

The 2023-24 season of the Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles is made possible thanks to the generous contributions from Hans and Valerie Imhof, S.L. and Betty Huang, and Patrick Chen and Elaine Sarkaria.



Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings | Sonic Narratives, Nov. 19



Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band | Seeing Sound, Hearing Colors, Nov. 19



Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra | Indivisible, Nov. 20



Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble | Reaching Forward, Looking Back, Nov. 21

Welcome to the 2023-24 PSYE Concert Season!

It is with immense pride and pleasure that we welcome you to our 2023-24 Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles concert season!

This season will be one of celebration as we mark the 10th anniversary of Dr. Gregory Xavier Whitmore's tenure as Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble (PSYWE) music director.

We also celebrate the growth and success of our newest PSYE family member, Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band (PSYCB), embarking on their second season. Made possible by the **generous support and advocacy of Hans and Valerie Imhof, and John and Elizabeth Stahr**, this newest youth ensemble is led by renowned music educator and conductor Angela Woo.

Additionally, it is a joy to welcome Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen back for her second season as Music Director of Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings (PSSS), sure to be a resounding success.

And of course, our Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra (PSYO) under the brilliant leadership of Dr. Jacob Sustaita, will continue their exploration of musical heights in the upcoming season.

Looking ahead, we anticipate a rich and varied season of PSYE concert experiences in 2023-24, including celebrated guest artists, resident composers, a co-commissioned work, and we invite you to join us in these exciting musical adventures!

It is through the artistic vision and leadership of Pacific Symphony Music Director Carl St.Clair (PSYE Artistic Advisor and Guardian Angel), the support and advocacy of our PSYE and Pacific Symphony Boards of Directors, and **the extraordinary support of our many generous donors, including Hans and Valerie Imhof, S.L. and Betty Huang, Patrick Chen and Elaine Sarkaria, that this program is made possible.**

The inspiring involvement of our SoCal community of friends, family members and music lovers like you is deeply appreciated. Thank you so much, and please enjoy the music!



Shawne Natalia Zarubica
Managing Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles



Angela Woo, Conductor
Pacific Symphony
Youth Concert Band



Dr. Jake Sustaita, Conductor
Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra



Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen,
Conductor
Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings



Dr. Gregory X. Whitmore,
Conductor
Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

PACIFIC SYMPHONY YOUTH ENSEMBLES (PSYE)

Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles (PSYE) is one of the largest pre-professional musical training programs in the nation, nurturing and inspiring young musicians in grades 6 - 12.

PSYE provides members with high-caliber and innovative artistic experiences, fostering musical development, personal growth, and lifelong learning through the art of classical performance.

The PSYE program is comprised of four performing ensembles (Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra, Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble, Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings, and Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band), all of which are united by the artistic vision of Pacific Symphony Music Director Carl St.Clair. Each ensemble focuses on advancing student musicianship in a nurturing environment through professional repertoire and unique performance experiences. Students enjoy clinics with Maestro St.Clair, regular coaching sessions with Pacific Symphony professional musicians, and interactions with world-renowned guest artists such as Yo-Yo Ma, Cho-Liang Lin, Narong Prangcharoen, Derrick Skye, Glenn Dicterow, and many more.

Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles primarily perform in the world-renowned Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall in Costa Mesa, CA, as well as in various additional venues across the region. These warmly received, and well attended performances are free to the public and touch the lives of thousands of Southern California residents each season.

Membership in PSYE is determined by annual auditions for all new and returning members and are held each spring, attracting on average between 600 - 650 candidates each season. The 300-plus students who are current members of the Youth Ensembles program represent over 75 school music programs in and around Orange County. Most if not all of PSYE's graduates pursue opportunities in higher education, attending such notable institutions as The Juilliard School, Johns Hopkins University/Peabody Institute, Harvard University, Brown University, Stanford University, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Michigan, and many more.

PSYE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Huang* *Board Chair*

Elizabeth Stahr* *Lifetime Director & Distinguished Counselor Emeritus to the Board*

Directors

Rosalind Britton
Wendy Hua Castille
Sherry Chen
David Dunford
Tony Ellis
Paul Hahn

Joyce Hanson
Hans Imhof †
Sheng Jiang
Sarah Koo
Katie (Chung Min) Lee
Eric Lee

Suzu Lee
Michelle Li
László Mező
Dot Nelson
Herb Roth
Elaine Sarkaria

Walter Stahr
Peter Tan, Sr.
Alan Terricciano
MarlaJoy Weisshaar
Larry Woody
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PSYE EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

Carl St.Clair*
Music Director, Pacific Symphony

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Managing Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles, Pacific Symphony

Daniel Escobar
Manager of Governing Members, Pacific Symphony

Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings

Jacob Sustaita
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra & Assistant Conductor of Pacific Symphony

Gregory X. Whitmore
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

Angela Woo
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band

Jonathan Bergeron
Youth Wind Ensemble & Concert Band Manager, Pacific Symphony

Mel Domingo
Youth Orchestra & Santiago Strings Manager, Pacific Symphony

Joshua Allen
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Danielle Liu
Youth Quartet & Octet Coordinator, Pacific Symphony

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Cole Quizon
Youth Concert Band Saxophone Coach Pacific Symphony

Meri Sheegog
Santiago Strings String Coach, Pacific Symphony

Viraj Sonawala
Youth Concert Band Percussion Coach Pacific Symphony

Haiyang Wang
Youth Concert Band Wind Coach Pacific Symphony

Gabriel Haraldson-Decker
PSYE Program Intern Pacific Symphony

* Also member of Board of Directors for Pacific Symphony

† Pacific Symphony Life Director



SONIC NARRATIVES: AN EXPLORATION OF MUSIC & STORYTELLING

Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023 @ 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen, conductor
Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Hans and Valerie Imhof, S.L. and Betty Huang, and Patrick Chen and Elaine Sarkaria for their generous support of this program and the entire PSYE organization. Your dedication to nurturing young talent is truly the cornerstone of our success and growth.

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

PROGRAM

MENDELSSOHN	Overture to <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
GRIEG <i>Arr. Carrie Lane Gruselle</i>	<i>Peer Gynt Suite No. 1, Op. 46</i>
TRADITIONAL <i>Arr. Carrie Lane Gruselle</i>	<i>Poor Wayfaring Stranger</i>
ENNIO & ANDREA MORRICONE <i>Arr. Bob Krogstad</i>	<i>Cinema Paradiso</i>
SAINT-SAËNS <i>Arr. Longfield</i>	"Danse Bacchanale" from <i>Samson et Dalila</i>



Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings

Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen • Music Director

Mel Domingo • Santiago Strings Manager | Meri Sheegog • Strings Coach

VIOLIN I

Yoon Seul (Esther) Ahn
Jiwoo Chung
Jimin Ha
Bella Huang
Athena Hui
Claire Kim
Sylvie Kim
Audrey Lee
Maxwell Lee
Hannah Nguyen
Caleb Schweiger
Lena Seo
Eric Shin
Angela Song
Dorothy Wang
Inwoo (Danny) Yoo
Eva Yoon

VIOLIN II

Katelyn Chang
Luke Chen
Annessa Hui
Vaed Kamat
Emmalyn Kim
Jiyoan (Eunice) Lee
Yi-Noung (Isabelle) Lin
Daniel Park
Josie Park
Winson Shen
Anna Shung
Victoria Shung
Lana Sirkin
Wesley Tsai
Hongyi (Aric) Xiao
William Yan
Nicole Zheng
Shibo (Tiger) Zhu

VIOLA

Kaitlyn Chen
Abigail Chua
Yuchen (Lucas) Hu
Junjin (Jesse) Huang
Junyu (Jerry) Huang
Brian Kim
Ayaka Kobayashi
Alexander Kong
Sara Ning
Gracie Park
Miono Quoit-Minematsu
Thada (Ben) Sriprapundh
Pyron Tan
Chris Tang
Kiyone Tsuchida

CELLO

Seojun Baek
Anastasia Catanus
Tiffany Chan
Annabelle Chantana
Emma Chen
Aidan Chew
Abigail Han
Henry Hong
Theodore Kim
Eubin (Jayden) Lee
Kaitlyn Lee
Jeremy Lee
Duhan Li
Kathryn Loutzenheiser
Audrey Ma
Isaac Shung
Joey Zhou

BASS

Parker Brueggeman
Alice Furuyama
Jacelle Penano

SCHOOLS REPRESENTED

Arlie F Hutchinson Middle School
Beacon Park School
Brywood Elementary
Canyon View Elementary
Chaparral middle school
Corona Del Mar Middle School
Crescent Elementary
Cypress Village Elementary School
Deerfield Elementary School
Eastshore Elementary
Esperanza High School
Golden Elementary
Harbor Day School
Jeffery Trail Middle School
Kraemer Middle School
Lakeside Middle School
Legacy Magnet Academy
Mission Viejo Christian School
Northwood High School
Orange County School of the Arts
Orchard Hills Middle School
Plaza Vista
Rancho San Joaquin Middle School
Santiago Hills Elementary
Sierra Vista Middle School
Solis Park School
St. Margaret's Episcopal School
Stonegate Elementary School
The Geneva School
Turtle Rock Elementary
Valencia High School
Vista Verde K-8
Woodbridge High School
Woodbury Elementary
Yorba Linda middle school
Ysabel Barnett Elementary

ABOUT THE MUSIC DIRECTOR



Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen is an Assistant Professor of Music Education at the University of California, Los Angeles where she teaches music education courses and supervises student teaching. She is a Fulbright

Scholar, holds a Doctorate in Education from the University of California, Los Angeles, a Masters of Music Education in String Pedagogy from The Hartt School of Music, and a Bachelors of Music in Music Education and Violin Performance from Chapman University. Dr. Gamboa-Kroesen is delighted to serve as Music Director of the Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings, a premier youth string orchestra in Southern California.

Prior to her appointment at UCLA, Dr. Gamboa-Kroesen taught orchestra in the Irvine Unified School District for 16 years, conducted the Long Beach Harmony Project Orchestra, was on faculty

at the Chapman University Conservatory of Music from 2012-19, and served a mentor teacher for UCI, CSULB, and Chapman University. She received the 2015 Orange County Outstanding Educator, Instrumental Music Award and the 2016 IUSD Excellence in Teaching Award for Visual and Performing Arts.

Dr. Gamboa-Kroesen's scholarship and research interests include inclusive teaching practices, school connectedness, and culturally responsive pedagogy. She enjoys an active schedule of conference presentations including presentations for College Music Society, National Association for Music Education (NAfME) National Music Research and Teacher Education Conferences, the California All-State Music Education Conferences (CASMEC), and Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association Annual Conferences. Dr. Gamboa-Kroesen regularly serves as guest conductor and clinician for orchestras in California and Arizona and delivers curriculum workshops for school districts throughout Southern California.

ABOUT PACIFIC SYMPHONY SANTIAGO STRINGS

Now in their 32nd season, Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings (PSSS) has become a premiere youth string orchestra, recognized both regionally and nationally. Sponsored by The Orange County Chapter of the Suzuki Music Association of California/Los Angeles Branch, PSSS was founded by Lonie Bosserman and Margie Chan in 1991, and was known as the Santiago Strings Youth Orchestra before joining the Pacific Symphony family in 2007. Led by renowned educator Irene Kroesen from its inception through the 2021-22 season, PSSS welcomed its new music director, the Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen in the fall of 2022. Dr. Kroesen is a member of the music faculty at UCLA and her tenure represents an exciting new chapter for the ensemble. Santiago Strings also benefits from the invaluable artistic guidance of Pacific Symphony Music Director Carl St.Clair.

Representing over 30 schools in the SoCal region, PSSS provides an experience that nurtures the confidence, poise, and musical sensitivity of young musicians through the study and performance of outstanding string orchestra

literature. PSSS serves instrumentalists in grades 6 through 9 and is one of four Youth Ensemble programs offered by Pacific Symphony. Each season, students enjoy an interaction with Maestro Carl St.Clair, as well as interactions with guest artists and professional musicians of Pacific Symphony. Students also engage in an annual weekend retreat and are offered free and discounted tickets to Pacific Symphony performances throughout the season.

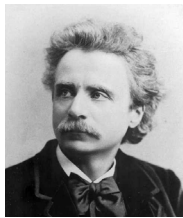
Each season, PSSS presents a two-concert series, held at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts. In its 25th anniversary year, PSSS was invited to participate in the National Orchestra Festival in Tampa, Florida as part of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) annual conference. In its 2017-18 season, and under the guidance of Pacific Symphony Music Director Carl St.Clair, PSSS embarked on a musical and cultural exchange tour to Costa Rica, engaging in workshops and giving concerts in the cities of Cartago, San Ramón, and the capital city of San José.

PROGRAM NOTES



The grandson of a renowned Jewish scholar, **Felix Mendelssohn** (1809–1847) was one of the most important German composers of the 1830s and 1840s. Even as a child, Mendelssohn was a highly well-rounded individual.

Fascinated by Shakespeare, he decided to write his *A Midsummer Night's Dream Overture*, based on a Shakespearean comedy dealing with elves, fairies, and lovers.



Born into a middle-class family in the port city of Bergen, **Edvard Grieg** (1843–1907) quickly rose to become the preeminent composer of Norway. Grieg's work *Peer Gynt* was composed as music to accompany the play *Peer Gynt* by Henrik Ibsen.

Although the exact date of origin of the traditional American folk and gospel song "**Poor Wayfaring Stranger**" is unknown, its earliest known publication was in 1858. The song likely dates to the early 19th century, possibly even earlier.



Acclaimed Italian composer **Ennio Morricone** (1928–2020) bridged the vast chasm between avant-garde modernism and light popular music, and in later years collaborated successfully with his acclaimed film composer and son, **Andrea Morricone** (b.1964). Considered one of the greatest movies ever made, *Cinema Paradiso* revitalized Italian cinema when it premiered in 1988.



A pianist and organist as well as composer, **Camille Saint-Saëns** (1835–1921) wrote thirteen operas. Of these, *Samson et Delilah*, based on the familiar story from the Book of Judges, is the only one still performed today.



Joshua Grayson, Ph.D., is an historical musicologist and graduate of the USC Thornton School of Music, and the program note annotator for Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles.

Poor Wayfaring Stranger

The song's text varies widely; its earliest known lyrics appear below.

I am a poor wayfaring stranger,
While journeying thro' this world of woe;
Yet there's no sickness, toil, or danger,
In that bright world to which I go.
I'm going there to see my father,
I'm going there no more to roam;
I'm just a-going over Jordan,
I'm just a-going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather round me,
I know my way is rough and steep;
Yet brighter fields lie just before me,
Where God's redeemed their vigils keep.
I'm going there to see my mother—
She said she'd meet me when I come;
I'm just a-going over Jordan,
I'm just a-going over home.

I feel my sins are all forgiven,
My hopes are placed on things above;
I'm going o'er to yon bright heaven,
Where all is joy and peace and love.
I'm going there to see my children—
I know they're near my Father's throne;
I'm just a-going over Jordan,
I'm just a-going over home.

I want to wear a crown of glory,
When I get home to that good land;
I want to sing salvation's story,
In concert with the blood-washed hand.
I'm going there to see my classmates,
Who've gone before me one by one;
I'm just a-going over Jordan,
I'm just a-going over home.

I'll soon be free from every trial,
My body will sleep in the old church-yard;
I'll drop the cross of self-denial,
And enter on my great reward.
I'm going there to see my Savior,
To sing his praise in heaven's dome;
I'm just a-going over Jordan,
I'm just a-going home.