



WASHINGTON
PERFORMING ARTS

2024/25 SEASON



In Harmony

“Music is the outburst of the soul.” This beautiful quote by composer Frederick Delius always fills my heart, and it captures what I hope you will feel as you immerse yourself in our 2024/25 season, titled In Harmony. If you’re new to us, welcome! And if you’re returning, welcome back!

The theme of In Harmony resonates on so many levels. The concept rings true in its musical sense, with programs celebrating the sublime coalescence of instruments and voices. But it also serves as a metaphor for our mission - to bring cultures and communities together through shared artistic experiences. From the 50th anniversary of Embassy Adoption Program’s cultural diplomacy to outdoor performances connecting art with nature, and the unifying power of orchestras and gospel choirs alike, this season aspires to harmony in every sense. In complex times, we emphatically move towards “everybody in, nobody out” through the universal language of the arts.

With great anticipation we welcome the esteemed Berliner Philharmoniker back to Washington for the first time in decades with violin virtuoso Hilary Hahn and conductor Kirill Petrenko. The acclaimed Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra returns with their incoming chief conductor Klaus Mäkelä and violin soloist Lisa Batiashvili. Our third-annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital features soprano Karen Slack in a newly commissioned program of art songs celebrating seven historic African queens.

Celebrated friend Zakir Hussain fills the stage with his stellar ensemble Masters of Percussion. Our gospel choirs raise their voices at our cherished annual Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute concert *Living the Dream... Singing the Dream*. We honor our veterans and those who serve our country during Military Appreciation Month by bringing the powerful Modern Warrior Live production to D.C., and the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with founder and bandleader Wynton Marsalis joins us in June.

As Washington, D.C. prepares to host World Pride in 2025, we are thrilled to bring to you celebratory LGBTQ+ performances including drag superstar Sasha Velour, Pink Martini’s 30th anniversary tour, and an evening of storytelling and song with the renowned Isaac Mizrahi.

As part of this robust season lineup, our Mars Arts D.C. programs always accenting the abundance of talent in our region, continue with a variety of free outdoor programs at spaces throughout the District like Tregaron Conservancy and Franklin Park, and intimate performances by local artists at venues such as Atlas Performing Arts Center and Songbyrd Music House.

This is just a glimpse into the vibrant and varied performances and programs headed your way. As you flip through the pages of this year’s programming brochure, I encourage you to subscribe today and take full advantage of the invaluable benefits that subscriptions offer, including priority seating, locked-in low prices, ability to keep preferred seats yearly, free exchanges, and special access. If already a subscriber, please consider supporting our award-winning initiatives and enduring mission, or renewing (or upgrading!) your Friends gift. As a non-profit, we rely on your generosity.

Visit WashingtonPerformingArts.org to hear the latest on our artists and events, and to give and subscribe.

See you soon,



Jenny Bilfield, President & CEO



WELCOME TO YOUR 2024/25 SEASON

FREE WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMMING

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ORCHESTRA SERIES

Experience awe-inspiring symphonic sound from the world's leading orchestras.

Berliner Philharmoniker page 9

Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra page 10

HAYES PIANO SERIES

Experience this 59-year-old legacy series as Washington Performing Arts adds three rising stars to its storied history.

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RECITALIST SERIES

Hear industry icons and artists-on-the-rise in the intimate setting of the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater.

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SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

DISCOVER THE SUBSCRIBER ADVANTAGE!

Explore the exclusive benefits that subscribers receive, compared to single ticket buyers. Call, email, or see Subscriber Central online for complete details.

Spend time with us! Treat yourself to a year of enjoyment and inspiration.

Subscribing is a commitment to sharing singular, sublime experiences featuring the world's best artists in our city's most outstanding venues. Subscribers secure terrific seats at locked-in prices, no matter the demand. Enjoy seamless exchanges with no fees, and 10% discounts for select performances and special events.

Fixed Subscription Series

Choose a season package (Orchestra Series, Hayes Piano Series, and Recitalist Series) and receive the following benefits.

- ✓ Savings up to 20% off single ticket prices.*
- ✓ Same seats for every performance in your series.

Please note: Orders by **renewing Fixed Series subscribers must be received by July 11, 2024** to guarantee your same seats.

Custom Subscription Series

The choice is yours! Select at least three (3) 2024/2025 season performances—or five (5) or more for greater savings—and receive these benefits. Reservations for free events do not count toward the minimum number of events for Custom 3 or 5 subscriptions.

- ✓ **Preferred Seating:** Get the best available seats before tickets are available to the general public.
- ✓ **Valuable Savings:** Save up to 10%* when you choose three (3) or more Washington Performing Arts concerts. Save up to 15%* when you reserve five (5) or more concerts.
- ✓ **Exchange Privileges:** If your plans change you may exchange your tickets for other Washington Performing Arts events within the 2024/2025 season. (Some restrictions apply)
- ✓ **Advance Sale Days:** Order additional single tickets before they are available to the general public.

** Some seating sections or performances are excluded from discounts.*

HOW TO ORDER:

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Begins July 11 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins July 18 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins July 25 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins August 2 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins August 16 at 10:00 a.m.

WANT HIGHER SEATING PRIORITY? BECOME A FRIENDS SUPPORTER

Friends help power our work, on stage and off, and we couldn't do what we do without your generosity. As a special thanks, we offer priority seating to Friends who make contributions of \$75 or more. Your gift not only supports our wider mission, it also gives you access to extended benefits. Thank you for supporting Washington Performing Arts's artistic, educational, and engagement initiatives.

Become a Friend: Add a Gift of \$75+ to Your Subscription Order Today

	Renewing or New Subscriptions with a Friends Donation		2024/25 Subscription Only			No Subscription
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Seating Priority	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Savings	Up to 20%	Up to 15%	Up to 20%	Up to 15%	Up to 10%	\$0
Renew Same Seats Each Season	✓		✓			
Ticket Fees	\$0	\$0	\$10/order	\$10/order	\$10/order	added 15% per order
Priority Access to Added Concerts	✓	✓				
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Flexible Ticket Exchanges	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
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A gift of \$75 qualifies you as a Friend supporter. **Scan the QR code below** or visit WashingtonPerformingArts.org/subscription for a full list of benefits.



Friends Experience Outstanding Benefits and Access throughout the Season while Supporting Programs that Amplify our Mission to Champion the Unifying Power of the Arts.

Recent Friends experiences include:

- ✓ Behind-the-Scenes events with artists
- ✓ Free concert guest passes
- ✓ Listening Parties and Masterclasses with artists and arts experts

Washington Performing Arts appreciates Friends who remember us in their estate planning. If you are considering this or have already made a planned bequest, please call us at (202) 533-1880 so we may thank you and/or provide further information.

Interested in supporting our wider programs and work? Please contact the Washington Performing Arts Advancement office at (202) 533-1880.

PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MOSAIC THEATER

LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR AND GRILL

BY LANIE ROBERTSON

DIRECTED BY REGINALD L. DOUGLAS

STARRING ROZ WHITE

WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS ACCESS DATES:
SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2024

ATLAS CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS



Journey back to 1959 for an unforgettable rendezvous with Lady Day herself—the incomparable Billie Holiday. Featuring classics such as “God Bless the Child” and “Strange Fruit,” this acclaimed one-woman play with music transports you into a small bar in Philadelphia for one of the icon’s final concerts, transforming the theater into an immersive nightclub. Helen Hayes Award winner Roz White – known nationally for her broad vocal range and portrayal as Tina Turner’s mother in the national touring company of Broadway’s *Tina*— stars as Holiday. This fresh production of *Lady Day at Emerson’s Bar and Grill* explores the triumphs and traumas of Holiday’s life and career while celebrating the resilience of Black women throughout history.



As part of our Mars Arts D.C. and Mosaic Theater partnership, Washington Performing Arts audiences have special access to a **50% DISCOUNT** on performances September 20-22, 2024, with **CODE WPA50** at [MosaicTheater.org](https://www.MosaicTheater.org) or (202) 399-7993 x501. Code is active from June 25, 2024, and available while supplies last.

Photo of Roz White by Chris Banks.

FREE

TREGARON UNPLUGGED

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 5, 2024
3:00 P.M.

TREGARON CONSERVANCY

Step into a world of serene natural beauty with Tregaron Unplugged, presented by Washington Performing Arts. This intimate outdoor concert series features exceptional performances in the picturesque setting of Tregaron Conservancy, creating a perfect harmony between music and nature. This year's lineup includes string quartets, vocalists, and unique musical ensembles. Audiences will be treated to an eclectic mix of genres, including jazz, classical, Americana, and more. Hear a captivating blend of original music and timeless standards throughout the park, where the magic of live performances and the tranquility of nature come together for an unforgettable experience.



Photo by Jennifer Packard



Mars Arts D.C. is Washington Performing Arts's signature community engagement initiative. The product of a partnership between Washington Performing Arts, Jacqueline Badger Mars, and Mars, Incorporated, Mars Arts D.C. carries out its mission of presenting and elevating the dynamic vibrancy found in the local arts community and business economy through ever-growing artist engagement and long-term communal partnerships. With programmatic elements highlighting the uniqueness and beauty across all eight wards of the District, Mars Arts D.C. offers distinct performance opportunities, artist residencies, signature education programs, and robust integration with the Washington Performing Arts performance season, all for the benefit, enjoyment, and growth of both the artist community itself and the D.C. community as a whole.

PINK MARTINI'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

FEATURING CHINA FORBES AND SPECIAL GUEST ARI SHAPIRO

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 14, 2024
7:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
CONCERT HALL



Celebrating 30 years of globe-spanning performances, Pink Martini brings their cosmopolitan flair and musicality to Washington, D.C. Founded by pianist Thomas Lauderdale in 1994 to provide “more beautiful and inclusive soundtracks” for political fundraisers in his hometown of Portland, Oregon, today this “little orchestra” boasts a multilingual repertoire and a sound that mixes classical, tango, samba, pop, swing, and jazz. Whether performing in small nightclubs or on stage with orchestras around the world, the group serves up sparkling, sophisticated melodies with enticing, intoxicating rhythms, and a healthy splash of the unusual. Featuring a rotating cast of musicians and led by powerhouse vocalists including China Forbes, Pink Martini start a party wherever they play. Ari Shapiro, host of NPR’s *All Things Considered* joins as special guest.

***Part of the Washington Performing Arts
2024/2025 World Pride event series.***

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

SPHINX VIRTUOSI

BRITTON-RENÉ COLLINS, PERCUSSION

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 19, 2024
2:00 P.M.**

**KENNEDY CENTER
TERRACE THEATER**

The vibrant, self-conducted string orchestra Sphinx Virtuosi returns. Comprising 18 accomplished Black and Latinx artists, Sphinx Virtuosi seeks to evolve and transform the face of classical music through artistic excellence, pioneering programming, and impassioned community engagement. Heralded for its kaleidoscopically varied repertoire, the group brings a bold thematic program, featuring emerging percussion soloist Britton-René Collins. Sphinx Virtuosi is the flagship performing entity of the Sphinx Organization, dedicated to transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts and centered in the artistry of composers and artistic visionaries of color, including works by Duke Ellington, Scott Joplin, Curtis Stewart, and more.

This performance is a co-presentation with The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in cooperation with the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts.



Photo by Scott Jackson

HAYES PIANO SERIES

TONY SIQI YUN, PIANO

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 27, 2024
2:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
TERRACE THEATER

*“Expressive, and with his own distinct voice,
yet elegant and poised. A true poet.”*

- Pianist Magazine



Canadian-born pianist Tony Siqi Yun, Gold Medalist at the First China International Music Competition (2019) and awarded the Rheingau Music Festival's 2023 Lotto-Förderpreis, is quickly becoming a sought-after soloist and recitalist, performing with the Cleveland Orchestra, Toronto Symphony, Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, and Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, and collaborating frequently with Yannick Nézet-Séguin, among others. He makes his Washington Performing Arts Hayes Piano Series debut with a varied recital including Liszt's arrangement of Wagner's "Isolde Liebestod" from *Tristan und Isolde*, Schumann's Symphonic Études op. 13, Beethoven's beloved "Appassionata" sonata, and Brahms's Theme with Variations in D Minor, op. 18b—a work transcribed for Clara Schumann.

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

ACCESSIBILITY

Washington Performing Arts strives to meet the needs of all patrons. Accommodations are available at our venues for listening enhancement devices, American Sign Language interpretation, and wheelchair accessibility.

Large Print, Screen Reader Compatible, and Braille programs can also be provided with advance notice.

To request a service or for additional information, contact PatronServices@washingtonperformingarts.org or call (202) 785-9727.

Photo by Dario Acosta

BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER

KIRILL PETRENKO, CHIEF CONDUCTOR

HILARY HAHN, VIOLIN

FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 15, 2024
7:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
CONCERT HALL

“Under Petrenko’s baton, these superhuman musicians embraced... a humanity that was naked, gutsy, complicated, and completely sublime.”

- Pianist Magazine

The Berliner Philharmoniker is one of the world’s most acclaimed and well-respected orchestras. Founded in 1882, the virtuoso ensemble makes Washington Performing Arts its first stop of their 2024 United States tour under the baton of conductor Kirill Petrenko. Hear Sergei Rachmaninoff’s haunting *Isle of the Dead*, depicting the transition of souls to the afterlife and inspired by a black-and-white reproduction of Arnold Böcklin’s painting of the same name. Experience Dvořák’s Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, op. 70, flowing from sonorous and expressive climax to the ebbing, pastoral passages of horn and oboe. Washington Performing Arts frequent collaborator and friend Hilary Hahn joins the orchestra as they perform Erich Wolfgang Korngold’s romantically cinematic Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, op. 35. Berlin’s first visit with Washington Performing Arts in 21 years, this is a rare and extraordinary opportunity to be part of an evening of unforgettable artistic excellence.

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

BE A HERO! For nearly 60 years, classical music has been a renowned and treasured cornerstone of Washington Performing Arts programming. As we welcome the Berliner Philharmoniker and Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra this November, become a Hero Supporter to provide philanthropic support toward our orchestral programs. You will gain access to meet the artists of Berliner Philharmoniker and Hilary Hahn in a special post-concert reception and enjoy box-level seats. Help Washington Performing Arts ensure classical music remains vibrant, forward-facing, and cherished by longtime patrons and newcomers alike.

HERO SUPPORTER BOX-LEVEL SEATS AND RECEPTION: \$1,000 PER PERSON

Current Orchestra Subscribers may keep their current seats and add on reception with a gift of \$600 per person. This experience is available to November 11, 2024, or as tickets last. Contact the Advancement team at Friends@washingtonperformingarts.org for more information.

ROYAL CONCERTGEBOUW ORCHESTRA

KLAUS MÄKELÄ, CONDUCTOR
LISA BATIASHVILI, VIOLIN

SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 24, 2024
7:30 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER CONCERT HALL

“When a great ensemble – such as the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra – tours the world, listeners pay attention.”

- The Chicago Tribune

Regularly noted as one of the world’s most versatile and virtuosic orchestras, the Amsterdam-based Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra makes its first return to Washington in five years, conducted by 28-year-old Finnish phenomenon Klaus Mäkelä, also the incoming music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The concert opens with a new composition by resident composer and Pulitzer Prize-winning American composer Ellen Reid (*p r i s m*, *Push/Pull*). Prokofiev’s *Violin Concerto No. 2*, a masterpiece of fleeting tranquility punctuated by episodes of abrupt changes in mood and tonality, is performed with the “rich and technically immaculate” (*The Guardian*) playing of Georgian violinist Lisa Batiashvili. The program concludes with Rachmaninoff’s textured, bombastic, and serene *Symphony No. 2*— a work with which the composer avenged the failure of his First. And how!

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

STRATHMORE AND WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS PRESENT

SASHA VELOUR

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 25, 2025
8:00 P.M.

THE MUSIC CENTER
AT STRATHMORE

“A cerebral high-concept drag experience, full of imagination and stunning set-pieces... a real variety show, with segments inspired by high-art, musicals, circus and a whole host more besides.”

- Gaytimes

Known for her emotional, thoughtful, and crowd-shaking reveals, critically acclaimed, gender-fluid drag queen, artist, and author Sasha Velour takes things to a whole new level in *The Big Reveal Live Show*. Combining high-concept lip sync performances, storytelling, childhood film footage, video art, politics and more, this dynamic event shows the drag superstar at her most playful and hilarious. With a smart comedic script and surprising gags, Velour uses comedy as a way to disarm audiences and hit them with emotional truths. Loved by audiences and critics alike from San Francisco to Stockholm, *The Big Reveal Live Show* is an incredible work from a seminal artist.

*Part of the Washington
Performing Arts 2024/2025
World Pride event series.*

This performance is a co-presentation with the Music Center at Strathmore.



Photo by Greg Endries

FLORENCIA CUENCA AND JAIME LOZANO'S *BROADWAY EN SPANGLISH*

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 1, 2025
7:30 P.M.
SIXTH & I

“This is genuinely impressive musical storytelling, backed up by bona fide vocal training.”

- *Broadway World*

Husband and wife duo Jaime Lozano and Florencia Cuenca create musical magic with *Broadway en Spanglish*. A fusion of their Mexican roots with their journey to the American Dream, this multi-lingual musical cabaret features fresh interpretations and new arrangements of contemporary musical theater songs from *Hamilton*, *Waitress*, *Frozen*, and more. Lozano is a musical theater storyteller described by Lin-Manuel Miranda as the “next big thing” on Broadway. Cuenca has performed Off-Broadway in *Children of Salt* (NYMF 2016 Best of Fest) and *A Never-Ending Line*, and named Best New Jazz Artist by Hot House Jazz (2016). The two have performed to sold-out crowds at venues such as Joe’s Pub, 54 Below, and Lincoln Center’s American Songbook Series. Stirring mariachi music, humorous stories, and Cuenca’s rousing vocals make for a memorable night celebrating cultural diversity and connection.

Florencia Cuenca and Jaime Lozano photos courtesy of the artists.



Living the Dream ... Singing the Dream **A CHORAL TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS GOSPEL CHOIRS
MICHELE FOWLIN AND THEODORE THORPE III, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS
CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON
MARIE BUCOY-CALAVAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 2, 2025
7:30 P.M.**

KENNEDY CENTER
CONCERT HALL

When the power of the human voice meets the spirit of community and the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the result is guaranteed to be joyous and inspiring, filling the Kennedy Center with stirring narrative and sound. This concert is a must-see-and-hear annual highlight featuring the combined Men, Women, and Children of the Gospel choirs of Washington Performing Arts and the Choral Arts Society of Washington, in tribute both to Dr. King's achievements and to his ongoing, indelible impact.

“Expect soaring singing, moving tributes and testimonies, and (if you do it right) a hoarse throat the next morning.”

- The Washington Post

This performance is co-presented with the Choral Arts Society of Washington.

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.



Photo by Shannon Finney

NIKOLAI LUGANSKY, PIANO

SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 9, 2025
2:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
TERRACE THEATER

“The pianist of overwhelming sensitivity, who puts forward not himself, but the music.”

- Daily Telegraph

Praised as “one of the most outstanding artists of our epoch” (*Le Monde*), Nikolai Lugansky is a pianist of extraordinary depth and versatility. Regularly appearing with major orchestras across the globe, this is a special opportunity to experience Lugansky’s interpretations in the intimate Terrace Theater — the location of his Hayes Piano Series debut in the 1996 season. Often celebrated for the deftness by which he approaches Rachmaninoff’s cannon, Lugansky offers an unconventionally special program rooted in the Romantic music of Mendelssohn and Wagner. Hear the rolling melodies of Mendelssohn’s *Songs Without Words*, written during and inspired by the composer’s tour of Italy, Switzerland, and Germany; plus Wagner’s *Brünnhilde* and Siegfried’s love duet, Siegfried’s *Rhine Journey*, and Lugansky’s own transcription of Wagner’s Four Scenes from *Götterdämmerung*.

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

SEONG-JIN CHO, PIANO

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 18, 2025
7:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
CONCERT HALL

“Immaculate interpretation.”

- Washington Classical Review

Highly sought-after soloist and Artist-in-Residence of the Berliner Philharmoniker, Seong-Jin Cho, made his recital debut on the Hayes Piano Series, followed by a sold-out concert series with the National Symphony Orchestra. His assertive, tender, and colorful playing will be on full display in this exciting program at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall as he performs Ravel’s full catalogue of solo piano works. Hear the delicately drawn *Menuet sur le nom d’Haydn* and *Menuet antique*, the suite of eight Valses nobles et sentimentales, and much more. *The Guardian* praises Cho: “... his passagework gleamingly precise, his sound ranging from staggering softness to luminous Steinway shine.”



EXPLORE THE SEASON ONLINE



This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

BROOKLYN RIDER

ARIADNE GREIF, SOPRANO

SATURDAY,
MARCH 1, 2025
7:30 P.M.

SIXTH & I

“[Their] down-to-earth demeanor... demystifies contemporary classical music and invites everyone into the tent.”

- Time Out New York

The energy and creativity of this quartet's namesake borough comes shining through as they expand the classical canon with unparalleled skill, creativity, and inventive collaborations. With set-lists drawn of composers from Beethoven to Björk, every performance is a musically omnivorous adventure that coaxes new energy out of classical works and pushes the string quartet form into new territories of Americana, jazz, and music from around the globe. The foursome's swaggering and accessible performance style is a perennial favorite at NPR, which frequently includes their albums in the station's yearly "Best Albums" lists. Hear Giovanni Sollima's *Four Quartets*, plus works by Clarice Assad, 2024 Pulitzer Prize-winner Tyshawn Sorey, and Gabriel Kahane from the Brooklyn Rider Almanac, Book II, and more. Operatic soprano Ariadne Greif adds her "luminous, expressive voice" (*New York Times*) to this concert event at Sixth & I.



Photo by Marco Giannavola

MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES AT SONGBYRD

AKUA ALLRICH

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025 / 8:00 P.M.

Jazz vocalist and D.C. native Akua Allrich pays tribute to African-American women in music with a blend of blues, soul, jazz, and pan-African music. Accompanied by a live band, her performance honors the legacies of the legendary artists such as Miriam Makeba and Nina Simone, and others. Allrich's electrifying presence and powerful voice promise to captivate and inspire.



FREE

KAREN SLACK, SOPRANO KEVIN MILLER, PIANO ***AFRICAN QUEENS***

SUNDAY,
MARCH 9, 2025
7:30 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
TERRACE THEATER

“Not only one of the nation’s most celebrated sopranos, but a leading voice in changing and making spaces in classical music.”

- Trilloquy

Karen Slack is an operatic virtuoso who debuted the role of Billie in the 2019 world premiere of Terence Blanchard’s *Fire Shut Up in My Bones*, and who has amassed a body of work highlighting living composers. Simultaneously, she has developed a career as sought-after curator and collaborator and now brings her new commissioning project, *African Queens*, to its regional debut. The evening-length vocal recital celebrates the history and legacy of seven historic or “real-life” African queens, revered as rulers but not widely heralded in the western world. The program weaves historical narrative through new works by acclaimed composers Jasmine Barnes, Damien Geter, Jessie Montgomery, Shawn Okpebholo, Dave Ragland, Carlos Simon, and Joel Thompson along with carefully selected traditional repertoire – further illuminated through passages of spoken text and thematic artwork.

Washington Performing Arts is a project co-commissioner of *African Queens*. This performance is the third-annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital—a yearly performance honoring a dear friend of Washington Performing Arts and elevating new work of both established and renowned artists.

In cooperation with the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts.



This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.



Photo by Kia Caldwell

HAYES PIANO SERIES

CLAYTON STEPHENSON, PIANO

SATURDAY,
MARCH 15, 2025
2:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
TERRACE THEATER



Photo courtesy of the artist.

Finalist in the 2022 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and 2022 Gilmore Young Artist Awardee Clayton Stephenson brings compelling musicality and exuberance to his Hayes Piano Series debut at the Terrace Theater. At age 10 he advanced to The Juilliard School's elite Pre-College program, and he now studies in the Harvard-New England Conservatory Dual Degree Program, pursuing a bachelor's in economics and a master's degree in piano performance. Stephenson's captivating artistry will be on full display in a recital program spanning works by Schubert, Stravinsky, Gershwin, and more.

“Stephenson is not just a remarkable virtuoso, but a poet, a dramatist and a master story-teller.”

- Gramophone

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

YEFIM BRONFMAN, PIANO

**MONDAY,
APRIL 14, 2025
7:30 P.M.**

**KENNEDY CENTER
TERRACE THEATER**

Famed for his commanding, powerful technique coupled with exceptional lyricism, the great Yefim Bronfman performs a solo Terrace Theater recital – a rare opportunity for D.C. audiences to experience his towering presence with such immediacy. As the *Philadelphia Inquirer* described, “It is safe to say there is no pianist around remotely like Yefim Bronfman. Labor doesn’t seem to ever enter the equation; he is simply everywhere, instantly, and all the time.” Join us for his performance including works by Mozart, Debussy, and Tchaikovsky.

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.



Photo by Dario Acosta

MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES AT SONGBYRD

MUSICAL JOURNEY: DISTRICT COALITION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025 / 8:00 P.M.



Join us for *Musical Journey* showcasing talented artists from the classical, jazz, electronic, and hip-hop genres in an innovative set presented by District Coalition, a non-profit organization dedicated to curating unforgettable moments through the fusion of music, venues, and experiences. Experience the rich textures of classical instruments, the infectious rhythms of jazz and cumbia, the atmospheric sounds of electronic music, the passion of flamenco guitar, and the powerful verses of hip-hop and soul, all interwoven into a captivating auditory experience.

FREE

ZAKIR HUSSAIN AND MASTERS OF PERCUSSION

WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 16, 2025
7:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
CONCERT HALL



Renowned classical tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain captivates Washington Performing Arts audiences season after season with his dynamic, genre-defying programs and compelling collaborations. For the first time live in nearly a decade, Hussain presents his Masters of Percussion program with Washington Performing Arts, featuring a stage full of percussionists from around the world. Since 1996, this program has unearthed Indian folk and classical traditions to Western audiences and amplified the enthralling rhythm traditions of Hussain's home country often mixed with Western influences. Masters of Percussion is a testament to Hussain's lasting influence on global music, and further solidifies him as an international phenomenon.

**CHOOSE +3 PERFORMANCES
AND SAVE 10%**



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YUNCHAN LIM, PIANO

SUNDAY,
APRIL 27, 2025
4:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
CONCERT HALL

“This was virtuosity as life force.”

- *New York Times*

Yunchan Lim is a classical pianist sensation, growing to global stardom after becoming the youngest person to win gold at the 2022 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition at the age of 18. “A one-in-a-million talent” (*Dallas Morning News*), Lim’s performance of Sergei Rachmaninoff’s *Piano Concerto No. 3* during the competition went viral and the *New York Times* listed it as one of the Top 10 Classical Music Performances of 2022. Lim’s technical prowess and undeniable passion shined in successful orchestral debuts across the U.S. and abroad while he was continuing his studies at the New England Conservatory in Boston. For his recital debut at the Kennedy Center, rescheduled from our fall 2023 engagement, Lim performs J.S. Bach’s labyrinthine keyboard work *Goldberg Variations*.

This performance is a co-presentation with The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.



Photo courtesy of the artist.

EVGENY KISSIN, PIANO

SATURDAY,
MAY 3, 2025
4:00 P.M.

MUSIC CENTER
AT STRATHMORE



A perennial Washington Performing Arts audience favorite, the supremely gifted Evgeny Kissin impresses with his precision, color, and interpretive nuance. The simultaneous grandeur and intimacy of his solo recital performances give full voice to his expressive range and impressive skill. Repertoire for his May 2025 performance at Strathmore includes selections from Shostakovich's *Preludes and Fugues* and *Piano Sonata No. 2 in B Minor*, plus Bach *Partita No. 2 in C Minor*, and Chopin's *Nocturnes* in G Minor and in E-flat Major, among others.

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Photo by Johann Sebastian Haenel

FREE

TREGARON MEADOW CONCERT

SUNDAY,
MAY 4, 2025
3:00 P.M.

TREGARON CONSERVANCY

Prepare for an enchanting afternoon at the Tregaron Meadow Concert featuring the Todd Marcus Trio and jazz vocalist Imani-Grace Cooper. Experience the unique sound of Marcus's trio, where the bass clarinet takes center stage alongside bass and drums. Their performance blends original compositions with jazz standards, showcasing Marcus's rich musical vocabulary and his ability to transition between hard-blowing intensity and soft, textural sensitivity.

Imani-Grace Cooper, known for her versatility and deep knowledge of jazz, captivates audiences with her dynamic vocal performances. Having studied under the esteemed Connaitre Miller, Imani-Grace has cultivated a successful jazz following in Washington, D.C., and has performed solo at the Apollo Theater during the Annual Harlem Jazz Week. She has shared the stage with legends such as Dianne Reeves, Esperanza Spalding, and Al Jarreau.



Photo by Alex Galitsatos

MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES AT SONGBYRD

RONNETTE ROLLINS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025 / 8:00 P.M.



Ronnette Rollins is known for her dynamic stage presence, vocal range, and piano skills. The musical prodigy played piano and organ and directed choirs for various churches beginning at age eight. By 11 she already was shining alongside her godmother, Gospel Music Hall of Fame inductee Shirley Ables & The Joy Gospel Singers. Ronnette has recorded and performed with gospel and inspirational legends like Yolanda Adams, Pastor Shirley Caesar, and Isaiah Thomas & Elements of Praise. Joins us for a concert that promises to be both soul-stirring and exhilarating.

FREE

MODERN WARRIOR LIVE

CREATED BY DOMINICK FARINACCI AND MILITARY VETERAN JAYMES POLING

SATURDAY,
MAY 10, 2025
7:30 P.M.

LISNER AUDITORIUM



Photo courtesy Modern Warrior Live.

During Military Appreciation Month, join us for a powerful evening of music, visual arts, and narrative that chronicles the story of U.S. Army veteran Jaymes Poling and his journey through three deployments in Afghanistan and subsequent transition back home. Told by Poling, this autobiographical production explores the personal and emotional journey of military service, weaving Poling's story with music by acclaimed trumpeter Dominick Farinacci and top jazz performers from around the country. Since its debut in 2017, Modern Warrior Live has created meaningful conversation about heroism, mental health, and reentry to civilian life.

This presentation also includes a companion Modern Warrior Experience featuring stories by and featuring local veterans paired in performance with Dominick Farinacci and other musicians. Details to be announced.

ISAAC MIZRAHI IN CONCERT

SATURDAY,
MAY 17, 2025
7:00 P.M.

SIXTH & I

“Vocally, Mr. Mizrahi belongs to a brassy show business tradition running from Ethel Merman to Harvey Fierstein, and Liza Minnelli...”

- New York Times

One-of-a-kind designer, host, actor, and tastemaker Isaac Mizrahi brings his relatable and irreverent comedy cabaret to Sixth & I with a six-piece jazz band. Join us for an evening of laughter, repartée, and tunes by Stephen Sondheim, Madonna, Blondie, and so much more.

*Part of the Washington
Performing Arts 2024/2025
World Pride event series.*



Photo by David Andraiko

HAYES PIANO SERIES

JANICE CARISSA, PIANO

SUNDAY,
MAY 18, 2025
2:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
TERRACE THEATER

“Summoning ferocious sonorities in the bass register, flying to the top register and back with graceful agility... an astounding performance.”

- The San Diego Union-Tribune

Following her debut with The Philadelphia Orchestra at age 16, Indonesian pianist Janice Carissa has embarked on a whirlwind career, garnering praise at renowned concert halls and performing alongside some of the most distinguished musicians of today. A Gilmore Young Artist, Carissa's program showcases her graceful agility and emotive style with works by Frederic Rzewski, Scarlatti, Scriabin, Prokofiev, Beethoven, and Bach.

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

Photo courtesy of the artist.

MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES AT SONGBYRD

LONNY TAYLOR
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025 / 8:00 P.M.

Lonny Taylor is a brilliant D.C. singer-songwriter known for his powerful voice and poignant lyrics. His heartfelt performances and impressive piano skills have earned him a dedicated fan base. Experience a blend of R&B, soul, and rock at Songbyrd.



FREE

WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS GOSPEL CHOIRS

MICHELE FOWLIN AND THEODORE THORPE III,
ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

ANTHONY WALKER, MUSIC DIRECTOR
KARON JOHNSON, CHOREOGRAPHER

**SATURDAY,
JUNE 7, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

LISNER AUDITORIUM

Experience an evening of glorious sounds, artistry, and uplifting messages with the Washington Performing Arts gospel choirs. The choirs and special guests will perform a program of traditional and contemporary works. For more than 30 years, the gospel choirs have nurtured both aspiring and experienced vocalists while bringing powerful messages of hope to the most prominent stages in the region.



Photo by Fritz Photographics

MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES AT SONGBYRD

WORLD PRIDE: JCHRIS

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025 / 3:00 P.M.



JChris and his band take you through Latin American with a high-energy set highlighting music by Latinas, the Latino queer community, and his own original composition. At this performance, you'll hear a program that is inspired by JChris's queer and Brazilian and Peruvian identities. Part of the Washington Performing Arts 2024/2025 World Pride event series.

FREE

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA WITH WYNTON MARSALIS

MONDAY,
JUNE 16, 2025
7:00 P.M.

KENNEDY CENTER
CONCERT HALL

“A fanfare of trumpets was answered by a sheen of reeds before a froth of swapped phrases unfolded over springy walking-bass swing... Marsalis, a superb technician, welds classic jazz references into a modal jazz palette.”

- Financial Times

Treat yourself to an evening of American big-band jazz with the bi-annual Washington Performing Arts presentation of the sensational 15-member Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, led by artistic director, trumpeter, and nine-time Grammy Award-winner Wynton Marsalis. As the *Chicago Tribune* described the exhilarating force of the band in concert: “The orchestra [tore] through this music as if chasing the wind. Only a group of musicians who have toured together for so long...could have attained this kind of synchronicity.”

This is an external rental presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and is not produced by The Kennedy Center.

Photo by Lawrence Samuliong

MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES AT SONGBYRD

WORLD PRIDE: COLORS OF CULTURE
SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2025 / 3:00 P.M.

Experience an inclusive celebration of diversity at Songbyrd. This multicultural showcase, hosted by urban Latin artist JChris, features a range of talents from the queer community across Latin America and beyond. Be part of an evening that honors the richness of our multicultural world through music, dance, and creative expression. Part of the Washington Performing Arts 2024/2025 World Pride event series.



FREE

For nearly 60 years, Washington Performing Arts has produced education programs for youth and lifelong learners, fostering appreciation for and active participation in the arts. This is at the heart of why Washington Performing Arts was founded: to celebrate and spark curiosity, collaboration, and creativity, and to be a home for all members of our community to experience the arts.

- ✓ Washington Performing Arts annually produces more than 600 education and community engagement events that serve more than 15,000 participants across greater D.C.
- ✓ More than 50 embassies and classrooms are paired in the Embassy Adoption Program, a 50-year partnership with D.C. Public Schools, which engages 2,000 students.
- ✓ Washington Performing Arts provides education programs and curricular support to more than 200 classrooms in the D.C. area through award-winning programs which include in-school instruction, artist interaction, and performance opportunities.
- ✓ Through the Gateway Student Ticket Program, Washington Performing Arts offers a limited number of \$10 tickets to students of all ages (up to two tickets for each performance with a valid ID) for performances. Gateway tickets go on sale along with single tickets on August 16, 2024. Gateway Student Tickets must be reserved by phone from our box office.



IMPACT THROUGH EDUCATION

To learn more and find opportunities to participate, visit

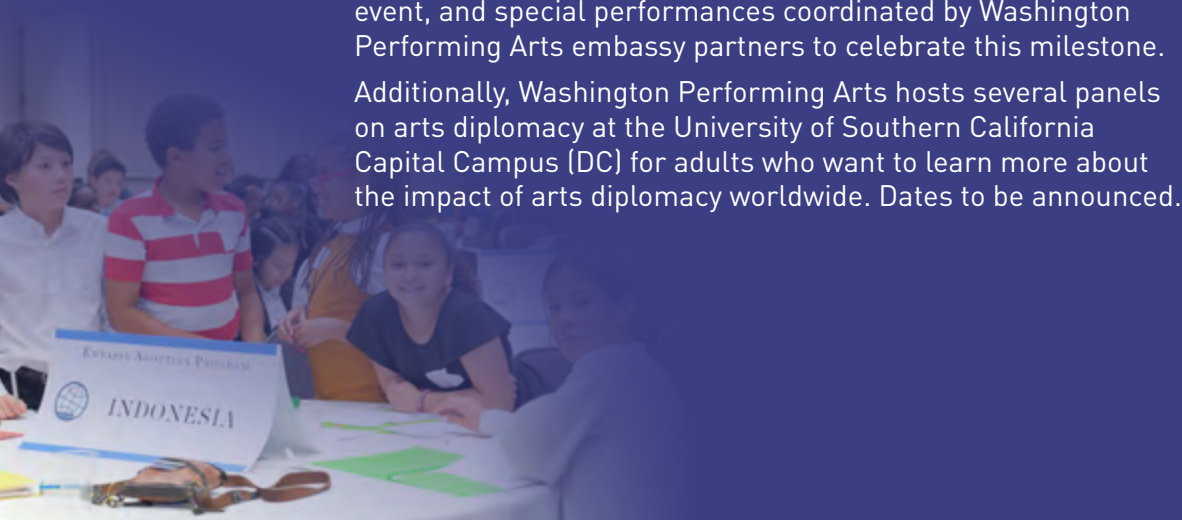
WashingtonPerformingArts.org/education

INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS AND COLLABORATIONS SHINE AS WE CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF THE EMBASSY ADOPTION PROGRAM WITH D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Each season, Washington Performing Arts brings together artists from across the globe for memorable performances in the D.C. area under the auspices of The World in Our City. Thematic cultural programs appear throughout this 2024/25 season as we celebrate the longest-standing partnership of DC Public Schools, the Embassy Adoption Program (EAP). This dynamic partnership connects fifth- and sixth-grade D.C. Public Schools students with more than 60 embassies and other diplomatic entities. Annually through the Embassy Adoption Program, diplomats visit schools to provide students with a personalized understanding of their nation's positions on various world issues, fostering global competency and cultural empathy.

This year, the program expands to include deeper integration of arts and culture opportunities for youth, including more teaching artist classroom visits, performances at a Mini UN event, and special performances coordinated by Washington Performing Arts embassy partners to celebrate this milestone.

Additionally, Washington Performing Arts hosts several panels on arts diplomacy at the University of Southern California Capital Campus (DC) for adults who want to learn more about the impact of arts diplomacy worldwide. Dates to be announced.



MISSION

Washington Performing Arts Champions the arts as a unifying force. Through collaborations with artists, educators, community leaders, and institutional partners, we bring wide-ranging artistic programs to states, schools, and neighborhoods throughout our nation's capital and, with our virtual programs, share our work throughout the world.

VISION

Our community is unified and enriched through vibrant performing arts experiences.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Cultivate Artists and Arts Patrons: Be the organization that artists want to partner with and that arts patrons trust for lifelong enjoyment and learning.

Pursue Inclusion: Seek, represent, and welcome a multiplicity of voices in everything we do.

Collaborate with Communities: Build strong partnerships with local, national, and international organizations to make the performing arts accessible to communities in the nation's capital.

Build a Lasting Legacy: Balance risk-taking with fiscal rigor, sustaining a healthy organization that will last for generations.

ABOUT WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS



Washington Performing Arts champions the arts as a unifying force. Through collaborations with artists, educators, community leaders, and institutional partners, we bring wide-ranging artistic programs to stages, schools, and neighborhoods throughout our nation's capital and, with our virtual platforms, share our work throughout the world.

One of the most established and honored performing arts institutions in America, Washington Performing Arts has engaged for more than half a century with artists, audiences, students, and civic life. The city is truly our stage: for decades, in venues ranging from concert halls and clubs to public parks, we have presented a tremendous range of artists and art forms, from the most distinguished symphony orchestras to both renowned and emerging artists in classical music, gospel music, jazz, international genres, and more.




Washington Performing Arts deeply values its partnerships with local organizations and other arts institutions. Through events online and in myriad performance venues and neighborhoods, we engage international visiting artists in community programs and introduce local artists to wider audiences. We place a premium on establishing artists as a continuing presence in the lives of both young people and adults through residencies and education programs.

Our achievements have been recognized with a National Medal of Arts and with three Mayor's Arts Awards from the D.C. Government. We have now embarked upon our second half-century, ever inspired by the motto of our founder, Patrick Hayes: "Everybody in, nobody out."






2024/25 SEASON VENUES




Atlas Center for the Performing Arts

-  1333 H Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20002
-  Union Station (Red line) is a 20-25 minute walk. Free DC Streetcar departs from the Hopscotch Bridge every 15 minutes. Exit at 13th and H Streets.
-  Limited street parking. Use of public transportation, trolley, and taxi or rideshare encouraged.




Franklin Park

-  1332 I Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20005
-  Independent parking garages and paid street parking available.
-  McPherson Square (Blue, Orange, Silver lines). Exit at 14th & I Street




The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Concert Hall, Terrace Theater

-  2700 F Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20566
-  Paid parking available at Kennedy Center, Watergate, and Columbia Plaza garages
-  Foggy Bottom/GWU (Blue, Yellow, Orange, Silver lines)




Lisner Auditorium

-  730 20st Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20052
-  Limited street and paid garage parking available
-  Foggy Bottom/GWU (Blue, Orange, Silver lines)




The Music Center at Strathmore

-  5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD 20852
-  Complimentary parking at Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Station
-  Grosvenor-Strathmore (Red line)




Sixth & I

-  600 I Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001
-  Limited street and paid garage parking available downtown
-  Gallery Pl-Chinatown (Red, Green, Yellow lines), 7th and H Street NW exit

Songbyrd Music House

-  540 Penn Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20002
-  Free parking is available in the Union Market area.
-  NoMA-Gallaudet U (Red line)

Tregaron Conservancy

-  3100 Macomb Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20008
-  Limited two-hour parking is available on nearby streets. Parking is not permitted in The Washington International School driveway.
-  Cleveland Park (Red line)



WASHINGTON
PERFORMING ARTS

In Harmony
SUBSCRIPTION INFO INSIDE