



NORTH MISSISSIPPI  
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# MUSIC THAT *loves* YOU

2023-2024 SEASON  
[nmsymphony.com](http://nmsymphony.com)





## MISSION STATEMENT

The North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra is dedicated to providing high quality, professional live music for the citizens of North Mississippi, strengthening the region through community outreach and partnerships, and increasing music education.

The North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra is comprised of stellar musicians from Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas. When formed in 1971, the idea that a symphony orchestra of this caliber could survive in a town of 35,000 people was a dream. Fifty-two years later, the orchestra doesn't just exist, but thrives, and is known as the very best of its kind providing a positive impact across the region. Tupelo, Mississippi is one of the smallest towns in America with a professional orchestra and it takes corporate donors willing to invest in the region's cultural development to sustain this level of programming of professional music. Along with an annual concert series, the symphony's community outreach provides programs that make music available to everyone. In-school music curriculum, free concerts and concerts geared toward those with special needs insure that music and its vast benefits are available to people of all ages, races and backgrounds. Music is uplifting and it gives those who play it and those who listen to it a way to feel and express their emotions in a positive way. Music is a catalyst for change, connection and engagement and is vital to a thriving economy. The North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra needs your support to provide the magic of music to our community.



## MUSIC FOR EVERYONE

### Sensory Friendly Concert

A typical orchestral concert may be daunting to children and adults with special needs and their families. With its commitment to bringing positive musical experiences to everyone, the North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra held its first Sensory-Friendly concert in 2018. The concert, now held annually and free of charge, allows families with special needs members the luxury of attending a concert together. Accommodations are made for light, sound, length and formal setting of performance with a quiet room and on-hand therapists present to enhance the experience.



## CHILDREN'S LINK UP PROGRAM

### in partnership with Carnegie Hall Weill Music Institute

In 2010, the North Mississippi Symphony became a partner of the Carnegie Hall Link Up Education Program which pairs orchestras across the country with students in grades 3-5 to explore orchestral repertoire during school through a hands-on music curriculum. The program culminates with a concert where students sing and play recorder or violin with the orchestra from their seats. Students also compose and perform their own pieces inspired by the orchestral music they study. The program teaches and practices the concept of working together. Students learn to sing in different languages, play the recorder, understand rhythm and movement, and, perhaps most importantly, self-analysis and self-assessment. The North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra's Link Up Program serves the communities of Tupelo, Pontotoc, Fulton, New Albany, Oxford and Cleveland students have also participated in this program.



## NORTH MISSISSIPPI YOUTH ORCHESTRA

The NMSO believes that music can make a meaningful difference in everyone's life and play an essential role in our development as human beings. We strive to bring the transformative power of music to the widest possible audience and starting at an early age. Students participating in the North MS Youth Orchestra experience music education in both an independent setting and group coordinated study. After annual blind auditions, students are given music to prepare in anticipation of two day-long rehearsal camps under the direction of Maestro James Weil and at least three professional instructors, culminating in a live, full orchestral concert for their community.

October 28, 2023

## Rhapsody in Red, White, and Blue

Jeffrey Biegel, Piano

The NMSO joins a 50-state consortium to present the Mississippi premiere of a new work for piano and orchestra written by Grammy-nominated composer Peter Boyer. This new work, *Rhapsody in Red, White, and Blue* was written as a companion piece to George Gershwin's famous *Rhapsody in Blue*, which is also featured on the program.

December 9, 2023

## Christmas with the North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra

Itawamba Community College Chorus, Kyle Davis, Director  
Northeast MS Community College Chorus, Claire Leeke, Director  
NMSO Children's Chorus, Monica Roden Spencer, Director

The NMSO performs its annual Christmas program - one of the region's finest -featuring choruses from Itawamba Community College and Northeast Mississippi Community College, and the NMSO Children's Chorus. The program will present many of your holiday favorites and some new versions of some old classics!

January 20, 2024

## Spirit of the Wild

Titus Underwood and Austin Smith, Oboes  
Zell Long, Narrator

The NMSO welcomes Titus Underwood, Principal Oboe of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and the 2021 recipient of the Sphinx Medal of Excellence award and a 2021 Midsouth Regional Emmy winner for his work as film director on *We Are Nashville*. Titus performs the thrilling and exotic *Spirit of the Wild* oboe concerto by Australian composer Nigel Westlake, and he pairs with NMSO Principal Oboe, Austin Smith, to perform Vivaldi's delightful *Concerto for Two Oboes in D Minor*. By popular demand, the orchestra reprises the dynamic work *New Morning for the World* by Joseph Schwantner, featuring Tupelo's own Zell Long delivering the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

February 23, 2024

## Carnegie Hall Link Up

Nancy Maria Balach, Host

This annual program is offered to local and surrounding schools for students in grades 3-5 to explore orchestral repertoire through a hands-on music curriculum.

February 24, 2024

## In Nature's Realm

Jenny Grégoire, Violin

Works inspired by nature are presented on this delightful program featuring NMSO Concertmaster Jenny Gregoire in a sublime work by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams. The program also includes the Eastern U.S. premiere of an evocative new work by Sara Carina Graef inspired by the Yaqo'n Indian tribe of Oregon and accompanied by images of the Yakona Nature Preserve and its abundance of Sitka spruce trees and the oyster-rich Yaquina Bay. Beethoven's ode to nature, his exquisite *Symphony No. 6, the Pastoral*, is also featured.

April 27, 2024

## Musical Voices of Tomorrow

featuring the winner of the  
2023 Cleveland International Piano Competition for Young Artists  
Members of the North Mississippi Youth Orchestra

The NMSO presents the First Place winner of the 2023 Cleveland International Piano Competition Youth Division. The competition hosts outstanding young talent from across the globe in one of the world's most prestigious music competitions. The orchestra is joined by members of the North Mississippi Youth Orchestra in a side-by-side experience that celebrates the young musical talents of the North Mississippi region.

For more information visit  
[www.nmsymphony.com](http://www.nmsymphony.com)



## TOP REASONS FOR CORPORATE GIVING

- Enhance your image as an active corporate citizen investing in the community
  - Associate your corporation with excellence
- Create a quality of life that attracts assiduous employees and engaged businesses
  - Reward your employees and clients
- Promote your company brand for a year at an affordable cost
  - Connect to potential clients
- Invest in music education and expose students to the uplifting benefits
  - Build a thriving community where your business can flourish
  - Customize a benefit that best fulfills your company's objectives



**NORTH MISSISSIPPI  
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

# LEVELS of GIVING

*The strength of  
any sponsorship  
investment  
lies in the  
power of the  
experience  
and the passion of  
the audience.*

\$350+ FRIEND										
\$500+ PATRON										
\$1,000+ MUSICIAN										
\$2,000+ CONCERTMASTER • <i>Half Concert Sponsor</i>										
\$3,500+ MAESTRO • <i>Hospitality Host</i>										
\$5,000+ VIRTUOSO • <i>Concert Sponsor</i>										
\$10,000+ CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE • <i>Season Sponsor</i>										
\$30,000+ SYMPHONY CIRCLE • <i>Overall Symphony Sponsor</i>										
								✓	✓	Private Reception with Maestro Steven Byess, Guest Artist and/or Concert Master
								✓	✓	Performance by a Quartet of NMSO Musicians for Your Private Corporate Event
									✓	Logo Recognition - Full Page Print/Online Ad in Marketing Materials, Concert PowerPoint, Link Up Credit
						✓	✓	✓	✓	Reserved Seating Area
1	2	4	6	6	8	12	20			Season Tickets
								✓	✓	Logo Recognition - Half Page Print/Online Ad in Marketing Materials, Concert PowerPoint and Link Up Credit
					✓	✓			✓	Dinner with Maestro Steven Byess Sponsorship Opportunity
					✓	✓			✓	Logo Recognition - Quarter Page Print Ad in Marketing Materials, Concert PowerPoint
				✓	✓				✓	Recognition as The Host for One of the NMSO Fundraising Event <small>Example: Dinner with the Maestro, NMSO Fundraising Gala, or pre- or post-concert receptions</small>
				✓	✓				✓	Additional Corporate Visibility/Marketing for One Chosen Event
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Attend Reception Following Regular Season Concert
✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	Logo Recognition - Concert PowerPoint

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship Pledge Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Power Point Ad: All corporate donors \$350 and above are entitled to advertisement on our concert Power Point presentation before the performance and at intermission. The donor will need to supply the ad/logo to the NMSO office in jpeg format.

Payment Collection Notes: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL PLEDGE  
Cash   Check   Chg

Preferred payment schedule: One Time   Monthly   Quarterly

**Please mail this form to: North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra • P.O. Box 349 • Tupelo, MS 38802**