



**NEW  
JERSEY  
SYMPHONY**

**CELEBRATING**  
MUSIC DIRECTOR  
**XIAN ZHANG'S**  
10<sup>TH</sup> SEASON!

**10**

**25|26**

**SEASON**



# Escape THE everyday

XIAN  
ZHANG

**The orchestra tunes, the conductor walks out to the podium, and suspenseful silence falls over the hall before beautiful sounds begin to resonate.** These are the experiences and emotions you don't get from a recording. The sound of a live orchestra just can't be replicated digitally. First-time audience members who hear that rich sound from the strings, the warm tones of the brass, and the lilting melodies from the winds are often hooked for life. Whether it's the power of a chorus singing Mozart's Requiem or the "Hallelujah Chorus," the thrilling experience of a guest artist performing at the highest level, or the orchestra displaying its own stunning virtuosity, classical music is your escape from the everyday, allowing you to take a moment to relax, reflect, recharge ... or just enjoy.

**Put live music on your calendar.** Subscribe to a venue series or compose your own series of concerts. **Save up to 20% and get the best seats.** Easy exchanges and a money-back guarantee make it an easy choice.

## Electrifying guest artists!



Randall Goosby



Eva Gevorgyan



Michelle Cann



Francesca Dego



Joyce Yang



Emanuel Ax



Haochen Zhang



Time for Three

## Magnificent masterworks

**Samuel Barber** Violin Concerto  
**Béla Bartók** Concerto for Orchestra  
**Ludwig van Beethoven** Symphony No. 5  
**Ludwig van Beethoven** Symphony No. 6, "Pastoral"  
**Hector Berlioz** *Symphonie fantastique*  
**Frédéric Chopin** Piano Concerto No. 2  
**Antonín Dvořák** Symphony No. 8  
**George Gershwin** *Rhapsody in Blue*  
**Felix Mendelssohn** Symphony No. 4, "Italian"  
**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** Requiem  
**Florence Price** Piano Concerto in One Movement  
**Sergei Prokofiev** Violin Concerto No. 2  
**Richard Strauss** *Ein Heldenleben*  
**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** Piano Concerto No. 1

## New experiences & rare gems

**Aaron Copland** Suite from *Billy the Kid*  
**Allison Loggins-Hull** New Work  
 (World Premiere, New Jersey Symphony Commission)  
**Jessie Montgomery** *Hymn for Everyone*  
**Gustav Mahler** *Songs of a Wayfarer*  
**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** Piano Concerto No. 22  
**Romeo & Juliet with Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey**  
**Kevin Puts** *Contact*  
**Carlos Simon** *Zodiac*  
 (New Jersey Symphony Co-Commission)  
**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 2, "Ukrainian"

## A night out

**TwoSet Violin with New Jersey Symphony**  
**Fantasia in Concert**  
**Elf in Concert**  
**Handel's Messiah**  
**Lunar New Year Celebration**  
**Star Wars: The Last Jedi in Concert**  
**Joshua Bell with New Jersey Symphony**  
**Ben Folds with New Jersey Symphony**



JOSHUA BELL  
Principal Guest Conductor



XIAN ZHANG

# CELEBRATING MUSIC DIRECTOR XIAN ZHANG'S 10<sup>TH</sup> SEASON!

Dear Friends,

## The 2025–26 season will be one to remember!

Throughout my 10th season with the Symphony, I am excited to share with you some of the most cherished pieces in classical music, alongside new works and new experiences that will inspire and delight. The season opens in October with Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, performed by the phenomenal Joyce Yang; Dvořák's Symphony No. 8; and Jessie Montgomery's *Hymn for Everyone*—this is indeed music for everyone!

In January, audience favorite Randall Goosby returns to perform Barber's Violin Concerto, one of the jewels of the violin repertoire. The Symphony will partner with The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey in a program that tells the story of Romeo & Juliet by combining powerful music by Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky with selected scenes from Shakespeare's beloved play.

In February and March, it's Beethoven, Bartók, and more Beethoven! We will perform Beethoven's Fifth and Sixth symphonies—written at the same time but very different in character—as well as Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra, which is a virtuosic showcase of the Symphony musicians. In April, I look forward to Mozart's Requiem, with a cast of dazzling soloists and the powerful and refined voices of the Montclair State University Chorale. I will also lead the orchestra in *Ein Heldenleben*—one of Richard Strauss' most expansive tone poems.

In May, Joshua Bell will perform his first concert as the Symphony's principal guest conductor, and will lead the orchestra both with and without the violin in hand. June brings a fantastic season finale—Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*, paired with Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 22, performed by the incredible Emanuel Ax. I will also conduct the world premiere of a new work by Allison Loggins-Hull, the New Jersey Symphony's Resident Artistic Partner.

Other stellar guest artists appearing on our stages this season include Michelle Cann performing Florence Price's Piano Concerto in One Movement and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, Time for Three performing Kevin Puts' *Contact*, and the New Jersey Symphony debuts of pianist Eva Gevorgyan and violinist Francesca Dego.

Our 10th season together will be a season to remember!

Sincerely,

Xian Zhang  
Music Director

**The mission of New Jersey Symphony is to connect with the diverse communities of New Jersey through the power of live symphonic music to inspire, entertain, and educate.**

Through adventurous performances, hands-on educational experiences, and robust community programming, we want everyone to enjoy the power and creativity of orchestral music in all its forms. Across genres and venues, for audiences of all walks of life, we strive to bring music that's meaningful to you, to you.

In our second century of music-making, we are renewing our deeply rooted commitment to amplifying the work of unique and vibrant communities by championing both new and local artists; engaging audiences for whom the inspiring depth and breadth of classical music will be new; and incorporating the broadest possible representation in all aspects of our organization—all to better reflect and serve our vibrant communities.

Our expansive educational offerings—including our youth orchestra which is celebrating its 35th season, masterclasses, and school residencies—will build the next generation of listeners and musicians and help students grow, both musically and personally. We will continue to seek new ways to connect with all New Jerseyans, through programs that resonate with a variety of cultural and musical backgrounds and by creating accessibility to audiences of all abilities.

**New Jersey Symphony is here for you!**

## Connecting Through MUSIC



NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

# Classical

## Season Opening Celebration



JOYCE YANG

**Celebrate Xian's 10th anniversary with us!**  
We'll start the season off with a party you won't soon forget. For more details visit [→ njsymphony.org/opening](https://njsymphony.org/opening)



XIAN ZHANG

### Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1

**Xian Zhang** conductor  
**Joyce Yang** piano

**Newark** → Friday, Oct 10, 7:30 pm  
**Red Bank** → Saturday, Oct 11, 7:30 pm  
**Newark** → Sunday, Oct 12, 2 pm

#### Jessie Montgomery *Hymn for Everyone*

We launch the season with Montgomery's open-arms musical welcome. In her *Hymn for Everyone* you'll hear an echo of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," often called the Black National Anthem.

#### Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky *Piano Concerto No. 1*

Slammed as a flop at its premiere, Tchaikovsky more than had the last laugh: here's jaw-dropping virtuosity for the soloist, sweeping melodies for the orchestra, and an audience favorite around the world.

#### Antonin Dvořák *Symphony No. 8*

Dvořák's pen might as well have been a paint brush. In his tuneful Eighth you can practically see autumn's most vivid colors and the heart-melting glow of an October sunset.

XIAN ZHANG

### Rhapsody in Blue

Plus works by Florence Price & Carlos Simon

**Tito Muñoz** conductor  
**Michelle Cann** piano

**Newark** → Thursday, Nov 6, 1:30 pm  
**Princeton** → Friday, Nov 7, 7:30 pm  
**Newark** → Saturday, Nov 8, 7:30 pm  
**New Brunswick** → Sunday, Nov 9, 2 pm

#### Florence Price *Piano Concerto in One Movement*

An American genius, Florence Price mixes luscious lyricism with ragtime stomp. This recently unearthed gem won Cann—the leading interpreter of Price's piano music—a 2023 GRAMMY.

#### George Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*

United Airlines knows a good tune when it hears one, and that melody is the heartbeat of Gershwin's classic. But not before the famous swooping clarinet solo gets this piece of the Roaring Twenties underway.

#### Carlos Simon *Zodiac* (New Jersey Symphony Co-Commission; Northeast Premiere)

Carlos Simon is one of America's leading contemporary composers, and in his latest music, a proud co-commission of the New Jersey Symphony, Simon gives voice to all 12 zodiac signs—the music at turns fiery, ethereal, and soaring.

#### Aaron Copland *Suite from Billy the Kid*

Cowboy songs, folk tunes, and a visionary composer—all the ingredients that made Copland's wild-west ballet a hit in the '30s and a favorite still.



TITO MUÑOZ



MICHELLE CANN

GERSHWIN & COPPLAND



XIAN  
ZHANG  
MUSIC  
DIRECTOR

RANDALL  
GOOSBY  
VIOLIN



RANDALL GOOSBY

# RANDALL GOOSBY

## Randall Goosby Returns

**Xian Zhang** conductor  
**Randall Goosby** violin

**New Brunswick** → Thursday, Jan 8, 7 pm  
**Princeton** → Friday, Jan 9, 7:30 pm  
**Newark** → Saturday, Jan 10, 7:30 pm  
**Morristown** → Sunday, Jan 11, 2 pm

### **Jean Sibelius** *Finlandia*

Eight minutes that saved a nation. When Finland wrestled itself free from the Russian bear, Sibelius' music was the Finns' call to courage.

### **Samuel Barber** *Violin Concerto*

The most gorgeous violin concerto of the 20th century: the first two movements exquisitely touching, and the third a wild sprint for only the bravest of soloists.

### **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** *Symphony No. 2, "Ukrainian"*

Three Ukrainian folksongs were all Tchaikovsky needed for inspiration. From them, he spun his most joyful symphony.

# ROMEO & JULIET

## Romeo & Juliet

Featuring The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey

**Xian Zhang** conductor  
**The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey** guest artists

**Newark** → Thursday, Jan 29, 1:30 pm  
**Newark** → Friday, Jan 30, 7:30 pm  
**Red Bank** → Saturday, Jan 31, 7:30 pm  
**Newark** → Sunday, Feb 1, 2 pm

### **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture*

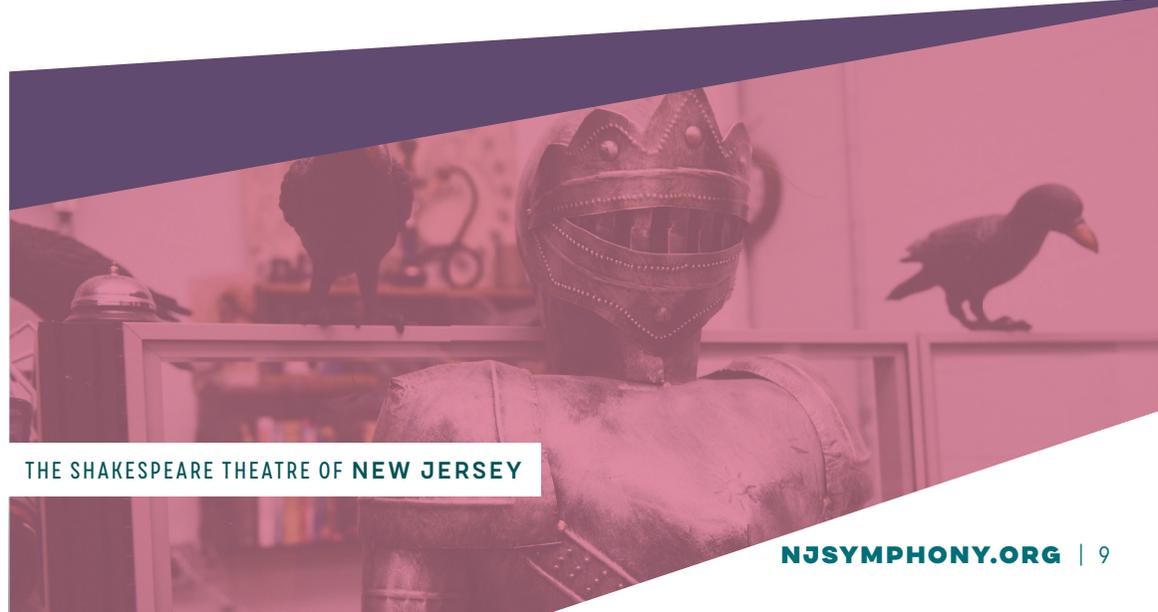
Tchaikovsky gives you all the passion and drama of Shakespeare's two young lovers, as the New Jersey Symphony becomes a storyteller in real time.

### **Sergei Prokofiev** *Selections from Romeo and Juliet*

Considered too difficult, even undanceable at its unveiling, Prokofiev's ballet with scene after scene of strikingly original music soon became the treasure of every ballet house the world over.

## PROGRAM DETAILS & MUSIC CLIPS

→ [njsymphony.org](https://njsymphony.org)



THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE OF NEW JERSEY



TIME FOR THREE



MARKUS STENZ

## Beethoven's Fifth Symphony

Time for Three Performs *Contact*

**Markus Stenz** conductor

**Time for Three**

**Ranaan Meyer** double bass

**Nick Kendall** violin

**Charles Yang** violin

**Morristown** → Thursday, Feb 26, 7 pm

**Newark** → Friday, Feb 27, 7:30pm

**Newark** → Sunday, Mar 1, 2 pm

### Richard Wagner *Prelude to Act I of Lohengrin*

It begins with the strings alone playing a whisper-quiet passage of holy serenity. Soon the whole orchestra joins and builds in a full-throated cry. Wagner's operatic stage is set for the arrival of the knight Lohengrin sent on a mission from God.

### Kevin Puts *Contact*

Time for Three, a self-described "classically trained garage band," brings you the GRAMMY Award-winning concerto written for them by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts. Created during the isolation of the early pandemic, *Contact* is "an expression of yearning for the fundamental need" of human connection.

### Ludwig van Beethoven *Symphony No. 5*

Four notes—dah, dah, dah, DAA—launched Beethoven's Fifth in 1808 and have stamped all of western classical music since.

# BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH

# BARTÓK & CHOPIN



RUTH REINHARDT

## Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra

**Ruth Reinhardt** conductor

**Eva Gevorgyan** piano

**Newark** → Thursday, Mar 12, 1:30 pm

**Princeton** → Friday, Mar 13, 7:30 pm

**Red Bank** → Saturday, Mar 14, 7:30 pm

**New Brunswick** → Sunday, Mar 15, 2 pm

### Béla Bartók *Romanian Folk Dances*

Informed by his numerous research trips across Hungary, this short and spry set of folk dances bursts with Transylvanian flavor and energy.

### Frédéric Chopin *Piano Concerto No. 2*

There are moments here that make time, and your breath, stand still. If ever you need evidence of the human spirit's capacity for beauty, look to this remarkable creation of 20-year-old Chopin.

### Béla Bartók *Concerto for Orchestra*

Every section of the orchestra gets the spotlight to dazzling effect, and the Concerto's last moments are some of the most thrilling in all classical music.



EVA GEVORGYAN

PROGRAM DETAILS  
& MUSIC CLIPS  
→ [njsymphony.org](https://njsymphony.org)



JUAN ESTEBAN MARTINEZ

## Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony

**Xian Zhang** conductor  
**Juan Esteban Martinez** clarinet

**Newark** → Friday, Mar 27, 7:30 pm  
**Newark** → Saturday, Mar 28, 7:30 pm  
**Morristown** → Sunday, Mar 29, 2 pm

### Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Divertimento in D Major, K. 136

The spotlight opens on the New Jersey Symphony's virtuoso strings playing the sunniest music Mozart ever created.

### Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Clarinet Concerto

Principal Clarinet Juan Esteban Martinez will shine in this sunny crown jewel of the clarinet repertoire, which was written for an earlier iteration of the modern clarinet.

### Ludwig van Beethoven Symphony No. 6, "Pastoral"

His greatest inspiration came from long walks in nature, score paper, and pencil stuffed in his pocket. Beethoven takes us with him in his Sixth, his music full of open-air melodies, and the drama of a ferocious storm.



XIAN ZHANG



FRANCESCA DEGO

## Xian Conducts Prokofiev & Strauss

**Xian Zhang** conductor  
**Francesca DeGo** violin

**Newark** → Friday, Apr 10, 7:30 pm  
**Red Bank** → Saturday, Apr 11, 7:30 pm  
**Newark** → Sunday, Apr 12, 2 pm

### Anton Webern *Im Sommerwind*

A lovingly lush hymn to the charms of summer, written just before Webern helped stand traditional classical music on its head.

### Sergei Prokofiev *Violin Concerto No. 2*

It opens with a wisp of melancholy Russian folksong and closes with castanets and Spanish flair, creating fireworks for a world-class violinist and orchestra.

### Richard Strauss *Ein Heldenleben*

Orchestras love this ode to "A Hero's Life" for its bold, voluptuous sweep, created by Strauss as a musical pat on his own back.

# BEETHOVEN'S SIXTH



NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

# STRAUSS' HELDENLEBEN



MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY CHORALE

# JOSHUA BELL

Principal Guest Conductor

## Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"

**Joshua Bell** conductor & violin

- Newark** → Thursday, May 14, 1:30 pm
- Princeton** → Friday, May 15, 7:30 pm
- Newark** → Saturday, May 16, 7:30 pm
- Morristown** → Sunday, May 17, 2 pm

### Felix Mendelssohn *The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave)*

The music swells and surges just as the waves off Scotland's coast carried the young Mendelssohn past moody cliffs and caves and sent him reaching for his score paper.

### Édouard Lalo *Symphonie espagnole*

Though called a "symphony," this is where superstar Joshua Bell stands and lets his Stradivarius violin sing the silvery songs of Spain.

### Felix Mendelssohn *Symphony No. 4, "Italian"*

"The jolliest piece I've ever done," wrote an ecstatic young Mendelssohn to his parents back in Berlin, after arriving in Italy and falling in love with its sunshine, sidewalk tunes, coast, and effervescent colors—all of which he poured into his Fourth Symphony.

*The May 16 performance is presented in collaboration with New Jersey Performing Arts Center.*

## Mozart's Requiem

- Xian Zhang** conductor
- Mei Gui Zhang** soprano
- Taylor Raven** mezzo-soprano
- Eric Ferring** tenor
- Dashon Burton** bass-baritone
- Montclair State University Chorale** | Heather J. Buchanan, director

- Newark** → Thursday, Apr 16, 1:30 pm
- Newark** → Saturday, Apr 18, 7:30 pm
- New Brunswick** → Sunday, Apr 19, 2 pm

### Gabriel Fauré *Pavane*

A slowly winding melody that started as a simple little five-minute piano solo. But when Fauré orchestrated his Pavane and added the rich sound of a chorus, he made magic and his greatest hit.

### Gustav Mahler *Songs of a Wayfarer*

Come enjoy one of the finest voices in America: bass-baritone Dashon Burton sings the suite of beautiful songs Mahler wrote as he took solace in nature after being spurned in love.

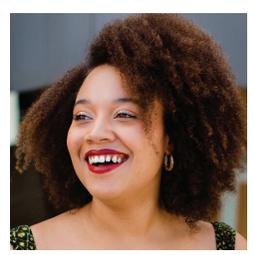
### Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart *Requiem*

A swansong full of fire, grace, and a transcendent prayer that the human spirit will live on. Mozart's Requiem was left maddeningly incomplete at his all-too-early death, but is nevertheless his final masterpiece.

*The April 18 performance is presented in collaboration with New Jersey Performing Arts Center.*



XIAN ZHANG



TAYLOR RAVEN



MEI GUI ZHANG



DASHON BURTON



ERIC FERRING

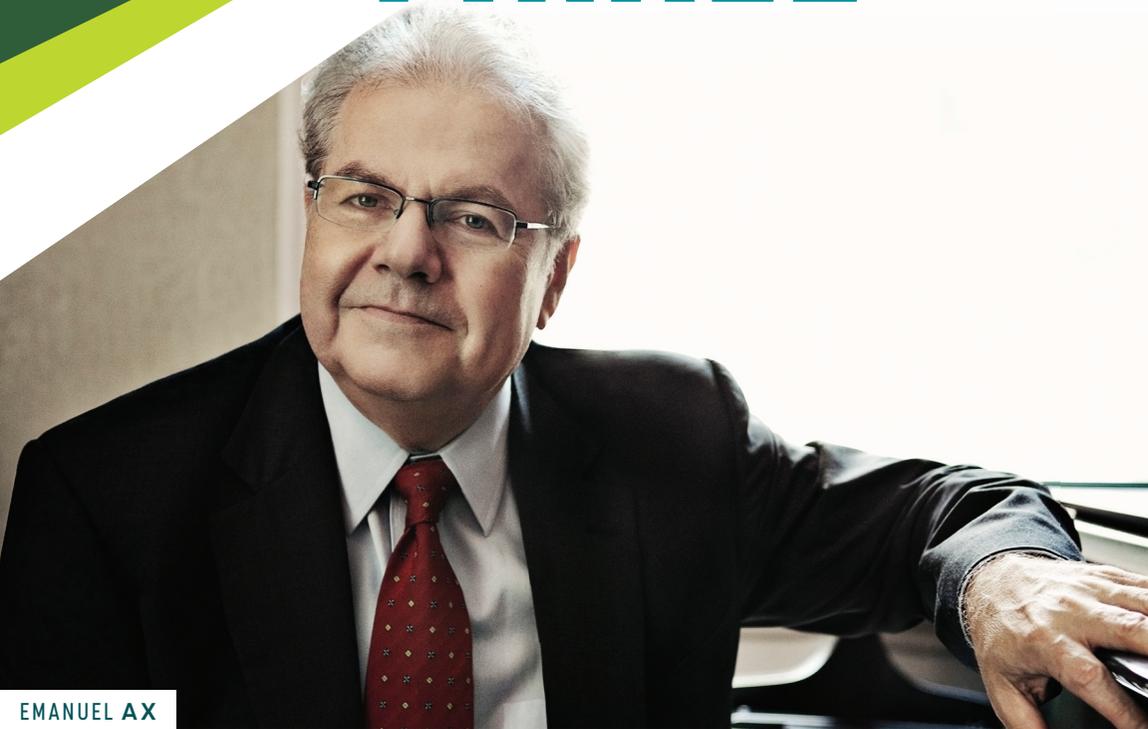
PROGRAM DETAILS & MUSIC CLIPS  
→ [njsymphony.org](https://njsymphony.org)



JOSHUA BELL  
Principal Guest Conductor

Season

# FINALE



EMANUEL AX

## Symphonie fantastique

**Xian Zhang** conductor  
**Emanuel Ax** piano

**New Brunswick** → Thursday, June 4, 7 pm  
**Princeton** → Friday, June 5, 7:30 pm  
**Red Bank** → Saturday, June 6, 7:30 pm  
**Newark** → Sunday, June 7, 2 pm

### Allison Loggins-Hull New Work

(World Premiere; New Jersey Symphony Commission)

You may have seen her performing with Lizzo at the GRAMMYS, or heard her on the soundtrack to *The Lion King*, or loved her *Can You See?* performed by the New Jersey Symphony last fall. Be the first to hear our Resident Artistic Partner's latest creation.

### Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Piano Concerto No. 22

Mozart in his late 20s took a tune he wrote when he was eight and turned it into this half-hour masterpiece, the second of its three movements so moving that its first audience demanded a repeat.

### Hector Berlioz *Symphonie fantastique*

Smitten with unrequited love, Berlioz funneled all his frustrations and utter mind-blowing genius into a whirlwind of orchestral color.

EMANUEL  
AX

## Family Concerts

### Discover *Rhapsody in Blue*

New Jersey Symphony Family Concert

**Tito Muñoz** conductor  
**Michelle Cann** piano

**Newark** → Saturday, Nov 8, 2 pm

**George Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue***  
**Aaron Copland *Suite from Billy the Kid***

Discover what makes a live orchestra concert so special. We'll take a deep dive into one of the greatest American piano concertos, Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, followed by Copland's lively *Suite from Billy the Kid*.

YOUTH TICKETS \$10  
ADULT TICKETS \$20  
→ [njsymphony.org](https://njsymphony.org)



TITO MUÑOZ



MICHELLE CANN

## Discover Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony

New Jersey Symphony Family Concert

**Xian Zhang** conductor

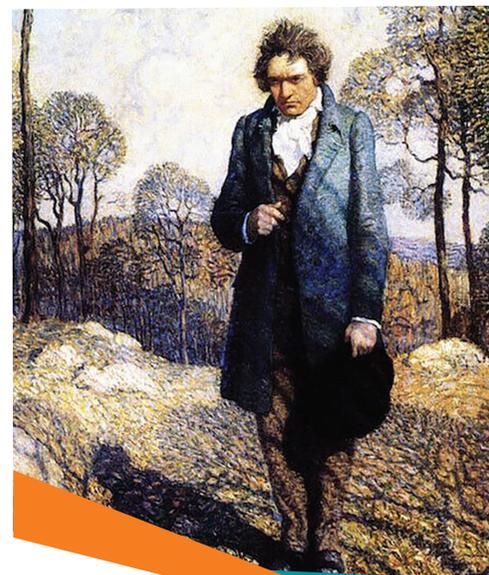
**Newark** → Saturday, Mar 28, 2 pm

### Ludwig van Beethoven *Symphony No. 6, "Pastoral"*

Discover the storytelling power of classical music! Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony was one of his only works that depicts very specific scenes and storylines, which we'll dive into measure by measure in this concert.

Inspired by Leonard Bernstein's masterful way of putting young audiences at the center of music-making, this interactive concert will feature inside tips, listening cues, and fun facts that make for the perfect Saturday afternoon family outing!

An Instrument Discovery Zone will take place before each concert.



# Films LIVE WITH Orchestra

## Disney FANTASIA



### Fantasia in Concert

New Jersey Symphony at the Movies

**Constantine Kitsopoulos** conductor

**Morristown** → Thursday, Oct 23, 7 pm

**Red Bank** → Saturday, Oct 25, 2 pm

**New Brunswick** → Sunday, Oct 26, 2 pm

Experience Disney's groundbreaking marriage of symphonic music and animation, *Fantasia*. Beloved repertoire from the original 1940 version and *Fantasia 2000*, including *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and *The Nutcracker Suite*, will be performed by the New Jersey Symphony while Disney's stunning footage is shown on the big screen. Enjoy iconic moments and childhood favorites like never before!

*October 26 performance presented in collaboration with State Theatre New Jersey.*



Presentation Licensed by  
Disney© Concerts

# STAR WARS

THE LAST JEDI



### Star Wars: The Last Jedi in Concert

New Jersey Symphony at the Movies

**Constantine Kitsopoulos** conductor

**Red Bank** → Friday, May 29, 7:30 pm

**Newark** → Saturday, May 30, 7:30 pm

**New Brunswick** → Sunday, May 31, 2 pm



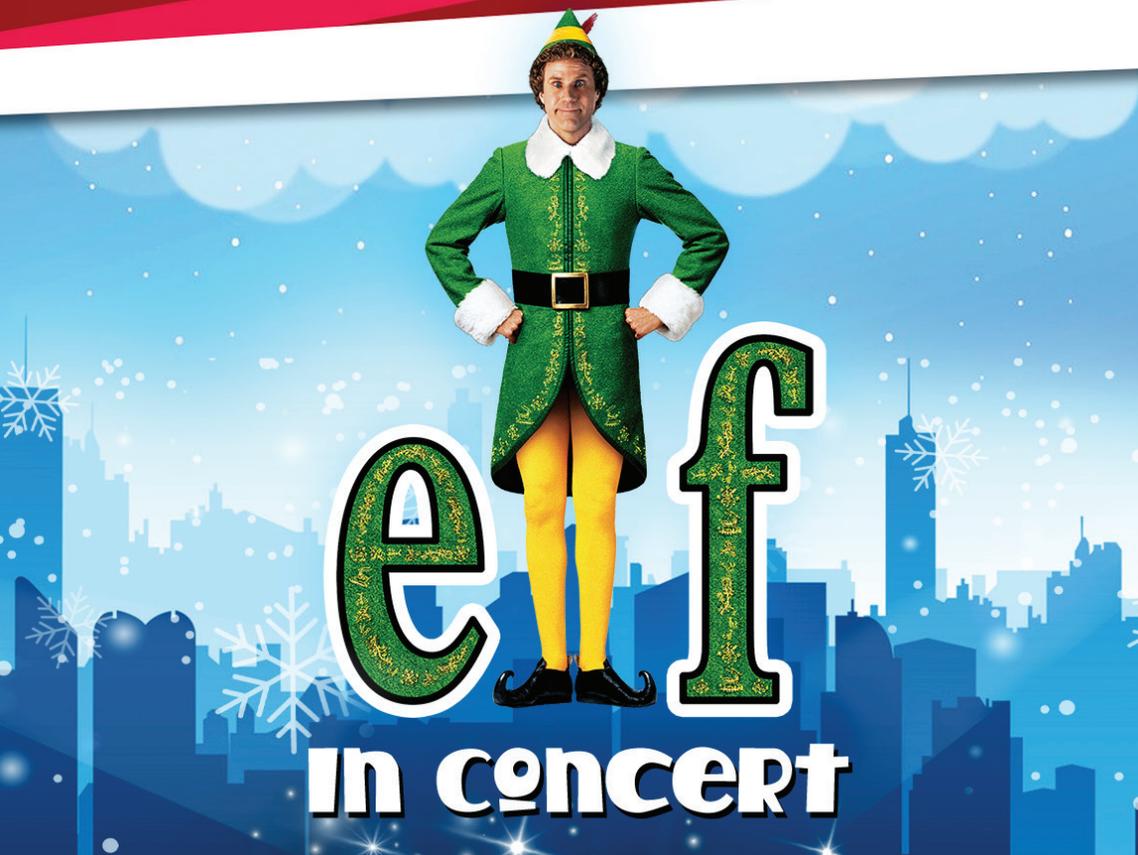
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Presentation licensed by Disney Concerts in association  
with 20th Century Fox Film Corp, Lucasfilm and  
Warner/Chappell Music. © All rights reserved.

Don't miss this big-screen battle with the score performed live by the New Jersey Symphony. The Resistance is in desperate need of help when they find themselves impossibly pursued by the First Order. While Rey travels to a remote planet called Ahch-To to recruit Luke Skywalker to the Resistance, Finn and Rose, a mechanic, go on their own mission in the hopes of helping the Resistance finally escape the First Order. But everyone finds themselves on the salt-planet of Crait for a last stand.

*May 31 performance presented in collaboration with State Theatre New Jersey.*

# Holidays and Celebrations

**DON'T BE A COTTON HEADED  
NINNY-MUGGINS!**



## Elf in Concert

New Jersey Symphony at the Movies

**Conner Gray Covington** conductor

**Newark** → Saturday, Dec 6, 2 pm

**Red Bank** → Sunday, Dec 7, 2 pm

Rated PG. ELF and all related characters and elements  
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BROUGHT TO YOU BY CINECONCERTS

Buddy was accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler and raised to adulthood among Santa's elves. Unable to shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, the adult Buddy travels to New York, in full elf uniform, in search of his real father. This holiday season, relive this heartwarming holiday classic on a giant screen as every note of John Debney's wonderful score is played live to picture in: *Elf*™ in Concert!

## Handel's Messiah

**Anthony Parnter** conductor  
**Caitlin Gotimer** soprano  
**Maria Dominique Lopez** mezzo-soprano  
**Orson Van Gay II** tenor  
**Shyheim Selvan Hinnant** bass-baritone  
**Montclair University Singers** |  
 Heather J. Buchanan, director

**Princeton** → Friday, Dec 19, 7:30 pm

**Princeton** → Saturday, Dec 20, 7:30 pm

**Newark** → Sunday, Dec 21, 7 pm  
 (Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart)

### George Frideric Handel *Messiah*

Handel's *Messiah* embraces every emotion, from the first voice singing "Comfort ye," inviting you to step aside from the season's frenzy, to the riveting Amen Chorus at the end. In between are moments of transcendence, loss, and deeply-felt awe—what makes a classic a classic.

### HOLIDAY SINGALONG

**Princeton** → Friday, December 19 at 6:30 pm

Enjoy a festive singalong of holiday songs and carols.

## 2026 Lunar New Year Celebration Concert

Year of the Horse

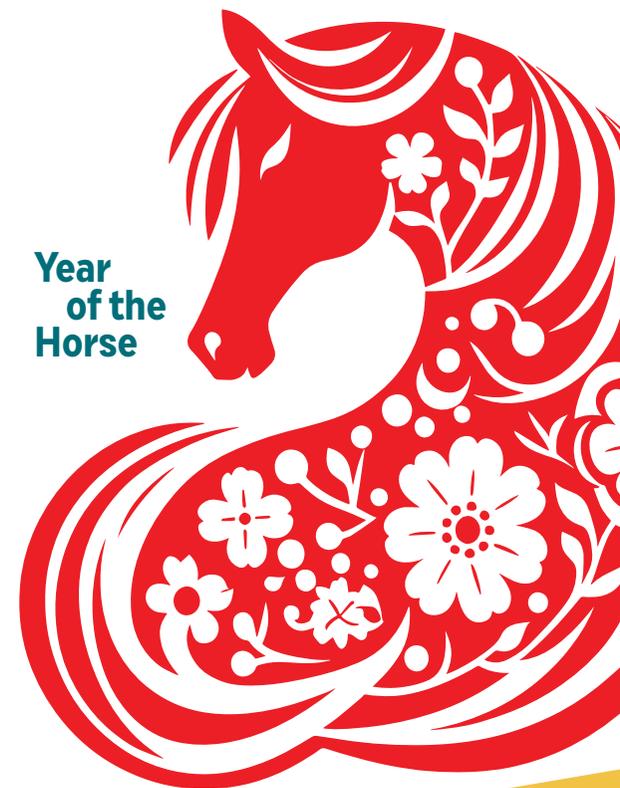
**Sunny Xia** conductor  
**Haochen Zhang** piano  
**Peking University Alumni Chorus**

**Newark** → Saturday, Feb 7, 7:30 pm

Enjoy an evening of community and cultural exchange that is wonderful for families and children, as we celebrate the Year of the Horse. Seattle Symphony Associate Conductor Sunny Xia and Van Cliburn International Piano Competition Winner Haochen Zhang make their New Jersey Symphony debuts in this festive concert that celebrates music from East and West.

ADD THIS CONCERT TO YOUR CLASSICAL  
SERIES AND SAVE!

→ 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476)



Year  
of the  
Horse

## Special guests



TWOSET VIOLIN

### TwoSet Violin with New Jersey Symphony

Newark → Sunday, Oct 5, 2 pm

World-famous YouTube classical music comedy duo TwoSet Violin take the stage with the New Jersey Symphony for a wide-ranging night of musical fun! Violinists Eddy Chen and Brett Yang will take their unique brand of earnest and silly musical comedy to a new level in this performance, with the backing of a full symphony orchestra.

**One night only!**

TWOSET  
VIOLIN

## BEN FOLDS



BEN FOLDS

### Ben Folds with the New Jersey Symphony

Newark → Saturday, June 13, 7:30 pm

New Brunswick → Sunday, June 14, 2 pm

Emmy-nominated singer-songwriter-composer Ben Folds joins the New Jersey Symphony for a unique and unforgettable performance of music from across his career. Widely regarded as one of the major musical influences of our generation, Folds' enormous body of genrebending music includes pop albums with Ben Folds Five, multiple solo albums, and numerous collaborative records. His latest album, 2023's *What Matters Most*, is a blend of piano-driven pop rock songs, while his 2015 Concerto for Piano and Orchestra soared to #1 on both the Billboard classical and classical crossover charts. He released his first Christmas album in 2024 and last Fall recorded a live album slated for release in 2025 with the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., where he served for eight years as the first artistic advisor to the NSO.

June 14 performance presented in collaboration with State Theatre New Jersey.

# Compose Your Own Series!

Select *four or more* of your favorite concerts and save!



XIAN ZHANG

- **SAVE UP TO 20%** on single ticket prices!
- **MIX AND MATCH** venues, days of week, seating locations ... the choice is yours.
- **INCREDIBLE FLEXIBILITY** with easy exchanges and a money-back guarantee.



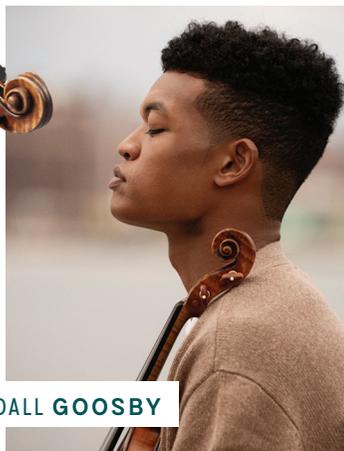
TIME FOR THREE



EMANUEL AX

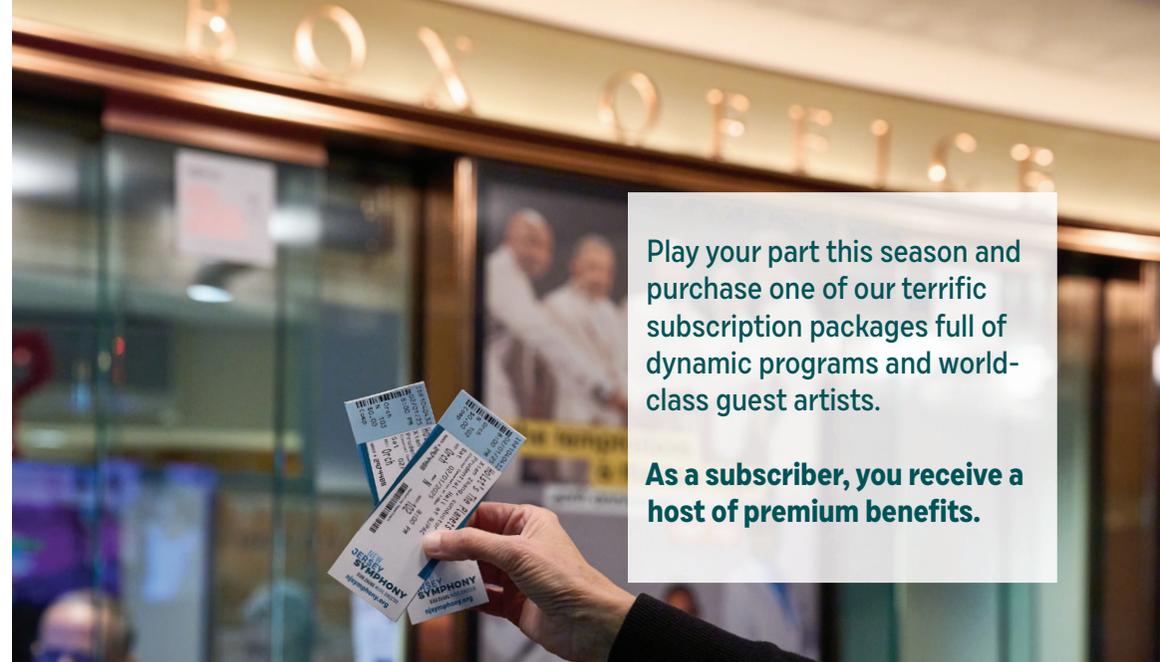


JOSHUA BELL



RANDALL GOOSBY

[njsymphony.org/cyo](https://njsymphony.org/cyo)



Play your part this season and purchase one of our terrific subscription packages full of dynamic programs and world-class guest artists.

As a subscriber, you receive a host of premium benefits.

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## Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank



SEATING MAP



**Count Basie Center for the Arts**  
99 Monmouth Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701

A historic theater with modern amenities adds majesty to the music, with a lively downtown and great restaurants.

**Red Bank series:**  
Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm

### Five concerts

P \$520; A \$380; B \$260; C \$180, D \$115

#### Season Opening: Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1

Saturday, October 11, 7:30 pm (see page 6)

#### Romeo & Juliet

Saturday, January 31, 7:30 pm (see page 9)

#### Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra

Saturday, March 14, 7:30 pm (see page 11)

#### Xian Conducts Prokofiev & Strauss

Saturday, April 11, 7:30 pm (see page 13)

#### Season Finale: *Symphonie fantastique*

Saturday, June 6, 7:30 pm (see page 16)

### → Add specials

#### *Fantasia in Concert*

Saturday, Oct 25, 2 pm (see page 18)

P \$99; A \$79; B \$69; C \$59; D \$39; E \$29

#### *Elf in Concert*

Sunday, Dec 7, 2 pm (see page 20)

P \$119; A \$99; B \$79; C \$59; D \$39

#### *Star Wars: The Last Jedi in Concert*

Friday, May 29, 7:30 pm (see page 19)

P \$110; A \$89; B \$75; C \$59; D \$45; E \$35

## Richardson Auditorium in Princeton



SEATING MAP



**Richardson Auditorium**  
61 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08542

The music envelops you in this intimate space, located on the Princeton University campus, directly across from downtown Princeton's Palmer Square.

**Princeton series:**  
Friday evenings at 7:30 pm

### Five concerts

P \$520; A \$395; B \$235; D \$115

#### *Rhapsody in Blue*

Friday, November 7, 7:30 pm (see page 7)

#### Randall Goosby Returns

Friday, January 9, 7:30 pm (see page 8)

#### Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra

Friday, March 13, 7:30 pm (see page 11)

#### Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"

Friday, May 15, 7:30 pm (see page 15)

#### Season Finale: *Symphonie fantastique*

Friday, June 5, 7:30 pm (see page 16)

### → Add specials

#### *Handel's Messiah*

Friday, Dec 19, 7:30 pm (see page 21)

Saturday, Dec 20, 7:30 pm (see page 21)

P \$115; A \$99; B \$59; C \$45; D \$29

**New start times in Red Bank and Princeton!**

→ 7:30 pm concert start time

**1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476)**

## Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown



SEATING MAP



**Mayo Performing Arts Center**  
100 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960

Fans attending performances at Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown can also enjoy the great variety of restaurants near the venue.

### Morristown series 1: Sunday at 2 pm | Thursday at 7 pm

#### Four concerts

P \$416; A \$316; B \$220; C \$156; D \$92

##### **Randall Goosby Returns**

Sunday, January 11, 2 pm (see page 8)

##### **Beethoven's Fifth Symphony**

Thursday, February 26, 7 pm (see page 10)

##### **Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony**

Sunday, March 29, 2 pm (see page 12)

##### **Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"**

Sunday, May 17, 2 pm (see page 15)

### Morristown series 2: Sunday at 2 pm

#### Three concerts

P \$312; A \$237; B \$165; C \$117; D \$69

##### **Randall Goosby Returns**

Sunday, January 11, 2 pm (see page 8)

##### **Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony**

Sunday, March 29, 2 pm (see page 12)

##### **Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"**

Sunday, May 17, 2 pm (see page 15)

### → Add specials

##### **Fantasia in Concert**

Thursday, Oct 23, 7 pm (see page 18)

P \$99; A \$79; B \$59; C \$39; D \$29

#### **New start times!**

→ Thursday evenings at 7 pm

→ Sunday matinees at 2 pm

## State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick



SEATING MAP



**State Theatre New Jersey**  
15 Livingston Avenue,  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

There's plenty to love at State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick, located in the heart of the New Brunswick arts district.

### New Brunswick series 1: Sunday at 2 pm | Thursday at 7 pm

#### Five concerts

P \$520; A \$395; B \$275; C \$195; D \$115

##### **Rhapsody in Blue**

Sunday, November 9, 2 pm (see page 7)

##### **Randall Goosby Returns**

Thursday, January 8, 7 pm (see page 8)

##### **Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra**

Sunday, March 15, 2 pm (see page 11)

##### **Mozart's Requiem**

Sunday, April 19, 2 pm (see page 14)

##### **Season Finale: *Symphonie fantastique***

Thursday, June 4, 7 pm (see page 16)

### New Brunswick series 2: Sunday at 2 pm

#### Three concerts

P \$312; A \$237; B \$165; C \$117; D \$69

##### **Rhapsody in Blue**

Sunday, November 9, 2 pm (see page 7)

##### **Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra**

Sunday, March 15, 2 pm (see page 11)

##### **Mozart's Requiem**

Sunday, April 19, 2 pm (see page 14)

### → Add specials

##### **Fantasia in Concert**

Sunday, Oct 26, 2 pm (see page 18)

P \$99; A \$79; B \$69; C \$59; D \$39; E \$29

##### **Star Wars: The Last Jedi in Concert**

Sunday, May 31, 2 pm (see page 19)

P \$110; A \$89; B \$69; C \$59; D \$49; E \$35

##### **Ben Folds with the New Jersey Symphony**

Sunday, June 14, 2 pm (see page 23)

P \$109; A \$94; B \$79; C \$64; D \$49; E \$34

#### **New start times!**

→ Thursday evenings at 7 pm

→ Sunday matinees at 2 pm



SEATING MAP



**New Jersey Performing Arts Center**  
One Center Street, Newark, NJ 07102

NJPAC in Newark really does have it all—a warm, inviting atmosphere, convenient on-site dining and parking options, spacious lobby areas, and superb acoustics for orchestral concerts.

**NJPAC series 1:**  
Friday at 7:30 pm | Saturday at 7:30 pm

**Nine concerts**

P \$936; A \$684; B \$468; C \$324; D \$207

**Season Opening: Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1**

Friday, October 10, 7:30 pm (see page 6)

**Rhapsody in Blue**

Saturday, November 8, 7:30 pm (see page 7)

**Randall Goosby Returns**

Saturday, January 10, 7:30 pm (see page 8)

**Romeo & Juliet**

Friday, January 30, 7:30 pm (see page 9)

**Beethoven's Fifth Symphony**

Friday, February 27, 7:30 pm (see page 10)

**Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony**

Friday, March 27, 7:30 pm (see page 12)

**Xian Conducts Prokofiev & Strauss**

Friday, April 10, 7:30 pm (see page 13)

**Mozart's Requiem**

Saturday, April 18, 7:30 pm (see page 14)

**Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"**

Saturday, May 16, 7:30 pm (see page 15)

**NJPAC series 2:**  
Thursday at 1:30 pm | Sunday at 2 pm

**Nine concerts**

P \$936; A \$711; B \$495; C \$351; D \$207

**Season Opening: Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1**

Sunday, October 12, 2 pm (see page 6)

**Rhapsody in Blue**

Thursday, November 6, 1:30 pm (see page 7)

**Romeo & Juliet**

Thursday, January 29, 1:30 pm (see page 9)

**Beethoven's Fifth Symphony**

Sunday, March 1, 2 pm (see page 10)

**Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra**

Thursday, March 12, 1:30 pm (see page 11)

**Xian Conducts Prokofiev & Strauss**

Sunday, April 12, 2 pm (see page 12)

**Mozart's Requiem**

Thursday, April 16, 1:30 pm (see page 14)

**Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"**

Thursday, May 14, 1:30 pm (see page 15)

**Season Finale: Symphonie fantastique**

Sunday, June 7, 2 pm (see page 16)

**NJPAC series 3:**  
Thursday at 1:30 pm

**Five concerts**

P \$520; A \$395; B \$275; C \$195; D \$115

**Rhapsody in Blue**

Thursday, November 6, 1:30 pm (see page 7)

**Romeo & Juliet**

Thursday, January 29, 1:30 pm (see page 9)

**Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra**

Thursday, March 12, 1:30 pm (see page 11)

**Mozart's Requiem**

Thursday, April 16, 1:30 pm (see page 14)

**Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"**

Thursday, May 14, 1:30 pm (see page 15)

**NJPAC series 4:**  
Friday at 7:30 pm

**Five concerts**

P \$520; A \$380; B \$260; C \$180; D \$115

**Season Opening: Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1**

Friday, October 10, 7:30 pm (see page 6)

**Romeo & Juliet**

Friday, January 30, 7:30 pm (see page 9)

**Beethoven's Fifth Symphony**

Friday, February 27, 7:30 pm (see page 10)

**Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony**

Friday, March 27, 7:30 pm (see page 12)

**Xian Conducts Prokofiev & Strauss**

Friday, April 10, 7:30 pm (see page 13)

**NJPAC series 5:**  
Saturday at 7:30 pm

**Five concerts**

P \$520; A \$380; B \$260; C \$180; D \$115

**Rhapsody in Blue**

Saturday, November 8, 7:30 pm (see page 7)

**Randall Goosby Returns**

Saturday, January 10, 7:30 pm (see page 8)

**Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony**

Saturday, March 28, 7:30 pm (see page 12)

**Mozart's Requiem**

Saturday, April 18, 7:30 pm (see page 14)

**Joshua Bell Leads Mendelssohn's "Italian"**

Saturday, May 16, 7:30 pm (see page 15)

**NJPAC series 6:**  
Sunday at 2 pm

**Five concerts**

P \$520; A \$395; B \$275; C \$195; D \$115

**Season Opening: Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1**

Sunday, October 12, 2 pm (see page 6)

**Romeo & Juliet**

Sunday, February 1, 2 pm (see page 9)

**Beethoven's Fifth Symphony**

Sunday, March 1, 2 pm (see page 10)

**Xian Conducts Prokofiev & Strauss**

Sunday, April 12, 2 pm (see page 13)

**Season Finale: Symphonie fantastique**

Sunday, June 7, 2 pm (see page 16)

→ **Add specials**

**TwoSet Violin with the New Jersey Symphony**

Sunday, Oct 5, 2 pm (see page 22)

P \$159; A \$139; B \$118; C \$89; D \$69; E \$49

**Elf in Concert**

Saturday, Dec 6, 2 pm (see page 20)

P \$119; A \$99; B \$79; C \$59; D \$39

**Handel's Messiah**

Sunday, Dec 21, 7 pm (Cathedral Basilica) (see page 21)

P \$110; A \$89; B \$69; C \$49; D \$25

**Lunar New Year Celebration**

Saturday, Feb 7, 7:30 pm (see page 21)

P \$89; A \$69; B \$49; C \$39; D \$29

**Star Wars: The Last Jedi in Concert**

Saturday, May 30, 7:30 pm (see page 19)

P \$110; A \$89; B \$69; C \$49; D \$35

**Ben Folds with the New Jersey Symphony**

Saturday, June 13, 7:30 pm (see page 23)

P \$109; A \$94; B \$79; C \$64; D \$49; E \$34

→ **Add family concerts**

**Discover Rhapsody in Blue**

Saturday, Nov 8, 2 pm (see page 17)

**Discover Beethoven's Pastoral**

Saturday, Mar 28, 2 pm (see page 17)

Youth \$10; Adults \$20

**New start times!**

→ Friday & Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm

→ Sunday matinees at 2 pm

→ Thursday matinees continue at 1:30 pm



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**Experience the New Jersey  
Symphony at any of these venues**

**Morristown: Mayo Performing Arts Center**

100 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960

**Newark: New Jersey Performing Arts Center**

1 Center Street, Newark, NJ 07102

**New Brunswick: State Theatre New Jersey**

15 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

**Princeton: Richardson Auditorium**

61 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08542

**Red Bank: Count Basie Center for the Arts**

99 Monmouth Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701

Learn more about these venues online at [njsymphony.org](https://njsymphony.org) or by phone at 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476).

**New Jersey Performing Arts Center and the New Jersey Symphony** share a common goal: to ensure lasting connections between the people of New Jersey and the life-enhancing power of the performing arts.

Since its opening on October 18, 1997, NJPAC has served more than 12 million visitors, including more than 2 million students and families. The exceptional acoustics of its largest theater, Prudential Hall, are evident the moment an instrumentalist, a singer, or a symphony orchestra sounds the first note of any performance on the Betty Wold Johnson Stage. A typical season includes more than 1,100 events reflective of New Jersey's diverse audiences including concerts, dance performances, comedy shows, conversations, and other cultural experiences, both on and off the Arts Center's downtown Newark campus. Among the world-class performers who have appeared at NJPAC are Joshua Bell, Lang Lang, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Bob Dylan, Jerry Seinfeld, Wayne Shorter, Diana Ross, the Gipsy Kings, Savion Glover, Tony Bennett, Sting, Aretha Franklin, and The Roots.

Many artists and critics have praised NJPAC's Prudential Hall for its beauty and extraordinary sound, among them former *The New York Times* music critic Hans Fantel (one of the "world's greatest concert halls") and arts critic Clive Barnes (the "nation's most glamorous theater").

**njpac**



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- Pilot of “Orchestrating Impact: Stories from the Heart of the New Jersey Symphony,” a podcast series produced in partnership with Newark’s ABF Creative that highlights the impact of music and diverse, local community connections

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