



Pacific Symphony Pops Underwritten By
The Sharon and Tom Malloy Family

HOLIDAY POPS WITH THE MANHATTAN TRANSFER

Friday, Dec. 16 @ 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 17 @ 8 p.m.

Evan Roider, conductor
Oooju Robinson, cello
The Manhattan Transfer, vocalists
Pacific Symphony

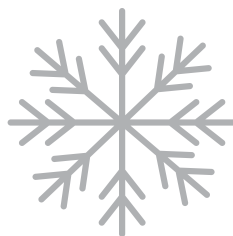
PROGRAM

TRADITIONAL	<i>A Christmas Scherzo</i>
MYKOLA LEONTOVYCH	<i>Carol of the Bells</i>
TRADITIONAL	<i>Mis zeh Hidlik (Behold the Lights)</i> Oooju Robinson, cello
EDWARD KENNEDY "DUKE" ELLINGTON	"Sugar Rum Cherry" from <i>The Nutcracker Suite for Orchestra</i>
ANGELA MORLEY	<i>Snow Ride</i>
SAMUEL COLERIDGE-TAYLOR	"Christmas Overture" from <i>The Forest of Wild Thyme</i>
VARIOUS	<i>A Very Merry Sing-Along</i> "Winter Wonderland" "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" "Frosty the Snowman" "Deck the Halls" "Jingle Bells"

LEROY ANDERSON *Sleigh Ride*

-INTERMISSION-

**Holiday Pops with
The Manhattan Transfer**



OFFICIAL
TV STATION



OFFICIAL
HOTEL

AVENUE OF THE ARTS
COSTA MESA
THE ARTS PORTFOLIO

OFFICIAL
RADIO STATION



Performance at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts
Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR



Conductor, Music Director, and Pianist Evan Roider maintains an active schedule performing across the United States and abroad.

Equally at home on the symphonic stage and in the pit, he is quickly becoming known as a conductor of great versatility. Currently, Evan serves as Music Director and Conductor for the National Tour of

Wicked, the hit Broadway musical, having recently toured with *Les Misérables* and *Cats*. Performances have brought him to the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, the Hollywood Pantages, the Place des Arts in Montreal, and the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. With the Dallas Symphony, he has assisted conductors Steven Reineke, Jeff Tyzik, and Rob Fisher, working with artists such as Kelli O'Hara, Shayna Steele, and Caroline Campbell. At Carnegie Hall, he was Assistant Conductor for *Candide*, featuring the Orchestra of St. Luke's with John Lithgow, Erin Morley, Paul Appleby, and Patricia Racette.

As a music director and conductor for musical theatre, Evan has led productions of *Mack and Mabel*, *A Chorus Line*, *Company*, *Into the Woods*, *The Music Man*, *Avenue Q*, *Spring Awakening*, and *The Wizard of Oz*, among others. For Grand Performances LA and Songfest, he premiered new arrangements created by John Musto, of popular Leonard Bernstein works in an evening hosted by Jamie Bernstein. Regionally, he has worked with Barrington Stage, the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, and the popular *Encores!* series at New York City Center.

He recently appeared as a guest conductor with the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra and returns during the 2022-23 season for *Get Happy*, Michael Feinstein's celebration of the Judy Garland Centennial. Other upcoming highlights include appearances with Pink Martini, the Tucson Symphony, and a return to the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, leading the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra. Evan is a graduate of the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati, and the Hartt School.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Ooju Robinson is a 15-year-old cellist from Irvine, CA. He began studying cello at the age of six with Patricia Hicks. Since 2021, he has been under the tutelage of Dr. Richard Naill at the Colburn School. Ooju is currently a member of the Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Pacific Symphony Youth Quartet, and the Pacific Symphony Youth

Octet. He has participated in master classes with Susan Moses and Yoshika Masuda.



The Manhattan Transfer has achieved an incomparable career of pop and jazz hits, a legacy that defines the group as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary. The legendary quartet has won 10 GRAMMY® Awards out of 20 nominations and has been inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame. In 1981, they became the first group ever to win GRAMMYS®

in both Pop and Jazz categories in the same year—Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal for “Boy From New York City” and Best Jazz Performance for Duo or Group for “Until I Met You (Corner Pocket).” The dozen GRAMMY® nominations they received for their “Vocalese” album in 1985 were second to Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” as the most nominated album in one year. Their dynamic performances and sense of style have led them to become one of the most iconic music groups in the world. With their enduring creativity, energy, and joy in their music, the group has joined the pantheon of the entertainment industry.

Recognized for their unique sound, The Manhattan Transfer has also recorded with an impressive array of artists including Tony Bennett, Bette Midler, Smokey Robinson, Laura Nyro, Phil Collins, B.B. King, Chaka Khan, James Taylor, and Frankie Valli.

The group was born when Tim Hauser was paying his bills as a New York City cab driver. He aspired to form a vocal harmony quartet that could authentically embrace a variety of musical styles and still create something unique in American popular music. In his taxi, he met the next members of the group—Laurel Massé and Janis Siegel. Alan Paul, who was appearing in the Broadway cast of *Grease* at the time, was recommended as an additional male voice. The four of them became The Manhattan Transfer on October 1, 1972.

Soon after their inception, the group began performing regularly throughout New York City—at underground clubs including Trude Heller's, the Mercer Arts Center, Max's Kansas City, Club 82, and other cabaret venues. Quickly, they were the number one live attraction in Manhattan. They were signed to Atlantic Records and released their self-titled debut album in 1975. The second single from that album, a cover of the gospel classic “Operator,” gave the group its first national hit. More hits, like “The Boy From New York City,” “Twilight Zone/Twilight Tone,” followed. The vocal remake of the jazz classic “Birdland” became the group's anthem and earned them their first two Grammy Awards.

Cheryl Bentyne joined The Manhattan Transfer in 1979, replacing Laurel. Trist Curless became a member of the group in 2014. Together, Janis, Alan, Cheryl, and Trist have remained true to the integrity and artistry left to them by founding member Tim Hauser, who passed away in 2014.

The group has released 19 singles and 29 albums over their incredible career and their music has been widely featured in major films and television shows. Their 50th Anniversary celebration will see the release of a new album—with a symphony orchestra—and a five-disc historic CD boxed set. With sold-out world tours and record sales in the millions, The Manhattan Transfer continues to bring unique and extraordinary melodic and jazz-infused vocals to new and established audiences, spanning generations.