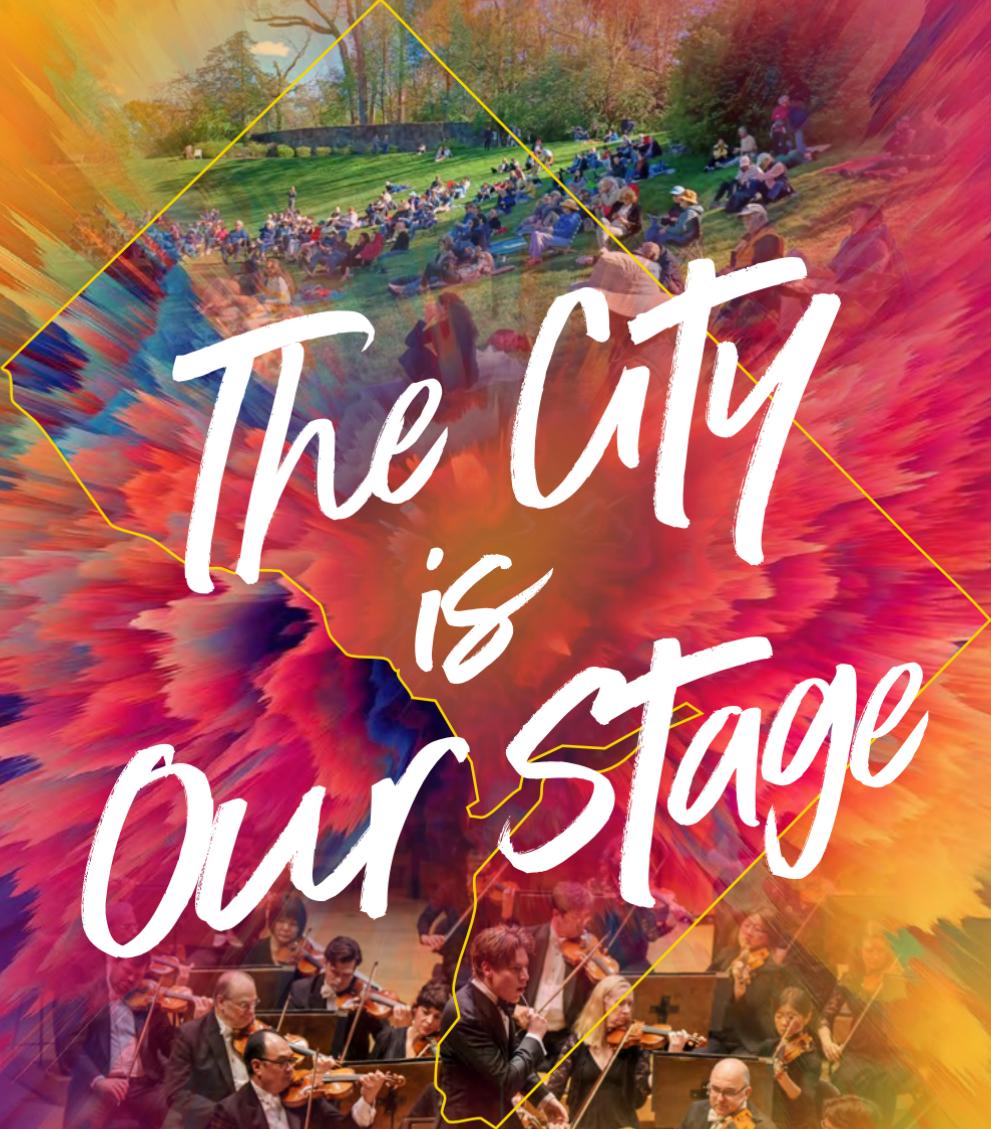




WASHINGTON  
PERFORMING ARTS

2025/26 SEASON



The City  
is  
Our Stage

WashingtonPerformingArts.org



*Something truly extraordinary happens when we gather to experience the arts.* When we share a live performance, our heartbeats synchronize, our breathing aligns with the rhythm, our bodies literally resonate with the music—this isn't just poetic sentiment, it is scientific reality. In a world that often feels divided, music and performance create a rare alchemy that connects us on a profound level.

For 60 years, Washington Performing Arts has embraced this transformative power with the city as our stage. As an award-winning independent presenter, we welcome established and emerging artists in dozens of unique spaces throughout the D.C. region—from neighborhood parks to grand concert halls. We provide a platform where artists can do their best and bravest work, and a setting where you, our audience, feel welcome.

Excellence, community, and connection are the core of everything we do.

Our 2025/26 season—*The City Is Our Stage*—features inventive artists whose performances reflect their deep humanity and creative spirit. Enjoy flipping through the following pages to explore both familiar and new. You will experience:

- ✔ Nine partner venues throughout the region including the brand new Peabody Institute-affiliated Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater on Pennsylvania Ave, NW, as host for our Saturday matinee Hayes Piano Series, this season curated by Sir András Schiff and featuring three of his most promising current and former students from the Kronberg Academy
- ✔ Gospel music—the soul-stirring American art form—transcendently performed by our adult and youth singers and special guests
- ✔ Orchestra Series featuring London's Philharmonia Orchestra and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at The Music Center at Strathmore
- ✔ Yo-Yo Ma in a stunning solo recital
- ✔ Danish String Quartet & Danish National Girls' Choir at Church of the Epiphany with a newly commissioned work by David Lang nestled within an evocative program
- ✔ Film icon Sigourney Weaver joining the Grammy Award-winning Pacifica Quartet for the annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Concert, featuring two commissioned works by Jennifer Higdon and Gabriela Lena Frank
- ✔ Free performances featuring local Mars Arts D.C. artists at Tregaron Conservancy, Songbyrd Music House, and more
- ✔ Acclaimed soloists and chamber ensembles such as Igor Levit, Vadym Kholodenko, Midori, Davóne Tines & early music ensemble Ruckus, at the historic Sixth & I synagogue
- ✔ A celebration of South Asian musical traditions including a final work by Zakir Hussain, Sarod Trio helmed by Ustad Amjad Ali Kahn, and the Ravi Shankar Ensemble co-curated by his daughter Anoushka
- ✔ "Linger Longer" post-performance conversations with artists

There are so many ways to join us. **Subscribe today to enjoy priority seating, locked-in prices for the best seats, free exchanges, and special access.** Already a subscriber? Become a Friend or renew your annual gift. Your support fuels our award-winning initiatives and performances—including our arts education program that brings hands-on, experiential learning to students in over 80 public school classrooms in our wide community.

Our artists, and all of us at Washington Performing Arts, can't wait to welcome you back next season. And now, have a look!



Jenny Bilfield, President & CEO



# WELCOME TO YOUR 2025/26 SEASON

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# DISCOVER THE SUBSCRIBER ADVANTAGE!

Explore the exclusive benefits that subscribers receive, compared to single ticket buyers. Call, email, or see Subscriber Central online for complete details.

## Spend time with us! Treat yourself to a year of enjoyment and inspiration.

Subscribing is a commitment to sharing singular, sublime experiences featuring the world’s best artists in our city’s outstanding venues. Subscribers secure terrific seats at locked-in prices, no matter the demand. Enjoy seamless exchanges with no fees, and 10% discounts for select performances and special events.

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- ★ Same seats for every performance in your series.

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- ★ **Valuable Savings:** Save up to 10%\* when you choose three (3) or more Washington Performing Arts concerts. Save up to 15%\* when you reserve five (5) or more concerts.
- ★ **Exchange Privileges:** If your plans change you may exchange your tickets for other Washington Performing Arts events within the 2025/26 season. (Some restrictions apply)
- ★ **Advance Sale Days:** Order additional single tickets before they are available to the general public.

*\* Some seating sections or performances are excluded from discounts.*

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Chairman’s Circle Supporters (\$2,500+)	Benefactor, Sustainer Friends Supporters (\$600+)	All Friends Supporters (\$75+)	General Public Subscription Access	Single Tickets
Begins June 12 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins June 23 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins July 10 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins July 24 at 10:00 a.m.	Begins August 7 at 10:00 a.m.

# WANT HIGHER SEATING PRIORITY? BECOME A FRIENDS SUPPORTER

Behind every performance, there’s a Friend. From the first note on stage to the final bow, the impact of our Friends is felt in every corner of Washington Performing Arts. **Your generosity doesn’t just support the performances—it helps bring arts education into classrooms, uplifts emerging artists, and connects our community through the power of the arts.** As a token of our thanks, Friends who contribute \$75 or more enjoy priority seating and expanded benefits—so you can experience the magic you help make possible, up close. Your support keeps our mission moving forward. Thank you for being part of our story.

## Become a Friend: Add a Gift of \$75+ to Your Subscription Order Today

	Renewing or New Subscriptions with a Friends Donation		2025/26 Subscription Only			No Subscription
	Fixed Series	Custom Series	Fixed Series	Custom 5 Series	Custom 3 Series	Single Tickets
Seating Priority	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Savings	Up to 20%	Up to 15%	Up to 20%	Up to 15%	Up to 10%	\$0
Renew Same Seats Each Season	✓		✓			
Ticket Fees	\$0	\$0	\$10/order	\$10/order	\$10/order	added 15% per order
Priority Access to Added Concerts	✓	✓				
Add-on Ticket Savings	✓		✓			
Flexible Ticket Exchanges	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Special Friends-Only Benefits	✓	✓				

A gift of \$75 qualifies you as a Friend supporter. **Scan the QR code below** or visit **WashingtonPerformingArts.org/subscription** for a full list of benefits.



**Friends Experience Outstanding Benefits and Access throughout the Season while Supporting Programs that Amplify our Mission to Champion the Unifying Power of the Arts.**

Recent Friends experiences include:

- ★ Free concert guest passes
- ★ Behind-the-Scenes events with artists
- ★ Listening Parties and Masterclasses with artists and arts experts

## A Legacy that Performs for Generations

At Washington Performing Arts, the generosity of our Friends sustains not just today’s performances, but tomorrow’s possibilities. When you remember us in your estate plans, you help ensure that the music, education, and community connections we create will continue to inspire for generations to come. If you’re considering a planned gift—or have already included Washington Performing Arts in your will—we would be honored to thank you personally and share more about the impact of your legacy.

Please call us at **(202) 533-1880**. Your future gift will shape the future of the arts.

# Tregaron Unplugged

FREE

**Saturday, October 4, 2025**

**3:00 p.m.**

**TREGARON CONSERVANCY**

Step into a world of serene natural beauty with Tregaron Unplugged, presented by Washington Performing Arts. This vibrant free outdoor concert series features exceptional performances peppered throughout the picturesque setting of Tregaron Conservancy in Northwest D.C., creating a perfect harmony between music and nature. This year's lineup includes string quartets, vocalists, and unique musical ensembles. Audiences will be treated to an eclectic mix of genres, including jazz, classical, Americana, and more. Hear a captivating blend of original and timeless standards throughout the park, where the magic of live performances and the tranquility of nature come together for an unforgettable experience.

**FREE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE IN AUGUST 2025.**



Mars Arts D.C. is Washington Performing Arts's signature community engagement initiative. The product of a partnership between Washington Performing Arts, Jacqueline Badger Mars, and Mars, Incorporated, Mars Arts D.C. carries out its mission of presenting and elevating the dynamic vibrancy found in the local arts community and business economy through ever-growing artist engagement and long-term community partnerships. With programmatic elements highlighting the uniqueness and beauty across all eight wards of the District, Mars Arts D.C. offers distinct performance opportunities, artist residencies, curatorial partnerships, and robust integration with the Washington Performing Arts presenting series, all for the benefit, enjoyment, and growth of both the artist community itself and the D.C. community as a whole.

Photo by Alex Galitsatos

# Third Coast Percussion and Salar Nader, Tabla

**Saturday, October 18, 2025**

**7:00 p.m.**

**LISNER AUDITORIUM**

Grammy-winning percussion quartet Third Coast Percussion opens the evening with vibrant works by electronic composer Jlin, violinist and composer Jessie Montgomery, and jazz composer Tigran Hamasyan. Praised by *The New York Times* for their “commandingly elegant” performances, the ensemble brings precision and imagination to every piece. Tabla virtuoso Salar Nader follows with a solo set and a moving video tribute to his mentor, the legendary Zakir Hussain—a longtime Washington Performing Arts artistic collaborator who recently passed away. The program culminates in *Murmurs in Time*, the regional premiere of Hussain’s only work composed for classical percussion ensemble, co-commissioned by Washington Performing Arts and recorded with Third Coast Percussion in 2024. The piece features Nader and Third Coast in a stirring collaboration that celebrates rhythmic innovation and deep artistic legacy. *The New York Times* described the work as “a brilliant and moving performance (in) tribute to Hussain and the humanistic values at the heart of his art.”



Photo by Martine Severin

Photo by Nilesh Patel

Hayes Piano Series

# Avery Gagliano, piano

Saturday, October 25, 2025

2:00 p.m.

THE HOPKINS BLOOMBERG CENTER THEATER

A radiant force in the new generation of pianists, Avery Gagliano brings insight, imagination, and a bold interpretive voice to the stage. Hailing from Washington, D.C., Gagliano is a recent graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and a mentee of Sir András Schiff at the Kronberg Academy in Germany. Lauded by *The Philadelphia Inquirer* as “a pianist who conveys a vivid musical personality and bold imagination,” Gagliano is a familiar and beloved presence on Washington Performing Arts stages. With music by Schumann, Bartók, Barber, Chopin, and Rachmaninoff, her program traverses Romantic fervor, American lyricism, Hungarian fire, and the introspective intensity of late-Romantic Russian works—each piece a canvas for her expressive brilliance.

## LINGER LONGER: POST-CONCERT DISCUSSION

Following the performance, join us for a brief post-concert conversation with the artist. Event is free and available to all performance ticket holders. No registration required.

Photo by Chris Lee

The Hayes Piano Series is presented by Washington Performing Arts, in cooperation with the Peabody Institute and Hopkins Bloomberg Center.

# Philharmonia Orchestra (London, U.K.)

**Santtu-Matias Rouvali, music director**

**Víkingur Ólafsson, piano**

**Monday, October 27, 2025**

**7:30 p.m.**

THE MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE

One of Britain's most celebrated ensembles, the Philharmonia Orchestra returns after two decades, under the baton of its electrifying music director, Santtu-Matias Rouvali, in his highly anticipated Washington Performing Arts debut. The program begins with the East Coast premiere of a new work, *Si el oxígeno fuera verde*, by visionary Mexican composer Gabriela Ortiz, followed by Ravel's jazzy and luminous Piano Concerto in G Major, performed by the incomparable

Víkingur Ólafsson—praised for his “ferocious keyboard technique with a razor-sharp intellect that puts those gifts to powerful interpretive use” (On a Pacific Aisle).

The evening concludes with Sibelius's majestic Fifth Symphony, an elemental and heroic work by the great Finnish composer that perfectly showcases the Philharmonia's richness and the dynamic leadership of his compatriot, Finnish conductor Santtu-Matias Rouvali.



Photo by Marco Borggreve

Photo by Mark Allan

# Midori, violin Ieva Jokubaviciute, piano

**Saturday, November 15, 2025**

**7:30 p.m.**

SIXTH & I

A cherished presence on Washington Performing Arts stages and our 2020 Ambassador of the Arts, Midori returns with pianist Ieva Jokubaviciute for a program that traverses lyricism, passion, and brilliance. Anchored by Beethoven's radiant "*Spring*" Sonata, the recital interweaves romantic nuance in the works of Clara and Robert Schumann, Poulenc's bold contrasts, and the virtuosic sweep of Schubert's *Rondo Brillante*—all brought to life with Midori's musical insight and expressive power. A new work written for Midori by New York-based violinist and composer Che Buford combines violin and electronics. Buford describes their compositions as exploring the possibilities of timbre and acoustical phenomena and connecting them to elements of place, memory, poetry, and the quotidian.

Midori's performances of this repertoire have drawn critical acclaim. *The Classic Review* noted the "depth and commitment" in her Beethoven interpretations, while *Classics Today* hailed her as "a chamber player of great insight and taste," praising the nuance and texture she brings to works like Poulenc's sonata. These accolades speak to her rare ability to uncover fresh emotional resonance in both classic and lesser-heard works.



**CHOOSE 3+ PERFORMANCES  
AND SAVE 10%**



# Igor Levit, piano

Sunday, January 11, 2026

7:30 p.m.

SIXTH & I

Hailed as “one of the most probing, intelligent and accomplished artists of the new generation” (*The New York Times*), Igor Levit returns to Washington Performing Arts with a recital of monumental variation that challenges and inspires, featuring two impressive works rooted in an epic series of themes and variations. Levit brings his breathtaking technique to Beethoven’s *Diabelli Variations*, and to Frederic Rzewski’s revolutionary *The People United Will Never Be Defeated!*, an iconic work of virtuosic brilliance and political fervor. Washington Performing Arts co-commissioned Rzewski’s work in 1976, commemorating the 200th anniversary of the United States’s independence. Levit’s performances are acclaimed for their emotional depth and intellectual rigor, promising an unforgettable evening of musical mastery.



Photo by Peter Rigaud



Photo by Josh Brick

# Ruckus Davóne Tines, bass-baritone

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

7:30 p.m.

SIXTH & I

As the nation approaches the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Ruckus and Davóne Tines invite us to reflect: What is your hand in this? Through a bold reimagining of songs, hymns, and ballads spanning four centuries, this arresting program confronts the tensions and aspirations at the heart of the American experiment. With Ruckus—"the world's

only period-instrument rock band" (*San Francisco Classical Voice*)—and the "immense power and fervor" (*Los Angeles Times*) of pioneering and world renowned vocalist Davóne Tines, the performance channels the spirit of revolution to pose timeless questions of justice, compassion, and community.

Photo by Fay Fox

This performance is in cooperation with the Washington Bach Consort.

Photo by Jenna Pinkard

## Annual Dallas Morse Coors Legacy Concert

# Yo-Yo Ma, cello

**Tuesday, February 3, 2026**

**7:30 p.m.**

**MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE**

Experience an evening of profound music making with Yo-Yo Ma, the world-renowned cellist and longtime Washington Performing Arts collaborator, celebrated for his expressive artistry and deep connection to the music he performs. In this rare solo recital, Ma invites audiences into an intimate musical journey, showcasing works that span the breadth of the cello repertoire. Juxtaposing Bach suites alongside works by contemporary composers he has championed throughout his career, and as the founder of The Silk Road Project, Ma offers listeners a glimpse into the soul of the music. The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* notes, "Yo-Yo Ma's playing captivates the ear and charms the imagination," highlighting the emotional power and integrity he brings to each piece.

This performance is the second-annual Dallas Morse Coors Legacy Concert – a yearly recital celebrating artists who create lasting cultural impact, connecting generations through the universal language of music. Don't miss this opportunity to witness a true cello virtuoso at the height of his craft.



*"Thanks for all the hard work everyone at Washington Performing Arts undertakes to present the wonderful variety of performances of your yearly program. Your audience really couldn't enjoy their lives as fully without all the types of music you bring to our community. We really appreciate your efforts, year after year."*

- Patron

Photo by Jason Bell

# Living The Dream... Singing The Dream

A Choral Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Washington Performing Arts Gospel Choirs**  
**The Choral Arts Society of Washington**  
**Sunday, February 15, 2026**  
**7:00 p.m.**

MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE

When the power of the human voice meets the spirit of community and the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the result is guaranteed to be joyous and inspiring—as thousands of *Living the Dream* attendees over the years can attest. Join us as the combined choirs of Washington Performing Arts, and the Choral

Arts Chorus raise their voices in tribute both to Dr. King's achievements and to his ongoing, indelible impact. Through song, inspirational stories, and special tributes by community leaders, *Living the Dream... Singing the Dream* unites all who honor Dr. King's ideals.



*This performance is co-presented with The Choral Arts Society of Washington.*

**Gospel Music Programs** For 30+ years our resident gospel choirs—Men and Women of the Gospel (MWOTG) and Children of the Gospel (COTG)—have inspired audiences and nurtured both aspiring and experienced vocalists while bringing powerful messages of hope to the most prominent stages in the region. Chosen through a competitive audition process, choir members engage in choral training and workshops and featured in a variety of performances in the Washington Performing Arts season, as well as in the community. Learn more about the choirs at [WashingtonPerformingArts.org/about-the-choirs](https://WashingtonPerformingArts.org/about-the-choirs).

# Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Klaus Mäkelä, music director designate

Friday, February 27, 2026

7:30 p.m.

MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE

One of the world's most revered ensembles, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra returns under the baton of electrifying music director designate Klaus Mäkelä, hailed for his "mesmerizing presence and interpretive depth" (*The Guardian*). Mäkelä leads a program that pairs two revolutionary masterworks of symphonic form: Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, a pulse-quickening

triumph of rhythm and vitality that Wagner called "the apotheosis of the dance," and Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*, the wildly imaginative, hallucinatory tale of love, obsession, and dreams gone awry. Together, conductor and orchestra promise an unforgettable evening of high drama, orchestral brilliance, and virtuosity.

**CHOOSE 5+ PERFORMANCES  
AND SAVE 15%**



Hayes Piano Series

# Mishka Rushdie Momen, piano

Saturday, March 14, 2026

2:00 p.m.

THE HOPKINS BLOOMBERG CENTER THEATER

Acclaimed for her “imaginative intelligence and warmth” (*The Guardian*), British pianist Mishka Rushdie Momen crafts a hauntingly beautiful program traversing centuries of English music, illuminating the lineage between early keyboard works and modern soundscapes. Hear graceful works by Henry Purcell, Dr. John Bull’s expansive Walsingham Variations, Joseph Haydn’s Sonata in C Major, and Beethoven’s stirring and expressive Sonata No. 30 in E Major. The shadowed lyricism of John Dowland’s *In Darkness Let Me Dwell* echoes forward into Thomas Adès’s spectral *Darknesse Visible*, blurring time and texture. In Momen’s hands, this journey through centuries becomes a seamless meditation on introspection, memory, and transformation.



**LINGER LONGER: POST-CONCERT DISCUSSION**

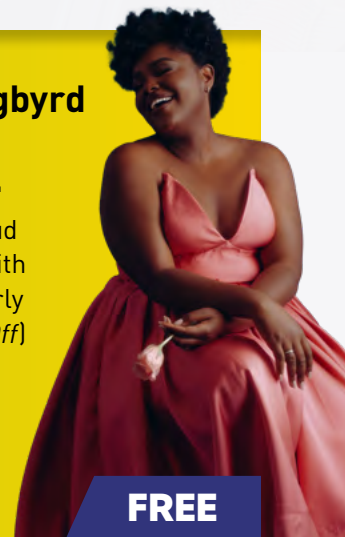
*The Hayes Piano Series is presented by Washington Performing Arts, in cooperation with the Peabody Institute and Hopkins Bloomberg Center.*

Photo by Benjamin Ealovega



## Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd Christie Dashiell Wednesday, March 4, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.

Grammy-nominated vocalist Christie Dashiell, a proud Howard University Jazz Studies program graduate with elegant phrasing and emotional depth, has captivated audiences nationwide. From her early days with the award-winning a cappella ensemble Afro Blue (as seen on NBC’s *The Sing-Off*) to solo acclaim on NPR’s *Tiny Desk*, Christie has become a beacon of contemporary jazz rooted in tradition. Fusing jazz, soul, and R&B, this performance is a celebration of Black excellence, hometown pride, and the power of voice to bridge past and present. Advance reservations will be available in early 2026.



**FREE**

Photo by Colville Heskey M. Taylor

**Strathmore and Washington Performing Arts Present**

# Ravi Shankar Ensemble

**Thursday, March 19, 2026**

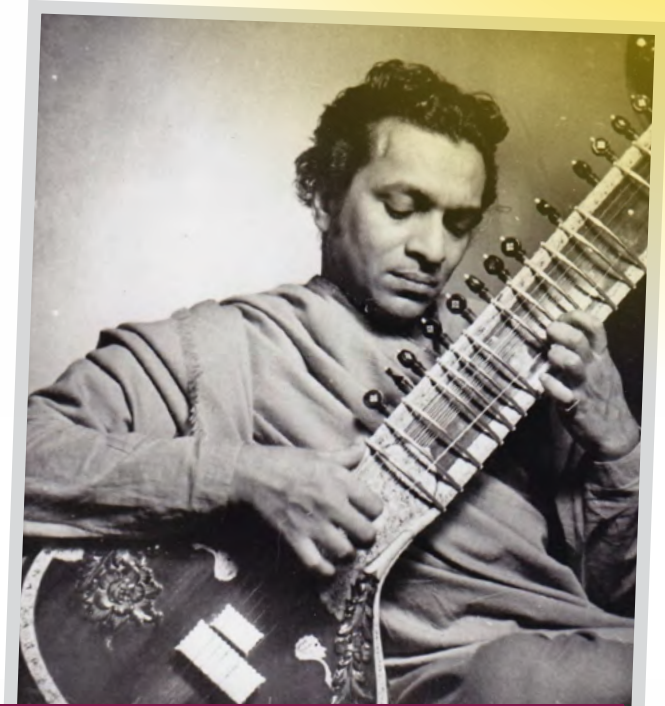
**8:00 p.m.**

**MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE**

Curated by Sukanya and Anoushka Shankar, the Ravi Shankar Ensemble is a multi-generational collective of world-class musicians dedicated to the masterful compositions and enduring legacy of the uniquely legendary musician, Ravi Shankar. In its debut tour, the ensemble presents a special program featuring visual elements from the Ravi Shankar archives alongside a dynamic selection of Shankar's soul-stirring music.

Shankar was instrumental in introducing Western audiences to the classical tradition of Indian ragas. He popularized Indian classical music globally through his teaching, performances, and collaborations with Western musicians like Yehudi Menuhin, Philip Glass, and George Harrison.

*Co-presented with Strathmore, in cooperation with District Raga.*



***"Music transcends all languages and barriers and is the most beautiful communicative skill one can have."***

***- Ravi Shankar***

## ACCESSIBILITY



Washington Performing Arts strives to meet the needs of all patrons. Accommodations are available at our venues for listening enhancement devices, American Sign Language interpretation, and wheelchair accessibility.



Large Print, Screen Reader Compatible, and Braille programs can also be provided with advance notice.



To request a service or for additional information, contact **(202) 785-9727** or **[PatronServices@washingtonperformingarts.org](mailto:PatronServices@washingtonperformingarts.org)**.

# Produced in Partnership with Mosaic Theater

**Book & Lyrics by Psalmayene 24**  
**Music by Eugene H. Russell IV**  
**Directed by Reginald L. Douglas**  
**Music Direction by William Knowles**  
**Choreography by Tony Thomas III**

WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS ACCESS DATES:  
**April 10-12, 2026**

ATLAS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

# Young John Lewis

It's time to make some Good Trouble! This new hip-hop and soul musical honors the legendary "Conscience of Congress": the late Congressman John Lewis. Written by Helen Hayes Award-Winning Playwright Psalmayene 24 (Mosaic's Theatre Company's Playwright in Residence) and acclaimed composer Eugene H. Russell IV, *Young John Lewis* is both a

galvanizing call to action and an inspiring reminder that we can all make a difference, no matter our age.

As part of our Mars Arts D.C. and Mosaic Theater partnership, Washington Performing Arts audiences have special access to seats April 10-12, 2026. Access code to be announced in August 2025.



## **Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd** **Roots & Revelry: Patty Reese & Dave Chappell** **Wednesday, April 1, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.**

Experience an electrifying evening of Americana, blues, and roots-rock featuring the powerhouse pairing of Patty Reese and Dave Chappell, two of the DMV's most respected musical voices. Patty Reese, with her soulful grit and commanding stage presence, and revered guitarist Dave Chappell, known for his work with legends like Jerry Lee Lewis and Danny Gatton, blend vocal fire and virtuosic guitar into a show that's equal parts revival and roadhouse. Whether trading solos or harmonizing on well-loved classics and originals, their long-standing musical chemistry creates an unforgettable live experience.

*Advance reservations will be available in spring 2026.*

**FREE**

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital

# Pacifica Quartet with narrator Sigourney Weaver

**Revolutionary Portraits: Our Better Angels**

**Sunday, April 12, 2026**

**7:30 p.m.**

SIXTH & I



Join the acclaimed Pacifica Quartet and legendary actor Sigourney Weaver for a moving evening of music and storytelling that celebrates the enduring spirit of American resilience and transformation.

Described by *The Telegraph* as “nothing short of phenomenal,” the Pacifica Quartet brings its signature virtuosity and emotional depth to a stirring program that honors trailblazing women who shaped our world. The evening features two commissions for narrator and string quartet: Jennifer Higdon’s tribute to Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Gabriela Lena Frank’s portrait of environmental pioneer Rachel Carson—each blending

powerful narration with vivid musical storytelling. Both works were co-commissioned by Washington Performing Arts.

The program opens with a rarely heard gem by Florence Price and culminates in Beethoven’s revolutionary String Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 130, performed with the audacious Grosse Fuge, Op. 133—a masterwork that continues to astonish and inspire. This performance is the fourth-annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital—a yearly performance honoring a dear friend of Washington Performing Arts and elevating new work of established and renowned artists.



Photo by Lisa-Marie Mazzucco

# Danish String Quartet Danish National Girls' Choir

Saturday, April 18, 2026

7:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Experience a captivating journey through sound and story as the acclaimed Danish String Quartet joins forces with the radiant Danish National Girls' Choir. Blending contemporary works, reimagined classics, and Nordic folk traditions, this program explores themes of memory, identity, and our bond with the natural world.

Praised by *Gramophone* for their "intense blend, extreme dynamic variation, perfect intonation even on harmonics, and constant vitality and flow," the Quartet brings its signature warmth to the stage. The

50-member Choir, described as a "powerhouse" with a "highly sophisticated repertoire" (*The Santa Barbara Independent*), deepens the concert's emotional impact with its luminous voices.

Featuring music by Caroline Shaw, Lotta Wennäkoski, Anna Thorvaldsdottir, Franz Schubert, Rune Sørensen, and traditional Nordic songs, the evening culminates in David Lang's *in wildness*—a new work co-commissioned by Washington Performing Arts and a consortium of global partners.



Photo by Caroline Bittencourt

# Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano

Thursday, April 23, 2026

7:30 p.m.

MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE

Internationally acclaimed pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, praised by the *Los Angeles Times* as “a master colorist” whose “every note he plays is a pearl,” brings his unparalleled artistry to Debussy’s complete *Préludes, Books I & II*. Across 24 luminous miniatures, each bears a special, evocative title (“The Girl with the Flaxen Hair,” “Footsteps in the snow,”) through which Thibaudet conjures wind and water, myth and memory, in a rare full performance of this impressionistic masterwork—an unforgettable journey through Debussy’s sound world.

***“Thibaudet excels at distinguishing lines  
within distinct timbres and articulations. ...  
The angular, the mercurial, and the undulant  
are Thibaudet’s specialties”***

*- Bachtrack*

**EXPLORE THE SEASON AND  
FULL ARTIST PROGRAMS ONLINE**



Photo by Andrew Eccles

# Sarod Trilogy

with Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Amaan Ali Bangash, and Ayaan Ali Bangash

Saturday, May 2, 2026

7:30 p.m.

SIXTH & I

An icon of Indian classical music, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan returns to the stage joined by his gifted sons and fellow sarod virtuosos, Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash, in a rare and deeply moving musical collaboration. With a lineage spanning six generations, the trio brings to life the rich traditions of

the Senia Bangash Gharana, fusing intricate ragas with improvisation and rhythmic interplay. Known for their global collaborations and innovative spirit, this family ensemble offers an unforgettable evening of musical mastery, cultural legacy, and intergenerational artistry.



*"Amjad Ali Khan's music speaks the language of the soul...  
his sons carry forward that voice with brilliance and heart."*

*- The New York Times*

Photo courtesy of the Ravi Shankar Ensemble

# Vadym Kholodenko, piano

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

7:30 p.m.

SIXTH & I

Van Cliburn Gold Medalist Vadym Kholodenko, praised for his “precipitous muscularity and high spirits” (New York Classical Review), comes to Washington Performing Arts with electrifying artistry and a program of epic scope at Sixth & I. The evening opens with Beethoven’s monumental “Hammerklavier” Sonata, followed by the dark lyricism of Ukrainian composer Borys Lyatoshinsky’s Three Preludes, Op. 38. Kholodenko concludes with a virtuosic flourish: Liszt’s original Six Paganini Études, a breathtaking showcase of pianistic brilliance that has long been a hallmark of Kholodenko’s playing.



Photo by Ira Polyarnaya



## Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd Beats Beyond Borders: Tabla, Percussion, and Movement Wednesday, May 6, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.

This dynamic performance spotlights the rich traditions of percussion and beats through the intricate rhythms of the Indian tabla drums and more, all intertwined with expressive dance forms. Audiences can anticipate a captivating journey that blends classical and contemporary styles, celebrating the universal language of rhythm and movement.

*Advance reservations will be available in spring 2026.*

**FREE**

# Tregaron Meadow Concert

FREE

**Mars Arts D.C.  
Sunday, May 3, 2026  
3:00 p.m.**

**TREGARON CONSERVANCY**

The city's our stage! One of D.C.'s most scenic green spaces, Tregaron Conservancy, welcomes you for an afternoon jazz performance by Mars Arts D.C. artists. In the Meadow, the magic of live performances and the tranquility of nature come together for an unforgettable experience of sensory delights. Tregaron performances are free and great for all ages.

*Artist details to be announced. Registration will be available in spring 2026.*

**EXPLORE THE SEASON ONLINE**



Hayes Piano Series

# Julia Hamos, piano

Saturday, May 16, 2026

2:00 p.m.

THE HOPKINS BLOOMBERG CENTER THEATER

Hungarian-American pianist Julia Hamos presents a program that bridges centuries and styles and features two of the most important composers from Hungary. Beginning with a selection from Kurtág's *Játékok*, she navigates through Haydn's *Sonata in E minor*, Ligeti's *Études* (*Arc-en-ciel*, *Der Zauberlehrling*, *Fanfares*), and Mozart's *Sonata in A minor*, culminating in Schumann's beloved *Fantasie in C Major*. Hamos's adventurous spirit and compelling artistry promise an evening of compelling musical exploration.

**LINGER LONGER: POST-CONCERT DISCUSSION**

Join our E-mail List

**STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH THE  
LATEST CONCERTS, SPECIAL  
EVENTS, CAREER OPPORTUNITIES,  
SUBSCRIBER BENEFITS, AND MORE.**



*The Hayes Piano Series is presented by Washington Performing Arts, in cooperation with the Peabody Institute and Hopkins Bloomberg Center.*

# Season Finale

**Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir**

**Michele Fowlin, artistic director**

**Featuring Children of the Gospel Alumni Choir**

**Anthony Walker, music director**

**Karon Johnson, choreographer**

**SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026**

**7:00 P.M.**

**CRAMTON AUDITORIUM**

Experience a night of unforgettable harmonies, powerful praise, and soul-stirring performances as the Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir and Children of the Gospel Alumni Choir inspire you with an evening of soaring music. Through dynamic artistry, vivid images, and rhythmic choreography and movement, the choirs celebrate this uniquely American art form in a performance for all ages.

Photo by Shannon Finney



## **Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd** ***Echoes in the Spotlight: A Tribute by Puddin'*** **Wednesday, June 3, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.**

*Echoes in the Spotlight* is a dynamic live concert experience led by the powerhouse background group Puddin' dedicated to honoring the unsung heroes of hip-hop, soul, and R&B—the background vocalists. Inspired by the spirit of the film *20 Feet From Stardom*, the performance shines the spotlight on voices that shape the emotional core and unforgettable hooks of our favorite songs.

**FREE**



For 60 years, Washington Performing Arts has led arts education programs that foster appreciation and participation in the arts—the core mission of our founding. Annually, we produce over 500 education and community events serving 10,000+ participants across greater D.C.

Our initiatives include the Embassy Adoption Program (a 51+-year DCPS partnership connecting dozens of embassies with classrooms), award-winning in-school instruction, student master classes and artist interactions reaching 200+ area classrooms. Learners of all ages can access performances through our Gateway Student Ticket Program, offering \$15 tickets (two per valid student ID) to a variety of performances beginning August 7, 2025. Reserve Gateway tickets by phone.

# IMPACT THROUGH EDUCATION

For more information: [WashingtonPerformingArts.org/education](https://WashingtonPerformingArts.org/education)



# ABOUT WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

One of the most established and honored performing arts institutions in America, Washington Performing Arts has engaged for more than half a century with artists, audiences, students, and civic life. The city is truly our stage: for decades, in venues ranging from concert halls and clubs to public parks, we have presented a tremendous range of artists and art forms, from the most distinguished symphony orchestras to both renowned and emerging artists in classical music, gospel music, jazz, international genres, and more. Washington Performing Arts deeply values its partnerships with local organizations and other arts institutions. Through events online and in a myriad of performance venues and neighborhoods, Washington Performing Arts engages international visiting artists in community programs and introduces local artists to wider audiences. We place a premium on establishing artists as a continuing presence in the lives of both young people and adults through residencies and education programs. For its achievements, Washington Performing Arts has been recognized with a National Medal of Arts and with three Mayor's Arts Awards from the D.C. Government. We have now embarked upon our second half-century, ever inspired by the motto of our founder, Patrick Hayes: "Everybody in, nobody out."

## MISSION

Washington Performing Arts Champions the arts as a unifying force. Through collaborations with artists, educators, community leaders, and institutional partners, we bring wide-ranging artistic programs to states, schools, and neighborhoods throughout our nation's capital and, with our virtual programs, share our work throughout the world.

## VISION

Our community is unified and enriched through vibrant performing arts experiences.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Cultivate Artists and Arts Patrons:** Be the organization that artists want to partner with and that arts patrons trust for lifelong enjoyment and learning.

**Pursue Inclusion:** Seek, represent, and welcome a multiplicity of voices in everything we do.

**Collaborate with Communities:** Build strong partnerships with local, national, and international organizations to make the performing arts accessible to communities in the nation's capital.

**Build a Lasting Legacy:** Balance risk-taking with fiscal rigor, sustaining a healthy organization that will last for generations.

# 2025/26 SEASON VENUES

## *The City is our Stage: Downtown & Beyond*

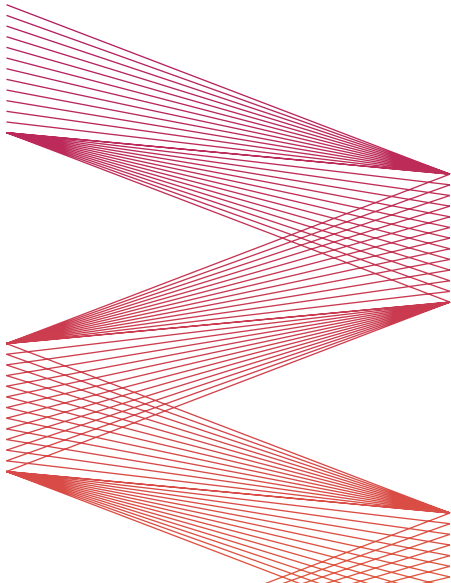
For decades, we've brought exceptional artists to distinctive venues across the region, each chosen to complement the performance and elevate the audience experience. As an independent arts presenter, we thoughtfully match each project with the setting that best serves its artistic vision. This season we'll present in a range of dynamic spaces, including the **Music Center at Strathmore, Sixth & I, Church of the Epiphany, Lisner Auditorium, Howard University's Cramton Auditorium, Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater**, and more.



**WASHINGTON**  
PERFORMING ARTS



WashingtonPerformingArts



# 2025/26 SEASON

## OCTOBER

### MARS ARTS D.C. TREGARON UNPLUGGED **FREE**

Saturday, October 4, 2025 / 3:00 p.m.  
Tregaron Conservancy

### THIRD COAST PERCUSSION

#### SALAR NADER, *tabla*

Saturday, October 18, 2025 / 7:00 p.m.  
Lisner Auditorium

#### *Hayes Piano Series*

#### AVERY GAGLIANO, *piano*

Saturday, October 25, 2025 / 2:00 p.m.  
The Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater

### PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

#### SANTTU-MATIAS ROUVALI, *music director*

#### VÍKINGUR ÓLAFSSON, *piano*

Monday, October 27, 2025 / 7:30 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore

## NOVEMBER

#### MIDORI, *violin*

#### IEVA JOKUBAVICIUTE, *piano*

Saturday, November 15, 2025 / 7:30 p.m.  
Sixth & I

## MARCH

### MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES

#### AT SONGBYRD **FREE**

#### Christie Dashiell

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.  
Songbyrd Music House

#### *Hayes Piano Series*

#### MISHKA RUSHDIE MOMEN, *piano*

Saturday, March 14, 2026 / 2:00 p.m.  
The Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater

### *Strathmore and Washington Performing Arts*

#### *Present*

#### RAVI SHANKAR ENSEMBLE

Thursday, March 19, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore

## APRIL

### MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES

#### AT SONGBYRD **FREE**

#### Roots & Revelry: Patty Reese & Dave Chappell

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.  
Songbyrd Music House

## MAY

### SAROD TRILOGY

with Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Amaan Ali  
Bangash, and Ayaan Ali Bangash  
Saturday, May 2, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Sixth & I

### MARS ARTS D.C. TREGARON

#### MEADOW CONCERT **FREE**

Sunday, May 3, 2026 / 3:00 p.m.  
Tregaron Conservancy

### VADYM KHOLODENKO, *piano*

Tuesday, May 5, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Sixth & I

### MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES

#### AT SONGBYRD **FREE**

Beats Beyond Borders: Tabla, Percussion, and  
Movement

Tuesday, May 5, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.  
Songbyrd Music House

#### *Hayes Piano Series*

#### JULIA HAMOS, *piano*

Saturday, May 16, 2026 / 2:00 p.m.



## JANUARY

### IGOR LEVIT, piano

Sunday, January 11, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Sixth & I

### RUCKUS

#### DAVÓNE TINES, bass-baritone

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Sixth & I

## FEBRUARY

### YO-YO MA, cello

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore  
*Dallas Morse Coors Legacy Concert*

#### *Living the Dream ... Singing the Dream*

#### A CHORAL TRIBUTE TO

#### DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Washington Performing Arts Gospel Choirs  
The Choral Arts Society of Washington  
Sunday, February 15, 2026 / 7:00 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore

#### CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

KLAUS MÄKELÄ, music director designate  
Friday, February 27, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore

### YOUNG JOHN LEWIS

Book & Lyrics by Psalmeyene 24  
Music by Eugene H. Russell IV  
Directed by Reginald L. Douglas  
Music Direction by William Knowles  
Choreography by Tony Thomas III  
Washington Performing Arts Access Dates:  
April 10-12, 2026  
Atlas Center for the Performing Arts

### PACIFICA QUARTET WITH NARRATOR

#### SIGOURNEY WEAVER

#### REVOLUTIONARY PORTRAITS:

#### OUR BETTER ANGELS

Sunday, April 12, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Sixth & I  
*Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital*

### DANISH STRING QUARTET

#### DANISH NATIONAL GIRLS' CHOIR

Saturday, April 18, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Church of the Epiphany

### JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, piano

Thursday, April 23, 2026 / 7:30 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore

### WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS CHILDREN OF THE GOSPEL CHOIR & ALUMNI CHOIR

Saturday, May 30, 2026 / 7:00 p.m.  
Cramton Auditorium

## JUNE

### MARS ARTS D.C. CONCERT SERIES

#### AT SONGBYRD **FREE**




Echoes in the Spotlight: A Tribute by Puddin'  
Wednesday, June 3, 2026 / 8:00 p.m.  
Songbyrd Music House

*\* All programs and artists subject to change*




# 2025/26 SEASON VENUES

Our partner venues span downtown D.C. and beyond, all featuring accessible and convenient neighborhood amenities such as restaurants, independent parking garages, and nearby metro rail station. Explore [WashingtonPerformingArts.org](https://WashingtonPerformingArts.org) for more.




## Atlas Center for the Performing Arts

-  1333 H Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20002
-  Limited street parking. Use of public transportation, trolley, and taxi or rideshare encouraged.
-  Union Station (Red line) is a 20-25 minute walk. Free DC Streetcar departs from the Hopscotch Bridge every 15 minutes. Exit at 13th and H Streets.




## Church of the Epiphany

-  1317 G St NW, Washington, D.C. 20005
-  Independent parking garage located next to the church.
-  Metro Center (Blue, Orange, and Silver lines) located at 11th and G Street NW.




## Cramton Auditorium at Howard University

-  Childers Hall, 2455 6th St NW, Washington, D.C. 20059
-  Free campus parking available after 5:00 p.m., unless noted otherwise. Metered spaces free after 5:00 p.m. on weekends.
-  Shaw/Howard University (Green line) is a 20-minute walk from Cramton Auditorium.




## The Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater

-  555 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, D.C. 20001
-  Independent parking garage available across the street.
-  Archives-Navy Memorial-Penn Quarter Station (Yellow and Green lines) located at 7th Street NW and Pennsylvania Avenue NW is a five-minute walk.




## Lisner Auditorium

-  730 20th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20052
-  Limited street and paid garage parking available.
-  Foggy Bottom/GWU (Blue, Orange, Silver lines)




## The Music Center at Strathmore

-  5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD 20852
-  Complimentary parking at Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Station.
-  Grosvenor-Strathmore (Red line)




## Sixth & I

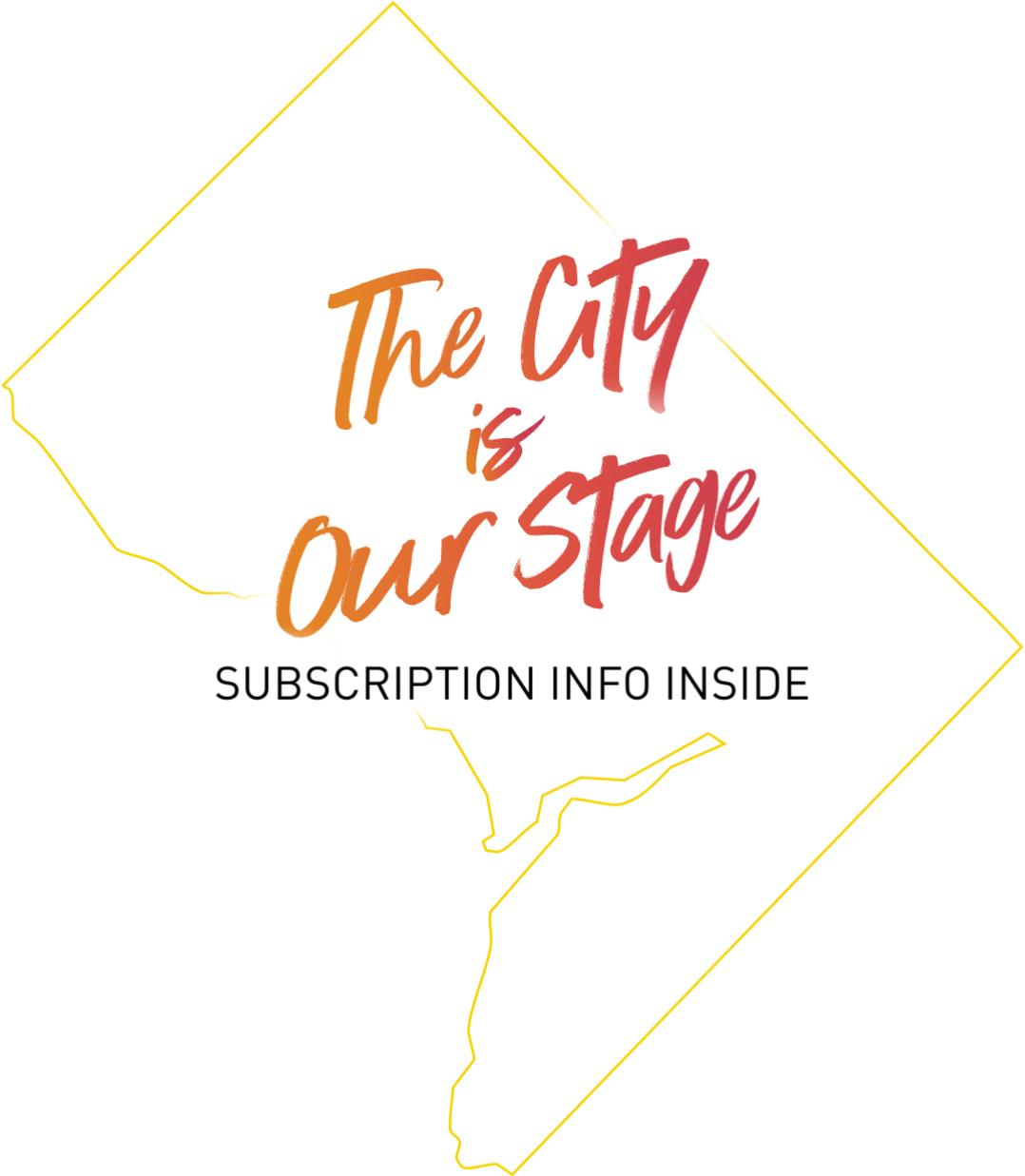
-  600 I Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001
-  Limited street and paid garage parking available.
-  Gallery Pl-Chinatown (Red, Green, Yellow lines), 7th and H Street NW exit

## Songbyrd Music House

-  540 Penn Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20002
-  Free parking is available in the Union Market area.
-  NoMA-Gallaudet U (Red line)

## Tregaron Conservancy

-  3100 Macomb Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20008
-  Limited two-hour parking is available on nearby streets. Parking is not permitted in The Washington International School driveway.
-  Cleveland Park (Red line)



*The City  
is  
Our Stage*

SUBSCRIPTION INFO INSIDE



**WASHINGTON**  
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