected to support its mission and to present a positive image of the organization to the public at all times. The Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band expects that all members will treat each other with respect, dignity, and consideration regardless of race, religion, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, maternity, marital or family status, ability, age, or national origin. Additionally, inebriation or behavior indicating drug abuse by any member at an Orchestra or Jazz Band rehearsal or event will be grounds for disciplinary action. Such an action also may be taken if the musical competence of the member is not consistent with the quality of the organization as a whole. Membership in the Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band is a privilege, not a right, and the organization may suspend or dismiss any member for any reason, at the sole discretion of the Music Director or Jazz Band Director.

Concerns regarding behavior or personnel matters requiring intervention among Orchestra or Jazz Band members will be directed to the Music Director or Jazz Band Director for resolution and disposition through direct, preferably verbal, discussion with the individual(s). If resolution of the matter is not possible or the inappropriate behavior by the member continues, the Music Director or

Jazz Band Director has the authority to suspend or dismiss the member from the associated organization.

When a decision is made to suspend or dismiss an individual from the Columbia Orchestra or Jazz Band, the Music Director or Jazz Band Director will inform the Executive Committee of the upcoming personnel action. The Director will provide the Executive Committee with documentation of the reason for the action and related communications with the Orchestra or Jazz Band member. This documentation will be maintained by the Board. The Director will then discuss this decision with the individual verbally, send a letter to the individual to formally document the action, and provide a copy of this letter to the Executive Committee. In the case of a suspension, the letter will state the conditions under which the individual can rejoin the organization. Notwithstanding the need to notify the Executive Committee in advance of the personnel action, the Director has the final decision on all personnel issues, including reprimands, disciplinary action, and dismissals.

## CONCERT ATTIRE

**Attire for Men:** Black tuxedo (or suit); black dress shirt without tie; polished black shoes; long black socks.

**Attire for Ladies:** Long black dress or pant outfit; long sleeves (NO bare shoulders/arms, midriffs, backs, or legs, please); black hose; black shoes. Dresses and skirts should be mid-calf or lower. This attire may be adjusted for outside and special events.

Please understand that concert attire should create a professional atmosphere, focus audience attention on *sound* rather than *sight*, and emphasize the group rather than the individual. Jewelry and moving skin can be very distracting to the audience. Please contact the Personnel Manager(s) with any questions regarding concert attire.

## AUDITIONS

Annual open auditions for prospective new members are held each August. Additional auditions will be scheduled throughout the season as needed. Each performer is asked to play two prepared pieces (or orchestra excerpts) of contrasting styles, and major and minor scales (bowed/articulated at the performer's discretion). Sight-reading may also be required. The Music Director will make all decisions concerning orchestra personnel. The decision of the Music Director is final. During the audition process, no consideration will be given to the race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin of the individual auditioning. Auditions may be requested by contacting:

Phone: (410) 465-8777 (orchestra office) or call Anne Ward at 410-409-0500

E-mail: [auditions@columbiaorchestra.org](mailto:auditions@columbiaorchestra.org)



## **BOWINGS**

Some string parts will have bowings already marked. For music without bowings, bowed copies of each part for most works we perform will be posted to the Members' section of the website. Each member is responsible for copying these bowings into his/her own part. If you have difficulty downloading these bowed parts, please see the Music Librarian. As with any orchestra, it will be necessary to change bowings during rehearsal. If you miss a rehearsal, please contact another section member for bowing changes (and other musical developments) discussed in a missed rehearsal.

## **SEATING PROCEDURES**

Principal positions are determined by audition. All other seating and placement is determined by and at the discretion of the Music Director in consultation with principals. String section seating is not determined by ability alone. Strong players are placed throughout the sections, and members rotate throughout the season. Questions regarding seating should be discussed with the Music Director.

## **GRIEVANCES**

Please contact any member of the Board of Directors to discuss your concerns. An anonymous questionnaire each year gives all members the opportunity to state their opinions and make suggestions to the board and Music Director.

## **FINANCES AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Columbia Orchestra is a registered charity – a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. To fulfill our Mission (below) we rely on contributions, ticket sales, private grants, and government funding. As the pie chart shows, ticket sales cover only a fraction of the orchestra's costs, requiring the orchestra to rely heavily on support from individuals, businesses, and government grants. While the orchestra has never required dues from participants, most members of the orchestra contribute financially to the orchestra, and we are frequently asked how much each member should donate. The cost to run the orchestra is over \$2,500 per member, not all of which is covered by admissions, grants, and other sources of income. This year we are suggesting a donation of \$250 per member. While many members give more than \$250 – thank you! – and some may not be able to give the entire suggested amount, this is the average per-person donation we have budgeted for this season. And donations are especially important this season to ensure that we have the resources to resume live events when it is safe to do so. Thank you for your generosity!

### **Discussion of FY22 Expenses**

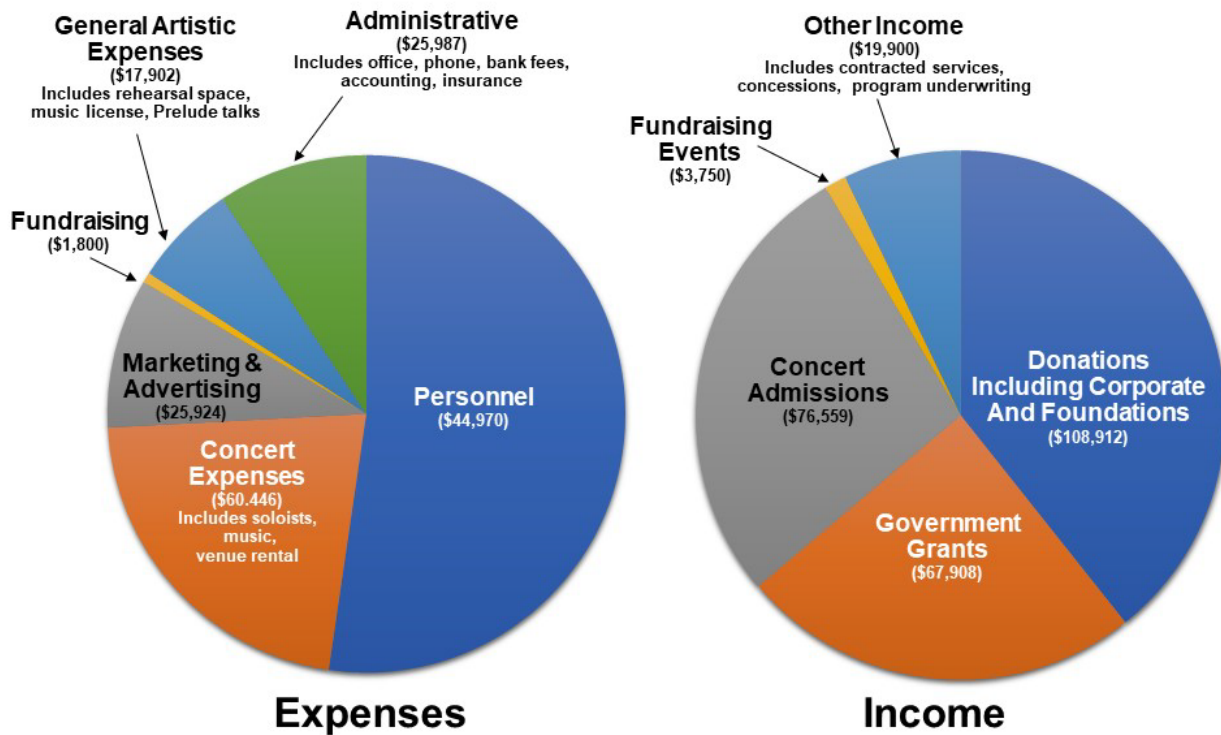
The single largest category of expense for the Columbia Orchestra (including the Columbia Jazz Band) is personnel cost, which covers compensation for the Music Director, Executive Director, the Columbia Jazz Band Director, other administrative staff, and the orchestra concertmaster. The personnel costs are over 50 percent of the budget.

Concert expenses represent the second-largest cost to the orchestra (22 percent of the budget). This category includes concert hall rental, music rental and purchase, soloists, recording services, and other miscellaneous expenses associated with the actual concert production. While concert

# Columbia Orchestra FY22 Budget\*

(\$277,029)

\* Includes Columbia Jazz Band



admissions (i.e., ticket income) are adequate to cover this general category of expenses, ticket income does not pay for the associated personnel costs discussed above.

To promote concert attendance, the orchestra must turn to advertising and other marketing. The expenses associated with these activities represent approximately 10 percent of the budget. Most of these expenses are associated with advertising on WBJC and the design, printing, and postage of publicity materials (e.g., postcards) sent to our mailing list prior to each concert. Fortunately, our online avenues for concert publicity (e-mails and Facebook) are free except for a small fee for website hosting.

Other artistic expenses, which include rehearsal space, printing of tickets, music license fees, the pre-concert lecturer, and other miscellaneous concert supplies, comprise another 7 percent of the budget. Miscellaneous administrative expenses (office space, bank fees, accountant fees, insurance, etc.) make up most of the remaining 10 percent of the budget, with costs associated with general fundraising making up less than 1 percent of the budget.

## Discussion of FY22 Income

As previously noted, admissions (nearly 30 percent of the Orchestra's income) cover the costs of producing the concerts themselves but not other significant costs associated with personnel, insurance, rehearsal and administrative space, etc. that are incurred by the orchestra in its operation. Hence, to cover those costs, the orchestra must turn to other sources of income.

Grants are one primary source. The orchestra currently receives money from two primary government granting organizations: the Howard County Arts Council and the Maryland State Arts Council, which are expected to provide 25 percent of the Orchestra's funds for FY21. Two foundations – the Community Foundation of Howard County and the Rouse Foundation – provide another 5 percent. Other orchestra income (about 7 percent total) is obtained from advertisement sales, contracted services, concessions, and other minor miscellaneous sources. Fundraising events are expected to provide another 1 or 2 percent of the income.

However, the aforementioned income sources still leave nearly 35 percent of the orchestra's operating costs uncovered. Hence, the orchestra must turn to donations. There are four primary sources of donations to draw from: corporations, individuals not directly affiliated with the orchestra or jazz band, members of the orchestra board-of-directors, and orchestra and jazz band members. This season the orchestra will continue to nurture both existing relationships with local businesses (BWFA, Northrop Grumman, and others) and new opportunities, with a goal of raising more than \$25,000 in corporate donations. The orchestra also has an objective to raise individual, non-orchestra-member donations totaling \$33,000. Nevertheless, even with this income, a portion of the orchestra's expenses still need to be covered by donations from individuals affiliated with the orchestra and jazz band.

This season board members are expecting to collectively contribute at least \$15,000 to the orchestra, leaving close to \$25,000 to be contributed by the remaining members of the orchestra and jazz band. With around 80 active members of the orchestra and 20 members of the jazz band, a donation of \$250 per person would allow this goal to be met. However, the board recognizes that each member's financial situation is different. Hence, it is more important that each member contribute something (even as little as \$25 or \$50) to demonstrate to the orchestra's granting organizations that orchestra members share a financial commitment to the organization.

# COLUMBIA ORCHESTRA MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band is to foster lifelong appreciation of, enthusiasm for, and participation in music. This is accomplished by:

- Providing the community with high-quality musical performances
- Providing musical resources tailored to the needs of students, teachers, and educational institutions
- Providing local musicians with an opportunity to explore and perform great orchestral, chamber, and jazz music.

## HISTORY OF THE COLUMBIA ORCHESTRA

### Music Directors of the Columbia Orchestra

Yong Ku Ahn, 1978–1988

Carl Dietrich, 1988–1990

Catherine Ferguson, 1990–1999

Jason Love, 1999–present

In the fall of 1977, a handful of local string players began playing classical music as the Columbia Chamber Orchestra. Yong Ku Ahn became the group's first Music Director and conductor in 1978.

Upon Ahn's retirement in 1988, Carl Dietrich took over leadership of the orchestra. During his tenure, the membership was expanded to include winds and percussion, standard symphonic literature was programmed, and the orchestra dropped "chamber" from its name.

Catherine Ferguson served as the Columbia Orchestra's third Music Director from 1990 until 1999, expanding the repertoire, restructuring the annual Young Artist Competition, establishing a regular season at Howard Community College's Smith Theatre, and leading the Columbia Orchestra's first appearance at the Columbia Festival of the Arts.

Current Music Director Jason Love took the podium in 1999, quickly winning the hearts of orchestra members and audience alike with his humor, generosity, and consummate musicianship. Under his baton, The Baltimore Sun named the Columbia Orchestra "Howard County's premier ensemble for instrumental music."

In August 2000, the orchestra hired Tedd Griepentrog as its first Executive Director. During the 2001-2002 Season, all Masterworks programs were moved to the Jim Rouse Theatre to accommodate the expanded size of the orchestra and its growing audience. The Young People's Concert added a Musical Instrument Petting Zoo for children of all ages to see, hear, touch, and play orchestral instruments. In June 2002, the orchestra made its Kennedy Center debut in collaboration with the Tony Powell/Music & Movement dance ensemble. During its silver anniversary season, the Columbia Orchestra performed for the Maryland Music Educators Conference at the Baltimore Convention Center and announced its first American Composer Competition.

In 2005, the organization established an administrative office at the Howard County Center for the Arts and released its first commercial recording, *Flying Home: A Tribute to John Denver*, performing with members and songwriters of the original John Denver Band. In June 2007, the

orchestra joined renowned fiddler and concert artist Mark O'Connor in a concert performed as part of the Columbia Festival of the Arts.

In celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season, in 2008 the orchestra undertook a community arts project entitled "Embracing the Millions," which enlisted members of the community area performing artists in exploring the questions raised by the world's most famous symphony, Beethoven's monumental Symphony No. 9. The project culminated in the orchestra's performance of the symphony with local choral groups in April 2008.

In June 2013 the orchestra hired a new Executive Director, Katherine Keefe, to build upon the growth and success that the orchestra had achieved during the preceding decade. Keefe came to the position after serving as the orchestra's Operations Manager for two seasons, and before that as the Managing Director for the Handel Choir of Baltimore and Director of Human Resources at Arena Stage in Washington, DC. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Marywood University and a Masters of Fine Arts in Arts Administration from Virginia Tech.

During the subsequent seasons, the orchestra continued to pursue ambitious programs, including a performance of Verdi's Requiem with Washington's Choralis choir in 2013, its first commission (Andrew Earle Simpson's score to accompany the silent film *One Week*) in 2015, a performance of Mahler's magnificent *Resurrection Symphony* in partnership with Columbia Pro Cantare in 2016, and Maestro Love performing as soloist in the U.S. premier of Guillame Connesson's *Cello Concerto* in celebration of his 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the orchestra during the 2018-2019 Season. These performances were part of the Orchestra's usual seasons of four classical subscription concerts, a December Holiday Concert, two Symphonic Pops Concerts, chamber concerts featuring members of the orchestra, and numerous educational activities (including two performances of a popular Young People's concert).

During the 2016-2017 Season the orchestra also expanded its range of musical offerings beyond symphony orchestra and chamber concerts to include jazz performances. The performances were made possible by bringing the Columbia Jazz Band under the Columbia Orchestra umbrella as a partner organization to presents its jazz series in tandem with the Columbia Orchestra's other series. The Columbia Jazz Band has been presenting modern American Jazz since 1989, performing at renowned venues such as the Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival and the world-famous Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland. Between 2000 and 2017, it was directed by Pete BarenBregge, former music director of the USAF Airmen of Note jazz band. In 2017, trombonist and educator Jim McFalls, conducted the band for a short period before leadership transitioned to a new permanent Director, jazz pianist and brass musician Fred Hughes, who has performed, conducted, and presented jazz workshops nationally and internationally for over three decades. By bringing the Columbia Jazz Band under the Columbia Orchestra umbrella, the orchestra is able to provide a broader awareness of both organizations throughout the community.

As it entered its 2019-2020 Season, the Columbia Orchestra planned to continue its usual classical, pops, chamber, jazz, and educational concerts and programs. Unfortunately, in March 2020 all live Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band events for the remainder of the season were discontinued because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and normal events continued to be curtailed through the 2020-2021 Season. Instead, the Orchestra pivoted to generating digital Internet streaming content for its patrons. Virtual programs were developed that featured archival footage of the orchestra, discussions of topics of interest by Maestro Love, and eventually newly recorded streamed concerts by smaller groups from the orchestra. In addition, a "Columbia Orchestra for Kids" webpage was developed that includes an online music education blog to introduce young audiences to orchestral instruments, composers, and how to read music. These virtual programming resources were made

available on the orchestra's website and were publicized through social media. In addition, a limited number of outdoor children's, jazz, and pops concerts were performed for live, physically distanced audiences at the Chrysalis amphitheater in Columbia's Symphony Woods. In June 2021, the orchestra performed its first indoor live concert since February 2020 when it partnered with St. Louis Catholic Church for a performance of Mozart's Requiem with an in-person orchestra and soloists and a recorded virtual choir.

During the 2021-2022 Season (the Orchestra's 44<sup>th</sup> season), The Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band plan to return to normal live programming. The Orchestra plans to perform not only the masterworks of the classical repertoire but also works by today's new generation of composers, including a commissioned work by James Lee III. The orchestra also plans to perform a December Holiday Concert, two Symphonic Pops Concerts (including a free outdoor summer concert at the Chrysalis), a Young People's concert, and numerous other educational activities including in-school concerts for third-grade Howard County students. Chamber concerts featuring members of the orchestra will resume, as will the Columbia Jazz Band's performances in Columbia and throughout the greater Baltimore-Washington area.

Prior to the pandemic, the orchestra's operating budget had continued to grow, and the total annual audience of the Columbia Orchestra and Jazz Band exceeded 17,000 during its 2018-2019 Season, with many concerts being sold out. Even during the pandemic, the Orchestra continued to reach large virtual audiences, with more than 13,000 views of the orchestra's various archival and newly recorded online offerings; and financially it finished both FY20 and FY21 in the black thanks to government grants and generous donations from the Orchestra's patrons. The Columbia Orchestra has been hailed as "a pillar of the local arts community" by *The Washington Post*, in February 2007 *Howard Magazine* designated the Columbia Orchestra as #13 in its list of "The 51 Things We Love About Living in Howard County," and Howard Magazine readers voted it Howard County's "Best Performing Arts Group" in 2020. We look forward to this upcoming season when we can again thrill audiences with high-quality live musical performances and provide Howard County with "Your Community's Music."

## **ABOUT THE MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Conductor and cellist Jason Love leads the Columbia Orchestra in his twenty-second year as Music Director, the fourth person to have held that post in its forty-four seasons. Praised for his "intelligent and innovative programming," the Baltimore Sun has called the orchestra "Howard County's premier ensemble for instrumental music," noting that "Love has the musicians playing not only with verve and passion, but with an awareness to enter into the emotional core of the works they perform."

Love was Artistic Director of the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestras (now the Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestras) for thirteen years, and Music Director of the New Horizons Chamber Ensemble, a new-music group, for five years. He has guest conducted a wide variety of ensembles such as the Baltimore Symphony, Washington Sinfonietta, Hopkins Chamber Orchestra, Bismarck-Mandan Symphony, Maryland Classic Youth Chamber Orchestra, and RUCKUS, a contemporary music ensemble at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County where he taught conducting for seven years.

As a cellist Mr. Love has performed a wide array of concertos with orchestras including the North Carolina premiere of Tan Dun's multi-media work, *The Map*. Recent performances include Haydn's Concerto No. 1 with the Columbia Summer Strings, Shostakovich's Concerto No. 1 with both the Piedmont Symphony and the Columbia Orchestra, the Dvořák Concerto with the Frederick Symphony, and the U.S. premier of Guillaume Connesson's Cello Concerto with the Columbia

Orchestra. His many chamber recitals include work with the Columbia Orchestra Piano Trio featuring Concertmaster Brenda Anna and pianist Nancy Smith.

A highly respected educator, Mr. Love served as conductor of the Repertory Orchestra of the Chesapeake Youth Symphony in Annapolis, MD for four years. In his eleven years on the faculty of the Governor's School of North Carolina he taught Twentieth-Century music, philosophy, and other subjects to academically gifted high school students. For five summers he led the McDaniel Orchestra Camp in Westminster, MD. He has adjudicated and guest conducted at music festivals around the country.

Born in Burlington, North Carolina, Love studied violoncello with Ronald Thomas and conducting with Frederik Prausnitz at the Peabody Conservatory. He is Past President of the Peabody Alumni Association and is the 2008 Winner of the "Howie" Outstanding Artist Award which recognizes achievement in the arts in Howard County, Maryland. In 2013 Love won the American Prize in Orchestral Programming for his programming of the Columbia Orchestra's 2012-2013 season. Known as the Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award, the prize "recognizes and rewards the best achievement in the unique field of orchestral programming, where the selection of repertoire by knowledgeable, creative and courageous music directors builds orchestras and audiences, educates young people and adults, and enriches the community."

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Columbia Orchestra is a non-profit corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Board of Directors is responsible for raising and expending the funds necessary for the operation of the orchestra as well as developing policies, planning new programs, hiring staff, and evaluating staff performance. Copies of the by-laws and financial statements are available to any orchestra member on request.

Board or committee membership is not limited to orchestra members, and volunteering for one of the following committees can make a wonderful impact in the cultural life of our community!

## **COMMITTEES**

There are currently five board committees, chaired by members of the orchestra Board of Directors:

### **Executive**

The purpose of the Executive Committee is to formulate and review the business, duties, and responsibilities of the board and committees. Its members are the officers of the Board of Directors (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer), with staff members (Executive Director, Music Director, and Jazz Band staff) also participating in meetings as needed.

### **Finance**

The purpose of the Finance Committee is to review the organization's annual budget as developed by the Orchestra's staff members, identify any fiduciary concerns, and make corrections, amendments, and revisions as necessary. The Finance Committee also provides overview of the Orchestra's investment accounts. In addition, Finance Committee members may review and provide advice on official Orchestra records such as annual financial statements and tax filings. (All fiscal decisions are subject to board approval.)

## **Ethics**

The purpose of the Ethics Committee is to investigate and advise the board on matters that may constitute violation of the Board of Directors Code of Ethics. If necessary, the committee may order the cessation of a particular activity, recommend to the Board that a Director be removed, or take other action that it deems appropriate. The committee meets only when such matters arise.

## **Fundraising**

The purpose of the Fundraising Committee is to solicit financial support for the orchestra. A primary focus of the committee is on identifying, growing, and sustaining new foundation and corporate grant/sponsorship opportunities. The committee also assists the Executive Director when requested in completing other grant applications. In addition, the committee and its subcommittees participate with the Executive Director in activities associated with fundraising appeals / communications, fundraising activities / events, and donor engagement / appreciation activities.

## **Strategic Planning**

The purpose of the Strategic Planning Committee is to develop and maintain the strategic plan for the orchestra. The committee performs a yearly review of the existing plan, assesses performance against the objectives in that plan, and identifies any required updates. The Committee decides when a new strategic plan is required and initiates its development.

In addition, there are several committees or advisory groups that are not board committees per se but that are important to the smooth operation of the orchestra's activities:

## **Technology**

The purpose of the Technology Committee is to define, architect, and implement technical solutions aimed at improving work productivity for the Columbia Orchestra staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers. Activities include, but are not limited to, supporting a remotely accessible on-line solution for file storage, providing computer/office technology support, and maintaining the [www.columbiaorchestra.org](http://www.columbiaorchestra.org) website.

## **Education**

The purpose of the Education Committee is to recommend, develop, coordinate, promote, and document educational activities for individuals of all ages. These activities include but are not limited to youth concerts in local schools, maintaining the pre-concert Prelude series, and eventually setting up educational web programs. The annual Young Artist Competition is also organized and conducted under the leadership of the Education Committee.

## **Personnel**

The purpose of the Personnel Committee is to coordinate auditions, arrange for substitutes and extra players, resolve orchestra member grievances, develop/approve updates to the orchestra member handbook, and provide a formal liaison between the orchestra members and the board.

Other committees are formed when required to support specific orchestra activities and certain special events. Please contact the Executive Director or a member of the board if you are interested in joining a committee.



# **THE COLUMBIA ORCHESTRA CONCERT SEASON**

## **2021-2022 Season**

The following schedule is tentative and is subject to change depending on potential COVID-19 pandemic considerations. The most up-to-date schedule of concerts and rehearsals will be posted on the orchestra's website and associated member page.

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### **Comeback Concert**

Saturday, October 16, 2021 – 7:30 pm

Jim Rouse Theatre and Streaming

*Julietta Curenton, flute*

Rimsky-Korsakov: Capriccio Espagnol

James Lee III: Niji Memories, *world premiere*

Beethoven: Symphony No. 7

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### **The Planets**

Saturday, December 4, 2021 - 7:30 pm

Jim Rouse Theatre and Streaming

*Lea Inger and Shaily Pal, vocalists*

Vaughan-Williams: Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis

Esmail: Meri Sakhi Ki Avaaz (My Sister's Voice)

Holst: The Planets

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### **Family Holiday Concert**

Saturday, December 18, 2021 – 10:30 am & 1:00 pm

Jim Rouse Theatre

The Orchestra will present a family holiday concert, featuring carols, Hanukah songs, and more.

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### **The Pines of Rome**

Saturday, February 5, 2022 - 7:30 pm

Jim Rouse Theatre

*Sheng-Tsung Wang, violin*

*Charlaine Prescott, cello*

Zhou Long: Rhyme of Taigu

Brahms: Double Concerto for Violin and Cello

Respighi: Pines of Rome

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### **Symphonic Pops**

Saturday, March 12, 7:30 pm and Sunday / March 13, 2022, 3:00 pm

Jim Rouse Theatre

An ever-popular concert featuring timeless classics from Broadway and film, classical favorites, and more.

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### **Young People's Concert**

Saturday, March 26, 2022 - 10:30 am & 1:00 pm

Jim Rouse Theatre

*Dance Connections, Jennifer Aversa, Director*

*Greg Jukes, narrator*

A fun-filled introduction to the orchestra with "Pirates and Princesses," set to music from Scheherazade.

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## **Howard County Public School In-School Concert**

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 – 10:00 am / 11:15 am

Jim Rouse Theatre

Mozart, Mahler, Marquez, and Sibelius

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## **Mahler's First**

Saturday, May 21, 2022 - 7:30 pm

Jim Rouse Theatre

*2020 Young Artist Competition winners*

Ortiz: Antrópolis

Mahler: Symphony No. 1

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## **St. Louis Concert Series**

Sunday, June 12, 2022 - Time TBD

St. Louis Catholic Church, Clarksville

Program TBA

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## **Columbia Orchestra Hospital Fundraiser Pops Concert**

June 2022 - Date and Time TBA

Merriweather Post Pavilion

The full orchestra provides a pops concert as part of the Howard County General Hospital's "Heroes in Healthcare" celebration.

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## **Chrysalis Symphonic Pops Concert**

Summer 2022 - Date and Time TBA

Chrysalis Amphitheater, Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods

An ever-popular free concert featuring timeless classics from Broadway and film, classical favorites, and more.

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# **THE COLUMBIA JAZZ BAND CONCERT SEASON**

## **2021-2022 Season**

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### **CJB Live at the Chrysalis**

Sunday, August 8, 2021 - 5:00 pm

Chrysalis, Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods

Join the Columbia Jazz Band for a free outdoor concert at the Chrysalis featuring Glenn Miller's "Moonlight Serenade", George Gershwin's "Summertime", Duke Ellington's "It Don't Mean a Thing" and more!

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### **True Blue Jazz**

Saturday, October 16, 2021, 3:00 pm

Rehoboth Beach Fire Department (Station 86), 219 Rehoboth Ave, Rehoboth Beach, DE

The Columbia Jazz Band joins the True Blue Jazz Festival in a Red Hot Jazz Party in Rehoboth Beach

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### **Veterans Day Concert: A Musical Tribute to the USO**

Sunday, November 7, 2021, 2:30 pm

Slayton House, Wilde Lake Village Center, 10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia

Join the Columbia Jazz Band as it performs music and songs from USO shows. The concert is in honor of Veterans Day.

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### **Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival**

Date and Time to be announced

Hilton Hotel, 1759 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD

The Columbia Jazz Band joins with other great artists and bands. Lift the winter "blues" with some jazz, standards, Latin, and swing.

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### **Salute to the Duke**

Friday, April 1, 2022, 7:30 pm

Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd, Columbia

Hits by Duke Ellington, including Take the A Train, It Don't Mean a Thing, and Mood Indigo

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## **Details and Additional Programs To Be Announced**

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# COLUMBIA ORCHESTRA

## Rehearsal Schedule 2021–2022

*As of October 24, 2021*

Check the member page on the Orchestra's website for the latest updates

|                     |                               |                         |                          |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mon, Sep 20         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| Mon, Sep 27         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Oct 4          | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Oct 11         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Thur, Oct 14</b> | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Fri, Oct 15</b>  | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>        | <b>7:30 - 10:15 PM</b>  | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Sat, Oct 16</b>  | <b>CLASSICAL CONCERT #1</b>   | <b>7:30 PM</b>          | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| Mon, Oct 18         | NO REHEARSAL                  |                         |                          |
| Mon, Oct 25         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Nov 1          | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Nov 8          | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Nov 15         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Nov 22         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Nov 29         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Fri, Dec 3</b>   | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>        | <b>7:30 - 10:15 PM</b>  | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Sat, Dec 4</b>   | <b>CLASSICAL CONCERT #2</b>   | <b>7:30 PM</b>          | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| Mon, Dec 6          | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Dec 13         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| <b>Sat, Dec 18</b>  | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>        | <b>10:00 - 12:00 PM</b> | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Sat, Dec 18</b>  | <b>FAMILY HOLIDAY CONCERT</b> | <b>1:00 PM</b>          | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| Mon, Dec 20         | NO REHEARSAL (Winter Break)   |                         |                          |
| Mon, Dec 27         | NO REHEARSAL (Winter Break)   |                         |                          |
| Mon, Jan 3          | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Jan 10         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Jan 17         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Jan 24         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Jan 31         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| <b>Fri, Feb 4</b>   | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>        | <b>7:30 - 10:15 PM</b>  | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Sat, Feb 5</b>   | <b>CLASSICAL CONCERT #3</b>   | <b>7:30 PM</b>          | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| Mon, Feb 7          | Rehearsal TBD                 | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Feb 14         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Feb 21         | NO REHEARSAL                  |                         |                          |
| Mon, Feb 28         | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| Mon, Mar 7          | Rehearsal                     | 7:30 - 10:00 PM         | Gathering Place          |
| <b>Fri, Mar 11</b>  | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>        | <b>7:30 - 10:15 PM</b>  | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Sat, Mar 12</b>  | <b>SYMPHONIC POPS</b>         | <b>7:30 PM</b>          | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |
| <b>Sun, Mar 13</b>  | <b>SYMPHONIC POPS</b>         | <b>3:00 PM</b>          | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b> |

|                            |   |                               |                               |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mon, Mar 14                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 – 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, Mar 21                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| <b>Fri, Mar 25</b>         | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>                            | <b>7:30 - 10:15 PM</b>        | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b>      |
| <b>Sat, Mar 26</b>         | <b>YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS</b>                    | <b>10:30 AM &amp; 1:00 PM</b> | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b>      |
| Mon, Mar 28                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, Apr 4                 | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| <b>Wed, Apr 6</b>          | <b>HCPSS In-School Concert (9:30 AM call)</b>     | <b>10:00 &amp; 11:15 AM</b>   | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b>      |
| Mon, Apr 11                | NO REHEARSAL (Spring Break)                       |                               |                               |
| Mon, Apr 18                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, Apr 25                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, May 2                 | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, May 9                 | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, May 16                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| <b>Fri, May 20</b>         | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>                            | <b>7:30 - 10:15 PM</b>        | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b>      |
| <b>Sat, May 21</b>         | <b>CLASSICAL CONCERT #4</b>                       | <b>7:30 PM</b>                | <b>Jim Rouse Theatre</b>      |
| Mon, May 23                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, May 30                | NO REHEARSAL (Memorial Day)                       |                               |                               |
| Mon, Jun 6                 | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Thur, Jun 9 or Fri, Jun 10 | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | St. Louis Parish              |
| <b>Sat, Jun 11</b>         | <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>                            | <b>7:30 - 10:15 PM</b>        | <b>St. Louis Parish</b>       |
| <b>Sun, Jun 12</b>         | <b>St. Louis Concert Series</b>                   | <b>aft or eve time TBA</b>    | <b>St. Louis Parish</b>       |
| Mon, Jun 13                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Mon, Jun 20                | Rehearsal   | 7:30 - 10:00 PM               | Gathering Place               |
| Dates TBA                  | Add'l Rehearsals for HCGH & Chrysalis Concerts    | Time TBA                      | Gathering Place               |
| <b>Date TBA</b>            | <b>Dress Rehearsal for HCGH Concert</b>           | <b>Time TBA</b>               | <b>Gathering Place</b>        |
| <b>Date TBA</b>            | <b>HO. CO. GENERAL HOSPITAL CONCERT</b>           | <b>7:30 PM(?)</b>             | <b>Merriweather Post Pav.</b> |
| <b>Date TBA</b>            | <b>Dress Rehearsal for Chrysalis Pops Concert</b> | <b>Time TBA</b>               | <b>Chrysalis</b>              |
| <b>Date TBA</b>            | <b>CHRYSALIS CONCERT (Tentative)</b>              | <b>Time TBA</b>               | <b>Chrysalis</b>              |