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# ARKANSAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

October 7, 2025 - 7:00pm | October 8, 2025 - 2:00pm | Morgan Hall

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RIVER RHAPSODIES CHAMBER SERIES

## MUSICAL METAMORPHOSIS

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**Brahms,  
Johannes**  
(1833 - 1897)

### **Piano Trio in B Major, Op. 8**

**35'**

- I. Allegro con brio
- II. Scherzo. Allegro molto
- III. Adagio
- IV. Finale. Allegro

*Kiril Laskarov, violin*

*Jacob Wunsch, cello*

*Jaeyeon Park, piano*

## INTERMISSION

**Poulenc,  
Francis**  
(1899 - 1963)

### **Trio for Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano, Op.43**

**13'**

- I. Presto
- II. Andante
- III. Rondo

*Leanna Renfro, oboe*

*Susan Bell León, bassoon*

*May Tsao-Lim, piano*

**Prokofiev,  
Sergei**  
(1891 - 1953)

### **String Quartet No. 2, Op. 92, "On Kabardinian Themes"**

**22'**

- I. Allegro sostenuto
- II. Adagio – Poco più animato – Poco meno – Tempo I
- III. Allegro – Pochissimo meno – Tempo I –  
Andante molto Quasi Allegro I, ma un poco più tranquillo

*Rockefeller Quartet*



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# ARKANSAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

NOVEMBER 18, 2025 - 7:00pm | Morgan Hall

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## ORION WEISS: E. LEE RONNEL ARTIST OF DISTINCTION

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**Britten,  
Benjamin**  
(1913 - 1976)

**Phantasy Quartet for Violin, Oboe,  
Viola, Cello, Op. 2** **14'**

Andante alla marcia – Allegro giusto – Andante –  
Animato – Con fuoco – Sempre più agitato –  
Molto più presto – Tempo primo: Andante alla marcia

*Leanna Renfro, oboe*  
*Katherine Williamson, violin*  
*Timothy MacDuff, viola*  
*Jacob Wunsch, cello*

**Frumerie,  
Gunnar de**  
(1908 - 1987)

**Pastoral Suite for Flute and Piano,  
Op. 13a** **12'**

I. Preludium  
II. Gavotte - Musette  
III. Sarabande  
IV. Siciliano  
V. Finale

*Carolyn Brown, flute*  
*Kazuo Murakami, piano*

## INTERMISSION

**Schumann,  
Robert**  
(1810 - 1856)

**Piano Quintet in E-flat Major, Op. 44** **32'**

I. Allegro brillante  
II. In Modo d'una Marcia: Un poco largamente  
III. Scherzo. Molto vivace – Trio I – Trio II  
IV. Allegro ma non troppo

*Orion Weiss, piano*  
*Quapaw Quartet*

# Orion Weiss: E. Lee Ronnel Artist of Distinction



One of the most sought-after soloists and chamber music collaborators of his generation, Orion Weiss is widely regarded as a “brilliant pianist” (The New York Times) with “powerful technique and exceptional insight” (The Washington Post). With a warmth to his playing that outwardly reflects his engaging personality, Weiss’s “delicate, even fingerwork” (Washington Classical Review) and “head-spinning range of colors” (Chicago Tribune) have dazzled audiences around the world. He has performed with all of the major orchestras of North America, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the New York Philharmonic.

In 2024, Weiss will release *Arc III*, the final album in his recital trilogy, on First Hand Records. His performance schedule includes engagements with violinist James Ehnes, who joins Weiss for a return to London’s Wigmore Hall and for performances of the complete Beethoven Violin Sonatas in Tokyo, Seoul, Hong Kong, and Seattle.

Among numerous engagements with U.S. orchestras, Weiss makes his David Geffen Hall debut in New York with the American Symphony Orchestra. He performs Bach's Goldberg Variations at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival and Newport Classical in Rhode Island, among other recitals. He is featured in performances at Italy’s Teatro Marrucino Biglietteria and in the Great Artists Series at Washington University in St. Louis, on a tour with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and at LaMusica Chamber Music Festival in Sarasota, Florida. Weiss also tours Japan, playing the complete Brahms Violin Sonatas with Akiko Suwanai, and performs the complete Grieg Sonatas with James Ehnes in Bergen, Norway. Over the last year, he made his return to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, led by Michael Tilson Thomas, and debuted with the National Symphony Orchestra, led by Ken-David Masur. He also toured the United States and Asia with violinist Augustin Hadelich, and performed at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, Toronto’s Royal Conservatory of Music, and Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall.

Known for his affinity for chamber music, Weiss performs regularly with Augustin Hadelich, as well as fellow violinists William Hagen and James Ehnes; pianists Michael Brown and Shai Wosner; and the Ariel, Parker, and Pacifica Quartets. As a recitalist and chamber musician, Weiss has appeared at venues and festivals including the Ravinia Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, Tanglewood, Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, The Mariinsky Theatre (St. Petersburg), The Edinburgh International Festival, the Schubert Club, Hong Kong Premiere Performances, Seattle Chamber Music Festival, the Lucerne Festival, Denver Friends of Chamber Music, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center’s Fortas Series, the 92nd Street Y, and at summer music festivals including Bard, Santa Fe, Bridgehampton, Bravo! Vail, Sunriver, and Grand Teton, among many others.

Other highlights from Weiss’s recent seasons included a live-stream with the Minnesota Orchestra; a performance of Beethoven's Triple Concerto with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra; the release of his recording of Christopher Rouse’s *Seeing*, the first two installments of his critically acclaimed *Arc* recital trilogy; a recording of Korngold’s Left Hand concerto and other works with Leon Botstein and TON; and recordings of Gershwin’s complete works for piano and orchestra with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and JoAnn Falletta.

# Orion Weiss: E. Lee Ronnel Artist of Distinction

Weiss can be heard on the Naxos, Telos, Bridge, First Hand, Yarlung and Artek labels on recordings such as *The Piano Protagonists with The Orchestra Now*, led by Leon Botstein; a disc of *Scarlatti Sonatas* for Naxos; a solo recital disc of Bartók, Dvorák, and Prokofiev; Brahms *Sonatas* with violinist Arnaud Sussmann; a solo recital album of J.S. Bach, Scriabin, Mozart and Carter; and a recital disc with cellist Julie Albers. In March 2022, First Hand Records released the first album of Weiss's *Arc Trilogy – Arc I: Granados, Janáček, Scriabin* – a recording exploring the omens and tension of the period preceding World War I. *Gramophone Magazine* praised the album as “expansive, colorful, and texturally varied.” *Arc II*, featuring the music of Ravel, Brahms, and Shostakovich, was released in November 2022. Over recent years, Weiss has also raised his profile through video, assembling a broad and growing YouTube videography that includes Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, the *Op. 39 Rachmaninoff etudes* and Grieg's *Lyric Pieces*, among many others.

In the summer of 2011, Weiss made his debut with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood as a last-minute replacement for Leon Fleisher. In recent seasons, he has also performed with the San Francisco Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra, and Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and in summer concerts with the New York Philharmonic at both Lincoln Center and the Bravo! Vail Valley Festival. In 2005, he toured Israel with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Itzhak Perlman.

Weiss's list of awards includes the Classical Recording Foundation's Young Artist of the Year, Gilmore Young Artist Award, an Avery Fisher Career Grant, the Gina Bachauer Scholarship at The Juilliard School, and the Mieczyslaw Munz Scholarship. He won the 2005 William Petschek Recital Award at Juilliard and made his New York recital debut at Alice Tully Hall that April. Also in 2005, Weiss made his European debut in a recital at the Musée du Louvre in Paris. From 2002-2004, he was a member of Lincoln Center's The Bowers Program (formerly CMS Two). A native of Lyndhurst, Ohio, Weiss attended the Cleveland Institute of Music's Young Artist Program through high school, where he studied with Paul Schenly, Daniel Shapiro, and Sergei Babayan. His other teachers include Joseph Kalichstein, Jerome Lowenthal, Kathryn Brown, and Edith Reed. In February 1999, Weiss made his Cleveland Orchestra debut performing Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 1. The next month, with less than 24 hours' notice, Weiss stepped in to replace André Watts for a performance of Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No.2 with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and was immediately invited to return for a performance of the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto that October. In 2004, he graduated from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Emanuel Ax.

Learn more [www.orionweiss.com](http://www.orionweiss.com)

# ARKANSAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

January 27, 2026 - 7:00pm | January 28, 2026 - 2:00pm | Morgan Hall

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RIVER RHAPSODIES CHAMBER SERIES

## FROM ROOTS TO REVOLUTION

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**Schoenberg,  
Arnold**

(1874 - 1951)

### **String Quartet No. 1, Op. 7**

**42'**

Not too fast – A little less movement – Gently  
moved – Rather fast – Quite lively – With strength  
– Slower – A little faster – Lively – Faster – Tempo  
I – Moderately slow beat (poco Adagio) – Very  
reserved – Broad – Moderate, cheerful – Tempo I

*Geoffrey Robson & Katherine Williamson, violins*

*Timothy MacDuff, viola*

*David Gerstein, cello*

## INTERMISSION

**Brahms,  
Johannes**

(1833 - 1897)

### **Piano Quintet in F Minor, Op. 34**

**42'**

I. Allegro non troppo  
II. Andante, un poco Adagio  
III. Scherzo. Allegro – Trio  
IV. Finale. Poco sostenuto - Allegro non troppo

*Rockefeller Quartet*

*Haeshin Shin, piano*

# MUSICIAN BIOS

**Quapaw String Quartet** - *As the ASO's original string quartet, The Quapaw Quartet was founded in 1980. All members of the quartet perform as part of the ASO's River Rhapsodies Chamber Music Series and the Intimate Neighborhood Concerts Series and are in demand for recitals at venues throughout the state. All members are heavily involved in teaching and have not only private studios, but teach at schools and universities around Arkansas.*

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**Meredith Maddox Hicks (violin)** joined the Arkansas Symphony and the Quapaw Quartet in 2002 after receiving her Master's degree in Music Performance and completing Doctoral coursework at Florida State University. A native of Nashville, Tennessee, she graduated from Belmont University with a Bachelor's degree in Violin Performance before becoming an exchange student in Moscow, Russia at the Russian Academy of Music, Gnessin Institute. Her teachers include Elisabeth Small, Karen Clarke and Eliot Chapo.

Meredith's orchestral experience includes the concertmaster position at both of the universities she attended, as well as holding positions with the Memphis, Jacksonville, Naples and New World Symphony Orchestras. She teaches privately and is a member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas. She is the Visiting Lecturer of Violin and Viola at the University of Arkansas Little Rock; a position made possible through partnership between the University and the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra.

Meredith is thrilled to be the 2016/17 winner of the Belmont Encore Award for outstanding alumni in classical music. She became the Principal Second Violinist of the Arkansas Symphony in 2019.

**Charlotte Crosmer (violin)** grew up in Conway, Arkansas and began playing the violin at the age of four. A few years later she was performing in a string quartet with her siblings as well as taking fiddle lessons. After earning masters degrees in violin performance and chamber music from the University of Michigan, she went on to tour as a member of the crossover ensemble Barrage 8. Charlotte joined the Quapaw String Quartet in 2016 and can also be heard playing bluegrass with The Gravel Yard.

**Timothy MacDuff (viola)** picked up the viola guided by the teachers in his public school music program where he grew up in upstate New York. After being exposed to the string quartets of Johannes Brahms and Antonin Dvořák at New England Music Camp in Maine, he decided he wanted to become a professional musician.

Timothy joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra viola section and Quapaw Quartet in 2019. He was a violin/viola instructor with the Arkansas Symphony's Strings Academy and now serves as adjunct viola professor at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

Timothy received his Bachelor of Music degree from the State University of New York at Potsdam and his Master's degree from Rice University. He completed his Doctoral studies at the University of Maryland. His mentors and major teachers are Shelly Tramposh, James Dunham, and Katherine Murdock

**Travis Scharer (cello)** grew up in Salem, Oregon where his primary teachers were Noah Seitz and Oregon Symphony cellist Marilyn De Oliveira. He then studied at Indiana University for five years under the tutelage of Eric Kim. During his time in Indiana, he served as principal cellist of the the Philharmonic Orchestra, the school's top ensemble, collaborated with faculty members Katherine Jolly, Stephen Wyczynski, and Jorja Fleezanis, and was a member of the Kuttner Quartet, the university's resident honors ensemble. Travis continued his schooling at the New England Conservatory where he studied with Boston Symphony Principal cellist Blaise Dejardin. In the summers, Travis has taken part in many music festivals and has received fully paid fellowships to attend the Texas Music Festival, Port Townsend Chamber Music Workshop, and the Aspen Music Festival. Travis joined the Quapaw Quartet and the ASO as Assistant Principal Cello in the fall of 2023.



**Rockefeller String Quartet** - Responding to what was clearly a statewide need, the ASO and the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation began a partnership in 2000 to form the Rockefeller String Quartet. The quartet has developed a reputation for providing quality educational programs locally and throughout the state. The quartet and its members perform chamber music extensively in the ASO's River Rhapsodies series and other venues. The members are also involved in teaching students of all ages, both privately and through universities in the state.

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**Trisha McGovern Freney (violin)** has been an Arts Partner with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and Rockefeller String Quartet since September 2013. A Kansas City native, Trisha holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Violin Performance from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music (UMKC), where she studied violin performance with Benny Kim. Her earlier education includes Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where she studied violin performance with Ian Swensen and chamber music with the late Mark Sokol.

Her career is marked by a rich blend of orchestral, solo, and chamber music performances, as well as a commitment to teaching. She has performed and taught extensively across the Kansas City metropolitan area, Des Moines, Iowa, Wichita, Kansas, Saint Joseph, Missouri, and the San Francisco Bay Area. Trisha has been appointed to several prominent positions: Assistant Concertmaster with the Saint Joseph Symphony, and tenure-track violin positions with both the Des Moines Symphony and the Wichita Symphony Orchestra.

**Linnaea Brophy (violin)**, a native of Memphis, has a versatile background as an orchestral player, chamber musician, soloist and teacher. In 2019, she joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and the Rockefeller String Quartet. Linnaea holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts from Stony Brook University where she was the 2018 winner of the Stony Brook Concerto Competition. While at SBU, and under the direction of the Emerson String Quartet, she formed the Anello Quartet, hailed by Woodstock Times "beautifully tonal, coordinated, and balanced."

Prior to her appointment with the ASO, Linnaea gained orchestral experience performing with A Far Cry, a Grammy-nominated chamber orchestra based in Boston. A veteran of the violin concerto repertoire, Linnaea has appeared as soloist with the Nashville Symphony, the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, the Alabama Symphony, and the Vidin Sinfonietta in Bulgaria. Competitions she has won include the Alabama Symphony Concerto Competition, and the Curb Concerto Competition in Nashville. A frequent presence at summer festivals, she is an alumnus of the Juilliard String Quartet Seminar, the Keshet Eilon Summer Mastercourse, and the Perlman Music Program. Linnaea holds a B.A. and an M.M. from the New England Conservatory, where she was a student of Donald Weilerstein and Lucy Chapman

**Katherine Reynolds (viola)** joined the ASO as principal violist and Arts Partner in 2000. She received a Master of Music degree from SUNY at Stony Brook (NY) and a Bachelor of Music degree from the St. Louis Conservatory. Katherine also holds a principal position in the Conway Symphony. In addition to teaching private lessons in Little Rock, "Kater" also teaches viola at the University of Central Arkansas. Most recently she was a member of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, Santa Fe Symphony and extra with the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra

**Jacob Wunsch (cello)** joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and the Rockefeller Quartet in the fall of 2019. Actively involved in orchestral performance, chamber music, and music education, he has made concert appearances across the United States, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, France, and South Korea. His accomplishments include winning 1st prize at both the inaugural Briggs Chamber Music Competition and the ASTA (American String Teachers Association) Competition. He has previously served as a section cellist with the Ann Arbor Symphony, the Evansville Philharmonic, and the Owensboro Symphony.

A native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Wunsch began his cello studies at age four at the String Academy of Wisconsin, graduating under pedagogue Scott Cook. His university teachers included Eric Kim, Richard Aaron, Michel Strauss, Jan Ype Nota, and Roger Regter. He received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Indiana University and the University of Michigan, respectively. During his time there, he served as the principal cellist of the leading orchestras at both schools. Through fellowship grants, he attended the Aspen Music Festival and School, the Colorado College Summer Music Festival, and the Garth Newel Music Center.

Wunsch also received a full scholarship to attend the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, the Netherlands, for graduate studies, where he earned his second Master of Music degree as well as an Artist Certificate. In addition to performing and studying, he conducted research and transcription to expand the repertoire for cello ensemble. Wunsch is a dedicated cello educator, both Suzuki Method certified and versed in traditional pedagogy.

**Carolyn Brown (flute)**, currently Principal Flute with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and recently retired Professor of Flute at UCA, began her musical education as a young girl, studying piano with her mother and flute with her father. She holds a doctorate in Flute Performance from the Eastman School of Music; during her residency, she was the only woodwind candidate to be unanimously nominated for the prestigious Performer's Certificate. In 1995, she won the Myrna Brown International Artist Competition, and her international travels have taken her to Asia and South America, where she performed recitals and taught masterclasses. She has also performed at numerous National Flute Association conventions. When she is not performing or teaching, she spends her time spoiling her three sweet cats, Ronnie, Siri, and Rosey. She loves being outdoors, especially hiking, and is an avid tennis fan.

**David Gerstein (cello)** is the Principal Cellist of the Arkansas Symphony. He has appeared as a featured soloist with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and Pine Bluff Symphonies, most recently in 2019 as soloist in the Beethoven Triple Concerto with the ASO. His orchestral solos with the ASO have been described as "absolutely gorgeous" by the Arkansas Democrat Gazette.

Mr. Gerstein is Assistant Principal cellist at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz, CA. Mr. Gerstein is currently on the Faculty of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and has previously taught at the University of Arkansas, the University of Central Arkansas, and Hendrix College. He received a BM with distinction from the Eastman School of Music and an MM from Rice University.

**Kiril Laskarov (violin)** is in his 26th season as Concertmaster of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. A native of Bulgaria, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the State Academy of Music in Sofia and a Master's degree from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale where he studied with Michael Barta. Laskarov has appeared as a soloist with the Arkansas Symphony, Las Vegas (NV) Philharmonic, Monroe (LA) Symphony, Southern Illinois Symphony, Abilene (TX) Philharmonic, Symphony Irvine (CA), and Texarkana (TX) Symphony and also as a concertmaster with the Arkansas Philharmonic, Monroe (LA) Symphony, Texarkana (TX) Symphony, Southern Illinois Symphony, and McCall (ID) Festival Orchestra. He is scheduled to perform the Camille Saint-Saens Violin Concerto No. 3, Op. 61 with the Texarkana Symphony Orchestra on April 26, 2025.

**Susan Bell León (bassoon)** joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra as Principal Bassoonist in 1984 and continued in that role for the next forty years. She had previously held the position of Principal Bassoonist with the National Symphony Orchestra of Mexico and prior to that was a member of the Mexico City Philharmonic. She performed as a soloist several times with the Arkansas Symphony as well as with orchestras in Colorado, Missouri, and Mexico. She co-founded the Pinnacle Players, a chamber orchestra that performed without a conductor, and was a member of the Etesian Winds. She has recorded Latin American chamber music with Angel Records and The Musical Heritage Society.

Susan Bell Leon holds music degrees from Yale University School of Music and the University of Missouri. She is active in various community organizations in Little Rock and is currently an officer with the League of Women Voters of Pulaski County.

**May Tsao-Lim (piano)**, Professor of Piano at Henderson State University in Arkansas, coordinates the group piano curriculum as well as teaches applied piano and piano pedagogy. Prior to joining Henderson State University, Dr. Lim taught at Iowa State University and University College Sedaya International (Malaysia.) Besides college-level instruction, she has taught students of all ages for over 30 years. Her primary pedagogical foci include integrated teaching, adaptive teaching, effective learning, and efficient practicing.

As an active chamber pianist, Dr. Lim often collaborates with faculty, guest artists, and principal members of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. She has performed at the ASO River Rhapsodies and Texarkana Symphony Orchestra's chamber series.

Dr. Lim earned her B.M. in Piano Performance with the highest honor, 'Bronze Tablet', and two Master's degrees (Piano Performance, Piano Pedagogy) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy at the University of Oklahoma.

**Kazuo Murakami (piano)** is Lecturer of Piano and Coordinator of Collaborative Piano at the University of Central Arkansas, where he joined the faculty in 2008. Murakami is a sought-after soloist and collaborative artist in the U.S., Europe, and Asia. Originally from Japan, Murakami began his studies in piano at the age of four. After studying at the Kyoto City University of Arts, Murakami continued his studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he won the Sadie Zellen Piano Prize. Murakami earned a D.M.A. in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa in December 2011, where he served two years as

Research Assistant (Pianist) of the University of Iowa's New Music Ensemble directed by distinguished composition professor David Gompper.

Murakami has been part of numerous chamber recitals and ensembles, performing at universities and venues across the United States and Asia. Additionally, he serves as collaborative pianist at the University of Central Arkansas for 60+ faculty, guest artists and student recitals annually. He was honored recently to present recitals with esteemed artists such as Gene Pokorny, Principal Tuba, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Christian Lindberg, distinguished trombone player, and many others.

**Jaeyeon Park (piano)** is known for her artistry as both soloist and collaborator. Praised for her "sophisticated interpretation" and "undeniable technique" (International Piano Magazine Korea), she has performed internationally across Asia, Europe, and North America. She has appeared with orchestras such as Gangnam Symphony, Gwangju Symphony, and Kiev National Radio Orchestra, with her performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto K.467 broadcast on KBS-FM.

A prizewinner of competitions including Wideman International and Osaka International Piano Competitions, Park's performances have also been featured on MBC-FM and KBC-TV. Since 2018, she has served as Music Director of Ensemble-On which has received multiple South Korean government grants, and has been awarded for thematic solo recital series and various chamber performances and concert curating.

Dr. Park holds a BM with highest honors from Seoul National University, and MM and DMA degrees from the University of Texas at Austin, where she was the recipient of the Mary D. Bold scholarship for all academic years. Subsequently, she was Professor of Piano at Chosun University for 12 years, including 6 years as Department Chair. At Chosun University, Dr. Park received multiple Faculty Awards of Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship. Since 2022, she has been based in Little Rock and is currently a member of the piano faculty at Harding University and UA Little Rock Extended Education.

**Leanna Renfro (oboe)** joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra as Principal Oboe in September 2013. She was Principal Oboe with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra from 2007 to 2015. In previous positions, she has served as Adjunct Instructor of Oboe at Belmont University in Nashville, Principal Oboe of the Kentucky Symphony, and Lecturer in Oboe at the University of Louisville's School of Music.

A native of Kingsport, Tennessee, Leanna holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (D.M.A.), the San Francisco Conservatory (M.M.), and Vanderbilt University (B.M.). Primary teachers have included Bobby Taylor, John de Lancie, and Mark Ostoich. During the summer, she performs with the Peninsula Music Festival in Door County, Wisconsin.

**Geoffrey Robson (violin)** is the Music Director of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and also serves as the Artistic Director of the Faulkner Chamber Music Festival. In that role, he curates a summer concert series and directs an intensive chamber music experience for students of all ages.

As conductor of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Robson has led critically acclaimed and sold-out masterworks, pops, chamber, educational, and live-to-film concerts throughout the state. His innovative programming has brought new audiences into the hall and made all feel welcome, and has inspired and energized the orchestra. Robson regularly conducts opera and ballet, as well as symphonic and chamber music. His conducting teachers have included David Hayes, John Farrer, and Larry Rachleff.

He loves to collaborate with creative individuals, and to make music outside of the 'classical' genre, especially improvised music. With his background in violin performance, Robson is in frequent demand as a chamber musician, studio musician, and instrumental arranger. His violin teachers have included Erick Friedman and Alexander Kerr.

**Haeshin Shin (piano)** has appeared in solo recitals, competitions, chamber concerts, and festivals throughout the United States, Russia, the UK, Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain, Ireland, Puerto Rico, China, and Korea. She has won prizes at the American Protégé Concerto Competition, the Bradshaw & Buono International Competition, the Richmond Piano Competition, the Samick Piano Competition, and the International Competition for Pianists in Memory of Shande Ding. In recent seasons, she has performed at Seoul Arts Center, Carnegie Hall, Harvard Music Association, and Garth Newel Music Center. Her performance in the 75th anniversary of Leonard Bernstein Piano Recital at Tanglewood Lecture Series was broadcast on CTSB, the public channel in the Berkshires, MA.

Ms. Shin holds a BM degree from Seoul National University (Cum Laude), and MM and DMA degrees from Boston University. During her study at Boston University, she received the Piano Department Award and College of Fine Arts Scholarship, and was elected as a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, the national music honor society.

She co-founded the Medtner Society of Korea in 2016, initially to introduce the music of Nikolai Medtner to audiences in South Korea, and currently serves as its Artistic Director. She joined the piano faculty at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music in 2019 and continues to give online lessons to students from the Midwest to the East Coast after her move to Little Rock in 2021. In 2022, she joined Arkansas State University as a collaborative pianist.

**Katherine Williamson (violin)** joined the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra in 2013 and assumed the Assistant Concertmaster post in the fall of 2019. Williamson started her tenure with the Orchestra as an Arts Partner with the Rockefeller String Quartet. She has been the Director of the ASO String Academy since 2019 and also serves on the faculty for the Faulkner Chamber Music Festival.

Music has taken Ms. Williamson from the rolling hills of the Meadowmount School of Music in New York, to the mountains of Breckenridge, and to the Konzerthaus stage in Berlin, Germany. She has played as a semifinalist with the New World Symphony, been an associate member of the Chicago Civic Orchestra, and an extra with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. A native of Saint Paul, Minnesota, she still maintains musical connections to her home state as a freelance violinist with the Minnesota Orchestra and, until 2019, as a section violinist for the Mill City Summer Opera.

Williamson earned a Bachelor of Music with Distinction from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University in 2012. She currently resides in Little Rock with her rescue dog, Billie.



**ArkansasSymphony.org | 501.666.1761**  
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