



FORT WORTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

ROBERT SPANO, MUSIC DIRECTOR

KEVIN JOHN EDUSEI, PRINCIPAL GUEST CONDUCTOR

KEITH CERNY, Ph.D., PRESIDENT AND CEO

Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra Announces 2025-2026 Season

- Spano conducts Shakespeare at the Symphony in collaboration with Dallas Theater Center
- Maestra Dame Jane Glover is appointed as FWSO's Principal Guest Conductor for the next three years
- World Premiere of Joby Talbot's *Suite from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* featuring dancers from Bruce Wood Dance Dallas
- Spanish program featuring masterpieces from the Kimbell Art Museum as the first part of a three-year collaboration
- FWSO Board of Directors extend the contracts for Music Director Robert Spano and President and CEO, Keith Cerny through 2031

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FORT WORTH, Texas – January 22, 2025 – The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra (FWSO) is thrilled to unveil the highly anticipated 2025-2026 season. This upcoming season promises to be a remarkable journey through innovative programming and extraordinary collaborations that elevate the symphonic experience to new heights. Under the direction of Maestro Robert Spano, the FWSO orchestra is set to deliver an exhilarating lineup of performances that will captivate audiences. The season will feature a diverse array of concerts, showcasing both classical masterpieces and contemporary works, ensuring there is something for everyone to enjoy.

FWSO's commitment to artistic excellence and community engagement remains at the forefront of its mission. The orchestra is dedicated to creating memorable experiences that resonate with audiences of all ages. As the season unfolds, patrons can look forward to a series of symphonic favorites, world class guest artists, and unique collaborations that will enhance the cultural landscape of Fort Worth.

The Symphonic Series will showcase a stellar lineup of renowned conductors, guest artists, and collaborations. World-renowned pianist Stephen Hough will open the symphonic season under the direction of FWSO's music director Robert Spano. Continuing with the "Theater of a Concert" theme, programs will include a Shakespeare evening with live actors, the world premiere of Joby Talbot's *Suite from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* featuring FWSO musicians and dancers from Bruce Wood Dance, and a Spanish program incorporating exquisite paintings from the Kimbell collection. The FWSO is honored to welcome guest conductors Peter Oundjian and Markus Stenz and will present a world premiere of a violin concerto by Michael Gandolfi featuring beloved Concertmaster Michael Shih.



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FWSO will continue to expand its Pops Series programming, including fan-favorite film concerts such as Disney's *The Lion King* in concert. Other popular Pops concerts will include legendary music eras with REWIND: Music of the 80s and a special nod to country music and art with Wild West Rodeo in collaboration with the Sid Richardson Museum. There will be plenty of variety as always with the popular Pops Series programs.

This season will feature some special concerts that audiences are sure to love. Some of the hottest films with live orchestra include *Jurassic Park* and *Elf* in concert. The season will culminate with a not-to-be-missed Gala concert, featuring the extraordinary Gil Shaham with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra.

The FWSO is proud to announce the three-year appointment of Dame Jane Glover as the Principal Guest Conductor starting in the 2025-2026 season. In other leadership news, the board of directors is pleased to announce the contract extensions for Maestro Robert Spano and President and CEO Keith Cerny through the end of the 2030-2031 season. The FWSO is committed to bringing the best of artistic talent and programs to Fort Worth and the entire North Texas community.

FWSO Board Chairman, Mercedes T. Bass enthusiastically comments, "In addition to sharing another exciting season of the FWSO, I am delighted to announce the extension of Music Director Robert Spano's contract through the end of the 2030-2031 season. With this extension, the appointment of Dame Jane Glover for a three-year term as Principal Guest Conductor, and the extension of President and CEO Keith Cerny's contract to the end of the 2030-2031 season, the FWSO has secured a truly exceptional artistic and executive leadership team for years to come. Having served as Chairman of the Board of the FWSO for many years, I can say with confidence that this is the strongest and most experienced leadership team in the history of the symphony."

FWSO Music Director, Robert Spano stated, "I am thrilled to continue my Music Director role of the FWSO. President and CEO Keith Cerny and I continue to enjoy our close collaboration in developing the Symphonic and Chamber Music programming, and in bringing unique Theater of a Concert projects to the Bass Hall stage. I love working with FWSO's exceptional musicians and sharing our love of this great music with our passionate donors, supporters, and audiences.

Newly appointed **FWSO Principal Guest Conductor Dame Jane Glover** expressed, "It is with great excitement that I assume my new role as Principal Guest Conductor. I have enjoyed working the FWSO musicians as a guest conductor, and my close association with Robert Spano at Aspen goes back many years. In my new role, I look forward to presenting works from my core repertoire, as well as important works by Mahler and Shostakovich."

FWSO President and CEO, Dr. Keith Cerny states, "It has been my great privilege to work closely with Board Chairman Mrs. Bass to develop the orchestra over the last six years. I am proud to be part of an organization that performs at such an exceptional standard, and working with Maestro Spano over his first three seasons has been one of the highlights of my musical career. The future of the FWSO looks very bright indeed."



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Join the FWSO as it embarks on this exciting new season, where music transcends boundaries and brings people together.

Subscriptions go on sale April 3, 2025. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.fwsymphony.org.

2025-2026 FWSO Season Line up

SYMPHONIC SERIES

All Symphonic Series concerts are presented at Bass Performance Hall.

Opening Weekend: Brahms Fourth and Grieg's Piano Concerto September 5-7, 2025

Robert Spano, conductor
Stephen Hough, piano

SIBELIUS: *Finlandia*

GRIEG: Piano Concerto

BRAHMS: Symphony No. 4

The great composer Johannes Brahms' last public appearance was for a concert of his fourth and final symphony. Listeners leapt to their feet to give a standing ovation after every movement of this rich, dense, *sensitive* culmination of Brahms' career. To open its season, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra will perform Jean Sibelius' patriotic *Finlandia*, a work protesting Russian censorship with a glorious hymn, before continuing with another Nordic masterpiece, Edvard Grieg's famous Piano Concerto.

Symphonic Stories: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* September 19-21, 2025

Robert Spano, conductor
Joy Bollinger, choreographer
Bruce Wood Dance Dallas

MOZART: Symphony No. 38, "Prague"

TALBOT: Selections from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

British composer Joby Talbot has composed music for the stage and screen alike, with films like *Sing*, *Sing 2*, and *Wonka* with Timothée Chalamet under his belt. In September, a troupe of ballet dancers joins the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra to bring Talbot's celebrated musical interpretation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* to life in Bass Performance Hall. The orchestra opens the concert with Mozart's famous "Prague" Symphony, so named for the exceptional wind players of Bohemia for whom Mozart penned the piece.



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Mozart and Mahler's Fourth **November 21-23, 2025**

Jane Glover, conductor
Imogen Cooper, piano
Lauren Snouffer, soprano

MOZART: *Exsultate, jubilate*
MOZART: Piano Concerto No. 27
MAHLER: Symphony No. 4

Austrian composer Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 4 presents a musical interpretation of heaven. Sleighbells and flutes open the symphony with a delicate chiming, and later, the angelic voice of a soprano arrives in the final movement to sing texts from Mahler's favorite book of German poetry. To balance out the program, British conductor Jane Glover makes her debut as FWSO's Principal Guest conductor with pianist Imogen Cooper in Mozart's final piano concerto, No. 27 in B-flat Major, and soprano Lauren Snouffer sings the ever-delightful *Exsultate, jubilate*.

The Sounds of Paris **January 9-11, 2026**

Robert Spano, conductor
Pedja Mužijević, piano

RAVEL: *Pavane for a Dead Princess*
CHOPIN: Piano Concerto No. 2
BERLIOZ: Love Scene from *Romeo and Juliet*
DEBUSSY: *La mer*

Debussy captures the power and essence of the sea in his fluid *La mer*, inspired by his childhood memories of the ocean and different painters' interpretations. Next, Ravel's *Pavane for a Dead Princess* invokes a courtly Italian dance, a slow, stately affair also inspired by historic paintings, while the finale of Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2 — the first he wrote, but the second he published — boasts an earthy, bravura charm. The concert concludes with another French work, Berlioz' aching "Love Scene" from his dramatic symphony *Romeo and Juliet*.

FWSO Stars: Stas Chernyshev and Joshua Elmore Play Strauss **January 23-25, 2026**

Markus Stenz, conductor
Stas Chernyshev, clarinet
Joshua Elmore, bassoon



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MENDELSSOHN: *Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage*
STRAUSS: Duet-Concertino for Clarinet & Bassoon
SCHUMANN: Symphony No. 2

Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra Principal Clarinet Stas Chernyshev joins Principal Bassoon Joshua Elmore for the Duet-Concertino by Richard Strauss, who gave the music the following program: “A dancing princess is alarmed by the grotesque cavorting of a bear... she is won over to the creature and dances with it, upon which it turns into a prince...” The concert begins with Felix Mendelssohn’s *Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage*, which begins with a meditative passage followed by an adventurous allegro, and the program concludes with Schumann’s optimistic second symphony.

Shakespeare at the Symphony **February 27-March 1, 2026**

Robert Spano, conductor
Dallas Theater Center
Kevin Moriarity, director

MENDELSSOHN: Selections from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*
PROKOFIEV: Selections from *Romeo and Juliet*

“Lord, what fools these mortals be!” Mendelssohn’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* captures the lightness of Shakespeare’s fairies with quick, clever melodies as they meddle in mortal affairs. Meanwhile, Prokofiev’s militant take on the Montagues and Capulets provides an exquisite contrast to the lushness of his love theme for *Romeo and Juliet*. Don’t miss this special weekend of musical drama and intrigue when members of the Dallas Theater Center join the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra to bring the world of The Bard to life.

Jane Glover Conducts FWSO Stars **March 20-22, 2026**

Jane Glover, conductor
Jennifer Corning Lucio, oboe
Joshua Elmore, bassoon
Michael Shih, violin
Allan Steele, cello

BRITTEN: Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes*
HAYDN: Sinfonia Concertante
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 4

Beethoven’s fourth symphony is a pure distillation of classical form, an artist demonstrating complete mastery of his craft. After a tense introduction, the symphony takes flight with a brilliant, optimistic passage. This good humor continues through the finale, with its famous chortling woodwind solos, which



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Beethoven himself described as “unbuttoned” music due to its casual wit. The concert opens with British composer Benjamin Britten’s Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes*, musical pictures of the sea at different times of day, and Haydn’s *Sinfonia Concertante*, a concerto for four musicians performed by FWSO players as soloists.

Spanish Masters: An Evening of Music and Art **April 24-26, 2026**

Robert Spano, conductor
Kelley O’Connor, mezzo-soprano
In collaboration with the Kimbell Art Museum

RAVEL: *Rapsodie espagnole*
LIEBERSON: *Neruda Songs*
FALLA: *The Three-Cornered Hat*

The ballet *The Three-Cornered Hat* chronicles a magistrate’s attempt to seduce a miller’s faithful wife with a lightly spiced score of colorful orchestral dances drawn from Andalusian folk music by Spanish composer Manuel de Falla. For this special performance, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra has partnered with the Kimbell Art Museum to project exquisite Spanish masterpieces during the concert, which also features Ravel’s *Rapsodie espagnole* and the incomparable mezzo Kelley O’Connor singing American composer Peter Lieberson’s *Neruda Songs*, drawn from the poetry of Pablo Neruda.

Brahms & Dvořák **May 8-10, 2026**

Peter Oundjian, conductor
Zlatomir Fung, cello

JOAN TOWER: Suite from Concerto for Orchestra
DVOŘÁK: Cello Concerto
BRAHMS: Symphony No. 2

While writing his Cello Concerto, the Czech composer Dvořák received word that a dear friend was dying. He immortalized her with a musical quotation of her favorite song, one of his own tunes, in the concerto’s second movement, one of music’s great love letters, and perhaps the most popular cello concerto in the repertoire. The acclaimed Canadian conductor Peter Oundjian conducts this program, which opens with a brand-new orchestral work by the Grammy-winning American composer Joan Tower and concludes with Brahms’ second symphony, a work so sunny and pleasant that Brahms — always the prankster — joked to his publisher, “I have never written anything so sad.”



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An Evening in Finland **May 22-24, 2026**

Robert Spano, conductor
Michael Shih, violin
Tim Daniels, English horn

SIBELIUS: *The Swan of Tuonela*
GANDOLFI: Violin Concerto
SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 2

Both the composer Jean Sibelius and the swan have appeared on Finnish currency. Sibelius often looked to this majestic bird's soaring flight patterns and haunting cries for musical inspiration. In *The Swan of Tuonela*, he invokes the plaintive call of the English horn as the voice of the swan in the land of the dead in a Finnish folk legend. To complete the FWSO's season, Concertmaster Michael Shih steps into the spotlight for a brand-new concerto by American composer Michael Gandolfi before the orchestra concludes with another work by Sibelius, his soulful second symphony.

CHAMBER SERIES

All Chamber concerts are presented in the Kimbell Art Museum's Renzo Piano Pavilion at 3PM.
3-Concert Series Package is \$72.

Chamber Music: Brahms, Ravel, and Poulenc **September 28, 2025**

POULENC: Flute Sonata
POULENC: Trio for Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano
RAVEL: Introduction and Allegro
BRAHMS: Clarinet Trio

Near the end of his long and illustrious career, a weary Brahms told his publisher that it was "finally time to quit composing." And then, he met the clarinetist Richar Mühlfeld, whose dark, woody sound and stellar musicianship inspired a quartet of new chamber works, including the trio for clarinet, cello, and piano. Also on the program are a pair of French gems: Poulenc's graceful and ironic flute sonata and Ravel's Introduction and Allegro for Harp, Flute, Clarinet, and String Quartet, a work that so enchanted audiences that the musicians immediately played it a second time at the premiere.



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Chamber Music: Beethoven, Schumann, and Ligeti **February 15, 2026**

BEETHOVEN: Horn Sonata
LIGETI: Six Bagatelles for Wind Quintet
BRITTEN: *Lachrymae*
SCHUMANN: Piano Quartet

The range of the French horn was once limited to certain notes and scales before the addition of valves. Beethoven's Natural Horn Sonata, written for one of the best horn players of the day, defies this reality with virtuosic arpeggios and scales whizzing up and down the instrument. Meanwhile, Schuman wrote his Piano Quartet in E-flat Major for piano, violin, viola, and cello with his wife Clara in mind for the piano part, while the last of Ligeti's Six Bagatelles for Wind Quintet was censored by the Soviets for being too "dangerous."

Chamber Music: Mozart, Beethoven, and Schumann **April 19, 2026**

MOZART: Horn Quintet
SCHUMANN: *Fantasiestücke*
BEETHOVEN: Archduke Piano Trio

In 1814, Beethoven's deafness was growing more severe even as his star as a composer was rising. He dedicated his "Archduke" trio to the Archduke Rudolph of Austria and played the piano part himself. While the piece was well-received, Beethoven struggled to hear his fellow musicians and compromised the performance — this was his last performance as a pianist. There isn't a trace of introspection in the work, however, which bursts with straightforward good humor and optimism. Mozart's Horn Quintet is similarly cheery, while Schumann's *Fantasiestücke* for oboe and piano are more introspective and freeform.

POPS SERIES

All Pops concerts are presented at Bass Performance Hall.

Windborne's The Music of Queen with the FWSO **August 29 & 30, 2025**

Brent Havens, conductor
MiG Ayesa, vocalist

Queen unapologetically rocked their way into our everyday lives from the UK in the 1970s. With their unique sound, they helped shape what it means to be a rock band. Vocalist MiG Ayesa will bring the legendary energy of Freddie Mercury to the stage with the music of Queen's chart-topping hits and enduring albums backed by the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra.



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Join an audience of “Cool Cats” and “Killer Queens” and sing along to your favorite rock anthems. Get ready, because “We Will Rock You!”

REWIND: Music of the 80s **November 7 & 8, 2025**

Michelle Di Russo, conductor

REWIND celebrates the Music of the 80s! The night will whisk you away on a musical time warp back to when big hair and parachute pants ruled. This fun-filled show will have you singing and dancing in Bass Performance Hall with a set list that includes George Michael, Mister Mister, Kool & The Gang, Joan Jett, The Cure, and more.

Acid-washed jeans, shoulder pads, and BIG hair are all encouraged at this totally tubular concert! We invite you to REWIND and relive the 80s for a night...just leave the boombox at home, we’ve got the music covered!

Home for the Holidays **November 28 & 29, 2025**

Michelle Di Russo, conductor
Shayna Steele, vocalist
I.M. Terrell Academy Choir

Don’t miss one of Fort Worth’s favorite holiday traditions! The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and special guest artists bring you merry music and moments creating memories that will last a lifetime. Get ready to sing-along to classic Christmas carols, hum holiday tunes, and snag a photo with Santa at Home for the Holidays.

Wild West Rodeo **January 16 & 17, 2026**

Michelle Di Russo, conductor
In collaboration with The Sid Richardson Museum

They say Fort Worth is “Where the West Begins.” Don’t miss Cowtown’s own orchestra saddling up and riding West with famous film hits like John Williams’ thrilling Overture to *The Cowboys*, Elmer Bernstein’s *The Magnificent Seven*, Enrico Morricone’s *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*, and much more. Rounding out the program are a range of familiar classical cowboy tunes like Copland’s “Hoe Down” from *Rodeo*, Grofé’s “On the Trail” from the *Grand Canyon Suite*, and Rossini’s *William Tell* Overture, with stunning images of Western art from the Sid Richardson Museum projected during the concert to bring the music to life.



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Disney's *The Lion King* in Concert **January 30 & 31, 2026**

Deanna Tham, conductor

Watch timeless Disney classic, *The Lion King* on the big screen as the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra brings every note to life, performing the complete score live on stage. This unforgettable experience is perfect for all ages, letting families share the nostalgia of songs like “Circle of Life” and “Hakuna Matata” while creating cherished new memories among their pride. It’s going to be a roaring time!

About the movie: Disney’s *The Lion King* journeys to the African savanna where a future king is born. Simba idolizes his father, King Mufasa, and takes to heart his own royal destiny. But not everyone in the kingdom celebrates the new cub’s arrival. Scar, Mufasa’s brother—and former heir to the throne—has plans of his own. The battle for Pride Rock is riddled with betrayal, tragedy and drama, ultimately resulting in Simba’s exile. With help from his long-lost friend, Nala, and a curious pair of newfound friends, Pumbaa and Timon, Simba must figure out how to face his past and take back what is rightfully his. The all-star cast includes Matthew Broderick as Simba, Moira Kelly as Nala, James Earl Jones as Mufasa, Jeremy Irons as Scar, Ernie Sabella as Pumbaa and Nathan Lane as Timon.

Marvel Studios’ Infinity Saga Concert Experience **March 6 & 7, 2026**

Ron Spigelman, conductor

The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra is excited to bring a new Marvel Studios film concert to Bass Performance Hall. Conducted by Ron Spigelman, prepare for an epic on-screen cinematic journey that covers twenty-three films in one momentous concert experience.

Revisit the earliest days of Iron Man, Captain America, and Thor as they discover their place in the Marvel Cinematic Universe – each accompanied by their own unforgettable heroic music. Conjure up magical feelings as you witness Earth’s mightiest heroes join forces for the first time and open the door to the next wave of Avengers: Black Panther, Doctor Strange, Captain Marvel, and more. The Guardians of the Galaxy don’t miss this party either, dropping in to deliver a taste of their iconic mixtape backed by the FWSO. This super-hero spectacle comes to a crescendo when the ultimate trials of the Infinity Saga are reimaged.

It’s time for fans – new and old – to assemble and relive every iconic moment from this defining canon of films, all accompanied by live orchestra.



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SPECIALS

Stars of the Symphony

August 23, 2025

Bass Performance Hall

Michelle Di Russo, conductor

Jennifer Corning Lucio, oboe

Anna Kolotylna, viola

Keira Fullerton, cello

Stars of the Symphony is an evening like no other, showcasing the extraordinary talent of the FWSO musicians in virtuosic roles. This performance is a rare opportunity to witness members of the orchestra taking the spotlight and performing some of the most beautiful and challenging symphonic repertoire. This evening with feature, FWSO's principal oboe Jennifer Corning Lucio, associate principal viola Anna Kolotylna, and cello Keira Fullerton. It's a chance to cheer on the hometown team and experience the magic of live music at its finest.

***Jurassic Park* in Concert**

November 1, 2025

Will Rogers Auditorium

Ron Spigelman, conductor

This action-packed adventure pits man against prehistoric predators in the ultimate battle for survival. Featuring visually stunning imagery and groundbreaking special effects, the epic film *Jurassic Park* is sheer movie magic 65 million years in the making.

Now, audiences can experience *Jurassic Park* as never before: projected in HD with a full orchestra performing John Williams' iconic score live to picture.

Welcome...to *Jurassic Park*!

Elf in Concert

December 13, 2025

Will Rogers Auditorium

Scott Terrell, conductor

This holiday season, enjoy the heartwarming tale of Buddy the Elf on the big screen while every note of John Debney's wonderful score is played live to picture in: Elf in Concert! It's a holly, jolly way to share a holiday classic with family—whether you've been watching Elf every year or this is your first trip to the North Pole.



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About the Movie: Buddy (Will Ferrell) 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. After DNA test confirmation, Buddy and his real father build a relationship with increasingly chaotic (and very comedic) moments.

Walt Disney Animation Studios - A Decade in Concert

April 18, 2026

Will Rogers Auditorium

Michelle Di Russo, conductor

Celebrating iconic musical moments from favorite films released over the last decade, this melodic journey explores Disney Animation’s latest stories through unforgettable film clips and scores performed live by the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Conducted by Michelle Di Russo, this thrilling performance includes music from *Moana* (2016), Academy Award®-winning *Zootopia* (2016), Academy Award-winning *Big Hero 6* (2014), *Tangled* (2010), *Princess and the Frog* (2009), and more.

Let your dreams take flight in this enchanting concert event. As Moana would say, “See how far you’ll go” in this night of music, memories, and Disney magic that will have everyone saying, “I’ve got a dream!”

Copland’s *Appalachian Spring* and Barber’s *Knoxville*

May 16, 2026

Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU

Robert Spano, conductor

Susanna Phillips, soloist

BARBER: *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*

FLETCHER: *Three American Songs*

COPLAND: *Suite from Appalachian Spring*

COPLAND: *Four Dances from Rodeo*

Aaron Copland’s *Appalachian Spring* tells the story of a young couple on the American frontier, from the wedding-day jitters to festive songs and dances to passages of utter serenity. It is a quintessentially American work, a nostalgic glance back to America’s “Westward, ho!” history, well-complemented by Copland’s *Four Dances from Rodeo*, another ballet, this one about a cowgirl trying to snare the attention of a head rancher and set to American folk tunes. The concert opens with star American soprano Susanna Phillips singing Samuel Barber’s *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, a setting of a James Agee poem describing an evening in the South, and Fletcher’s *Three American Songs*.



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Gala Concert: Gil Shaham Plays Brahms

February 21, 2026 at 7pm

Bass Performance Hall

Robert Spano, conductor

Gil Shaham, violin

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*

BRAHMS: Violin Concerto

Gil Shaham's performance career kicked off when he was only 11 years old. Since then, he's spent decades playing with the world's leading conductors and orchestras, earning awards and rave reviews for both his dazzling technique and touching lyricism. Do not miss the special gala appearance when he joins the FWSO and Music Director Robert Spano in Brahms' intense Violin Concerto, written with all the creativity and care in the world for the composer's dear friend. The evening begins with a rare treat: Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis* for strings alone, one of the most sublimely peaceful works in the classical canon.

For more information on VIP and dinner packages, kindly call 817.509.5929

[or develop@fwsymphony.org](mailto:or_develop@fwsymphony.org).

Some sections are temporarily blocked off for this performance. If you would like to request a seat in these sections, please call the box office at 817-665-6000.

FAMILY SERIES

The Family Series is supported by John Wells and Shay McCulloch-Wells.

All Family concerts begin at 11AM.

All ages are welcome.

Family 3-Concert Series pricing:

Adult - \$64

Child - \$36

Saint-Georges' Sword and Bow

November 8, 2025

Bass Performance Hall

Michelle Di Russo, conductor

The story of Saint-Georges' Sword & Bow is centered on a rivalry as old as time: classical vs. contemporary. 13-year-old Giselle is dead set on becoming a famous pop star, while her father insists that studying music theory is much more important. The supernatural arrival of Joseph Bologne, Le Chevalier de Saint-Georges, whisks Giselle back in time to learn about Bologne's personal and



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professional life. As she gets to know Joseph, his complicated story, and his incredible compositions, Giselle realizes that fame can turn on you in a minute, but true passion can last a lifetime.

The Unicorn’s Birthday

January 17, 2026

Bass Performance Hall

Michelle Di Russo, conductor

“The Unicorn’s Birthday®” is a charming, fantasy-and-fun-filled symphony experience. Join the family-friendly birthday celebration filled with music, narration, fun sounds, captivating on-stage activity, adorable graphics, and gentle audience interactivity. There’s even a visit from the Birthday Unicorn!

Hear, see, and imagine as the FWSO presents a musical world of friendly penguins, monkeys, ducks, and other animals celebrating the Unicorn’s birthday. Then, take home free coloring pages filled with images from the concert.

Storybook: Sleeping Beauty

May 2, 2026

Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU

Michelle Di Russo, conductor

Join the Fort Worth Symphony for a family-friendly concert that brings to life the timeless tale of Sleeping Beauty. This enchanting performance will feature music, dance, and a projected storybook that transports you to a magical kingdom. Watch and listen as the princess and the rest of her family attempt to avoid her cursed fate. Will she wake from her spellbound slumber? Find out as you experience Sleeping Beauty like never before!

About Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra under Music Director Robert Spano is deeply committed to uniting its community through presenting over 120 performances, education, and outreach concerts, reaching an audience of more than 150,000 annually. Since its beginnings in 1912, the FWSO has been an essential thread in the city’s cultural fabric and the very foundation of Fort Worth’s performing arts. The FWSO has performed at Carnegie Hall and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as part of SHIFT: A Festival of American Orchestras. The FWSO has released 13 recordings – with several being world premiere releases – garnering international acclaim. The FWSO has embraced creative collaborations through residencies, partnerships, and commissions. As the principal resident company of the acoustically superb Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall, the Orchestra



FORT WORTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

ROBERT SPANO, MUSIC DIRECTOR

KEVIN JOHN EDUSEI, PRINCIPAL GUEST CONDUCTOR

KEITH CERNY, Ph.D., PRESIDENT AND CEO

performs a full season of concerts featuring internationally acclaimed guest artists and works by living composers. The Orchestra performs and partners with Jake Heggie, Texas Ballet Theater, Atlanta-based glo, Fort Worth Opera, The Cliburn, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, The Old Trout Puppet Workshop, and Performing Arts Fort Worth. The FWSO keeps exceptional musical experiences at the heart of its community.

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