



WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

CONTACT

Amanda Sweet

(347) 564-3371

amanda@bucklesweet.com

For Immediate Release: May 12, 2026; Updated May 26, 2026

WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS ANNOUNCES 2026/27 SEASON

60th anniversary year continues with the organization presenting the world's finest artists on D.C.-area stages, forging connections across genres, generations, and communities

Highlights include:

- A Washington Performing Arts co-production with **Dance Theatre of Harlem** of Geoffrey Holder's iconic *Firebird*, a luscious Caribbean reimagining of the Russian folk tale, in a three-performance September engagement at The National Theatre.
- **Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO)** under music director **Andris Nelsons**, featuring 15-year-old violin prodigy **Himari**.
- Recitals by pianists **Daniil Trifonov**, **Yuja Wang**, **Seong-Jin Cho**, **Hayato Sumino**, **Simone Dinnerstein**, and **Minsoo Sohn**.
- **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis** in two separate programs co-presented with Strathmore, Marsalis's final D.C.-area performances as Artistic Director, celebrating more than four decades of friendship and collaboration with Washington Performing Arts. There will also be a youth education residency in tandem with his time in the area.
- **Jazz at Strathmore** series featuring **Terence Blanchard & Ravi Coltrane** in "Miles & Coltrane @ 100," and a multi-generational program featuring pianist **Matthew Whitaker** with the Washington Performing Arts **Children of the Gospel Choir**, led by Artistic Director **Michele Fowlin**, and horns and strings from members of Strathmore's resident artist programs in "UPLIFT!" Both events are co-presented with Strathmore.
- **Itzhak Perlman**, violin, with pianist Rohan De Silva, for an evening concluding with an on-stage *Linger Longer* conversation with Washington Performing Arts President & CEO Jenny Bilfield.

- **Hayes Piano Series:** **Élisabeth Pion** (2025 Honens Gold Laureate), **Tom Borrow** (BBC New Generation Artist), and **Evren Ozel** (2025 Van Cliburn Bronze Medalist) in debut recitals at Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater.
- Annual **Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital** with pianist **Simone Dinnerstein**
- South Asian and traditions from Central Asia and the Middle East with **Niladri Kumar** (sitar) and the **Aga Khan Master Musicians**.
- **Anthony "Tony" Walker** leads *D.C. ICONS*, celebrating D.C. music legends Roberta Flack, Marvin Gaye, Donnie Hathaway, and Richard Smallwood.
- Annual ***Living the Dream...Singing the Dream*** returns with Washington Performing Arts's Gospel Choirs and Choral Arts.
- Free **Mars Arts D.C.** programming at Tregaron Conservancy and Songbyrd Music House throughout the season.
- Organization continues its ***The City is our Stage*** theme, presenting at a range of dynamic spaces, including the Music Center at Strathmore, Sixth & I, Church of the Epiphany, Lisner Auditorium, Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater, The National Theatre, Songbyrd Music House, Tregaron Conservancy, and National Church of God (Fort Washington, M.D.).

(Washington, D.C.) — As Washington Performing Arts enters its 61st season, carrying forward the energy and ambition of a landmark 60th anniversary year in 2026, the organization announces its 2026/27 season that underscores its role as the nation's capital's most wide-ranging arts presenter with roots in classical music, jazz, gospel music, dance, and global traditions. Running from September 2026 through June 2027 across the capital region's beloved and dynamic performance venues, the season brings internationally acclaimed artists to stages from concert halls to historic synagogues to sun-lit meadows, while nurturing the next generation of talent and extending free programming to every corner of the region—once again reaffirming that *The City is our Stage*.

The 2026/27 season is marked by extraordinary breadth: a landmark ballet revival with longtime partner Dance Theatre of Harlem, Wynton Marsalis and his farewell with the celebrated jazz orchestra's chapter, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, solo recitals by the world's finest pianists and string players, new commissions, South Asian and musical traditions from Central Asia and the Middle East, and the enduring resonance of Washington Performing Arts's own gospel choirs. In each case, the city itself is the context: its venues, neighborhoods, and communities completing the artistic vision.

"In our 61st season, the city is our stage, and our North Star has never been clearer: the performing arts are for everyone. We welcome back beloved artists and reunite with old friends, spotlight fearless new voices, and honor milestones and traditions through our collaborations with artists and institutions alike. From legends of classical music and dance to the deep American roots of jazz and gospel music, to the artists and art forms that have defined D.C. as a creative launchpad, to programs that nurture lifelong learning, we look forward to welcoming our wide and wonderful community." - Jenny Bilfield, President and CEO, Washington Performing Arts

Renewing subscribers and Washington Performing Arts donors and Friends have early access to tickets from May 19 to June 15, 2026. Further details about the 2026/27 season are available at washingtonperformingarts.org.

Firebird Early Access Dates:

- **Washington Performing Arts donors \$75+:** May 27 at noon
- **Firebird Group Reservations:** June 11 at 10:00 a.m.
- **Firebird Single Tickets:** June 18 at 10:00 a.m.

Full Season Early Access:

- **Chairman's Circle Donors (\$2500+):** June 4 at 10:00 a.m.
- **Benefactor, Sustainer Donors (\$600+):** June 11 at 10:00 a.m.
- **All Friends (\$75+):** June 18 at 10:00 a.m.

General Public:

- **Subscriptions:** July 16 at 10:00 a.m.
- **Single Tickets:** July 30 at 10:00 a.m.

DANCE

Washington Performing Arts opens its 61st season with a triumphant return: **Dance Theatre of Harlem** arrives at The National Theatre for a three-performance co-production of the bold revival of *Firebird*, the company's iconic reimagining of the Russian folk tale set in a lush Caribbean landscape, with choreography by John Taras, Stravinsky's iconic score, and Geoffrey Holder's stunning costumes and set designs. Following triumphant performances in Paris and New York City, this exclusive D.C. engagement marks the latest chapter in a 50-year history of collaboration between Washington Performing Arts and Dance Theatre of Harlem, dating back to when Washington Performing Arts first presented the company in D.C. in 1973 (**September 25 and 26**).

A LAUNCHING PAD FOR DAZZLING NEW TALENT: THE HAYES PIANO SERIES

Named in honor of Washington Performing Arts's founder Patrick Hayes and his wife, pianist and educator Evelyn Swarthout Hayes, the **Washington Performing Arts Hayes Piano Series** showcases the world's finest emerging pianists in intimate recitals at the Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater on Pennsylvania Avenue NW, a venue partnership new to Washington Performing Arts just last season. This year's series opens in October with **Élisabeth Pion**, Gold Laureate and Audience Choice Award winner of the 2025 Honens International Piano Competition, whose Washington Performing Arts debut features Schubert songs reimagined by Liszt, Brahms's introspective Intermezzi, Chaminade's rarely heard Sonata, and the dazzling études of Chopin (**October 3**). *BBC* New Generation Artist **Tom Borrow**, praised by *Pianist Magazine* as "one of the greats of tomorrow," makes his Washington Performing Arts debut with Mozart, Liszt, and two Chopin masterworks (**April 17**). The series closes with **Evren Ozel**,

Bronze Medalist of the 2025 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, who interweaves Beethoven's final three piano sonatas with selections from Kurtág's *Játékok* in a program tracing the full arc of what music can be, from the monumental to the joyfully spontaneous (**May 1**). Each Hayes Piano Series recital also features a free post-performance *Linger Longer* Q&A with the artists. The Hayes Piano Series is presented by Washington Performing Arts in cooperation with the Peabody Institute and Hopkins Bloomberg Center.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA WITH WYNTON MARSALIS

As part of its legacy of bringing premier orchestral experiences to Washington audiences, Washington Performing Arts presents the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** at the Music Center at Strathmore. Now in its 145th season, the Boston Symphony returns to the region under the baton of music director **Andris Nelsons** for the first time since 2011, when Washington Performing Arts last presented the orchestra, joined by 15-year-old **Japanese violin prodigy Himari**, whose "once-in-a-generation talent" has captivated audiences worldwide. Their program pairs Prokofiev's radiant Second Violin Concerto with his commanding Symphony No. 5 (**April 12**). The season closes with an unmissable farewell: Washington Performing Arts and Strathmore co-present the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis**—in what will be **Marsalis's final D.C.-area performances as Artistic Director**, concluding a bond of friendship and collaboration built over more than four decades with Washington Performing Arts, which first presented him in 1983. Across two entirely distinct programs on consecutive nights, the incomparable 18-member orchestra brings lock-step precision and stunning virtuosity to the timeless big-band tradition, alongside deep residency activities in D.C. and Maryland schools (**May 11 and 13**).

JAZZ PERFORMANCES at STRATHMORE

The 2026/27 season marks the launch of a dedicated jazz series co-presented with the Music Center at Strathmore. **Trumpeter Terence Blanchard and saxophonist Ravi Coltrane**, son of the legendary John Coltrane, join forces for "**Miles & Coltrane @ 100**," a program celebrating two of jazz's towering figures in their centennial year, co-presented with Strathmore (**November 21**). In March, pianist **Matthew Whitaker** returns to Washington Performing Arts for **UPLIFT!** — a joyful collision of jazz and gospel featuring D.C.'s own Grammy-nominated **vocalist Christie Dashiell**, a faculty member at Howard University, and the **Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir**. A recent Juilliard graduate who has been blind since birth, Whitaker first appeared on Washington Performing Arts stages just before the pandemic shutdown; this marks a triumphant return (**March 6**).

BELOVED RECITALISTS

Washington Performing Arts is known for cultivating deep, long-standing relationships with the finest classical artists of our time. The 2026/27 season brings a remarkable roster to the Music Center at Strathmore and Sixth & I. Violinist **Itzhak Perlman**, a friend of Washington Performing Arts since the 1960s, returns with pianist Rohan De Silva fresh off a successful North American tour, concluding the evening with a special on-stage *Linger Longer* conversation with Washington Performing Arts's President & CEO Jenny Bilfield (**October 14**). **Simone Dinnerstein**, lauded by *The Washington Post* as "an artist of strikingly original ideas and irrefutable integrity," returns for a program that opens with a world premiere by Ellis Ludwig-Leone, and moves through Philip Lasser and Bach's 15 Sinfonias, and closes with Keith Jarrett (**October 18**). Dinnerstein's performance is the fifth-annual **Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital** - a creative initiative connecting Justice Ginsburg's love of music, the esteemed artists she championed and befriended, and the future of the vocal and instrumental arts in which she delighted. Pianist **Minsoo Sohn**, recognized as the teacher and mentor of Van Cliburn history's youngest first-prize winner, Yunchan Lim, brings his poetic intelligence to Bach's complete *Well-Tempered Clavier, Book I* (**November 14**). Grammy Award-winner **Daniil Trifonov**, who made his Washington Performing Arts debut on the Hayes Piano Series in 2012/13, returns for a program spanning Handel and Schubert to Ginastera and Villa-Lobos, performed by "without question, the most astounding pianist of our age" (*The Times* of London) (**December 10**). Japanese sensation **Hayato Sumino**, a Carnegie Hall debut sellout, Hollywood Bowl performer, and 1.5-million-follower YouTube phenomenon, makes his Washington Performing Arts debut with "Chopin Orbit," a program of Chopin, Saint-Saëns, Ravel, and his own compositions, performed across three instruments in one extraordinary evening (**January 30**). **Seong-Jin Cho**, First Prize winner of the 2015 International Chopin Competition, returns for a program of Widmann, Prokofiev, and Mozart (**March 10**). And it is a full-circle moment as **Yuja Wang**, whom Washington Performing Arts first introduced to D.C. audiences on the Hayes Piano Series in the 2007/08 season, returns to The Music Center at Strathmore as one of the most celebrated pianists; program to be announced from the stage (**March 31**). Saxophonist **Estel Vivó Casanovas**, recipient of the Young Concert Artists 2025 Jacobs Fellowship and First Prize at the 2023 International Saxophone Academy, joins pianist Soojin Kang for an eclectic program spanning Bach and Kreisler to the folkloric roots of Manuel de Falla and the lyricism of Rachmaninoff, alongside contemporary works by Viet Cuong and Takashi Yoshimatsu (**April 10**), co-presented with Young Concert Artists.

NEW COMMISSIONS & PROJECTS

Each season, Washington Performing Arts presents programs that fit within a wider cultural conversation, featuring unique collaborations, compelling new works, and themes that artists are passionate about. **Cellist Seth Parker Woods and pianist Conor Hanick** unite at Sixth & I in a performance of Fazil Say's vivid Four Cities, George Walker's 1956 Sonata for cello and piano, and Rachmaninov's sweeping Cello Sonata Op. 19, one of the most passionate works in the duo repertoire (**February 18**). The **Balourdet Quartet**, recipients of the 2024 Avery Fisher

Career Grant and Chamber Music America's Cleveland Quartet Award, brings a program spanning four centuries at Sixth & I, from Monteverdi to Ben Johnston's microtonal meditation on "Amazing Grace," with Bartók's haunted Sixth Quartet and Mendelssohn's passionately constructed Second at the center (**February 27**).

For years, regional audiences have heard **Anthony "Tony" Walker** as the longtime pianist and music director of the Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir, producer, and educator. In the 2026/27 season, Washington Performing Arts spotlights this talented resident artist with the addition of **Anthony "Tony" Walker & Friends: D.C. Icons (April 3)**. Walker's headlining performance brings his singular artistry and deep roots in the D.C. gospel, jazz, and R&B community to light, celebrating local music legends Roberta Flack, Marvin Gaye, Donnie Hathaway, and Richard Smallwood. The season closes at Sixth & I with a chamber program of profound emotional weight co-produced with Young Concert Artists: violinist **Paul Huang**, who conceived the evening for this historic space, joins clarinetist **Jose Franch-Ballester**, cellist **Clive Greensmith**, and pianist **Anne-Marie McDermott** for *Time's Echo*, pairing Bela Kovacs, Shostakovich's Piano Trio No. 2, and Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* in a meditation on loss, memory, and hope (**May 15**).

SOUTH ASIAN AND TRADITIONS FROM CENTRAL ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Washington Performing Arts proudly continues its decades-long commitment to showcasing the brilliance of South Asian and musical traditions from Asia and the Middle East. Celebrated sitar maestro **Niladri Kumar**, a compelling force in Indian classical music and an innovator who carries centuries of tradition in every note, presents an evening that is both forward-looking showcase and bittersweet tribute: curated selections from *Space Between the Notes*, the only recorded live performance between Kumar and the late, legendary Zakir Hussain, a longtime Washington Performing Arts artistic collaborator, performed before the album's release later this year (**October 24**). Kumar is joined by tablist Satyajit Talwalkar, keyboardist Charlie Lindner, and drummer Dèmitrio Albano.

Washington Performing Arts then presents an evening where the musical worlds of Central Asia, the Middle East, and contemporary Europe meet in striking harmony: five performers from the **Aga Khan Master Musicians**—Syrian-born saxophonist **Basel Rajoub**, qanun player **Feras Charestan**, Turkish oud master **Yurdal Tokcan**, and Uzbek percussionist **Abbos Kosimov**—are joined by celebrated French artists accordionist **Vincent Peirani** and cellist **Vincent Ségal**, whose collaborators have included Sting, Cesaria Evora, and Elvis Costello, for seven distinct voices in one extraordinary evening (**November 19**).

ENDURING INSPIRATION: WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS GOSPEL CHOIRS

Washington Performing Arts is the only arts presenter in the nation with resident gospel choirs, showcasing the powerful voices of the Children of the Gospel Choir (COTG), under the artistic direction of Michele Fowlin, COTG Alumni, and the Men and Women of the Gospel Choir (MWOTG). The choirs perform alongside the Choral Arts Symphonic Chorus in the annual *Living the Dream...Singing the Dream*, a choral tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at

Strathmore (**February 21**). The season closes with the **Children of the Gospel Choir** presenting *The Homecoming: Still Rising*—a joyful, high-spirited celebration of community, resilience, and the enduring power of this uniquely American art form (**June 5**).

FREE CONCERT PROGRAMMING: MARS ARTS D.C.

Mars Arts D.C. collaborations share Washington Performing Arts's musical excellence and the talent of D.C.-area musicians with an even larger audience by reducing socioeconomic barriers to performances and entering the neighborhoods that branch out from the city's metro center. The Mars Arts D.C. season opens with **Tregaron Unplugged**, a free outdoor concert at one of D.C.'s most scenic green spaces, Tregaron Conservancy, celebrating its 20th year, featuring acoustic performances throughout the park (**October 17**); registration required. The **Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd Music House** brings a vibrant lineup of regional talent throughout the year: *SHE: A Celebration in Sound* featuring **D.C.'s female Go-Go band Be'La Dona** for Women's History Month (**March 3**); a Jazz Appreciation Month celebration with the **Tyler Leak Band and vocalist Cecily Alexa** (**April 7**); and a Cinco de Mayo celebration featuring the **Jonathan Acosta Band** (**May 5**). The **Washington Performing Arts Men and Women of the Gospel Choir** close out the Songbyrd series with *Sounds of Legacy* (**June 2**). The season's outdoor programming concludes at **Tregaron Meadow** with an afternoon of jazz rooted in the natural beauty of Northwest D.C. (**May 8**). All Mars Arts D.C. events are free; reservations required.

ARTS EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING

Arts education for learners of all ages is central to Washington Performing Arts' mission. Launched in partnership with the Friday Morning Music Club (FMMC) 60 years ago, Concerts in Schools endures today, reaching more than 70 D.C. Public School classrooms and 60+ schools throughout the region. Cornerstone programs include Capital Arts Partnerships (multi-year, in-classroom residencies in music and dance), the Embassy Adoption Program (building cultural literacy with 5th and 6th graders through embassy partnerships), city-wide ensemble programs such as D.C. Public Schools' *Let's Go-Go* initiative, and collaborations tailored to the pedagogical goals of local schools. The Misbin Chamber Music Competition, in partnership with Levine Music, recognizes outstanding amateur chamber musicians from beginner to advanced levels. Masterclasses and pre/post-show Linger Longer talkbacks further deepen opportunities for patrons of all ages to engage with visiting artists.

Now in its second year, the *NeuroArts Collective*, a pioneering partnership with the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University, brings together the performing arts and public health sectors to advance brain health and social well-being among older adults. The collaboration offers graduate practicum experiences in NeuroArts, an emerging field exploring how artistic engagement can enhance neurological and cognitive health, bridging science, creativity, and compassionate care.

ABOUT WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

One of the most established and honored performing arts institutions in America, Washington Performing Arts has engaged for 60 years 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, jazz, international genres, and more. We also have an ever-expanding artistic and educational presence online, envisioning ongoing opportunities for online connection and community.

Washington Performing Arts deeply values its partnerships with local organizations and other arts institutions. Through events online and in myriad performance venues and neighborhoods, we engage international visiting artists in community programs and introduce 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.

Our achievements have been recognized with a National Medal of Arts and with four Mayor's Arts Awards from the DC Government. We have now embarked upon our second half-century, ever inspired by the motto of our founder, Patrick Hayes: "Everybody in, nobody out."

Follow Washington Performing Arts on Social Media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonPerformingArtsSociety>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/washingtonperformingarts/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/wpasadmin>

Subscribe or Donate:

WashingtonPerformingArts.org

(202) 785-9727

2026/27 Washington Performing Arts Event Calendar

Dance Theatre of Harlem and Washington Performing Arts Present Firebird

Choreography by John Taras

Music by Igor Stravinsky (1945 version)

Original Costume & Set Design by Geoffrey Holder

Original Costume Execution by Grace Costumes, Inc.

**Costume Recreation Executed and Supervised by Katy A. Freeman, Leo Holder, and
Vernon Ross**

Costume Execution for Firebird and the Princess of Unreal Beauty by John Kristiansen

Lighting Design by Clifton Taylor

Friday, September 25, 2026, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 26, 2026, 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

The National Theatre

Let Your Spirit Take Flight! Experience the power and passion of Dance Theatre of Harlem (DTH) as the company returns to Washington Performing Arts with the bold revival of *Firebird*, the company's iconic take on the classic tale of love and transformation. This DTH signature work, which premiered in Paris, is a feast for the senses, as the Russian folk tale is reimagined in a luscious Caribbean setting featuring John Taras's choreography and Stravinsky's iconic score. First conceived in 1982 by Taras, the production comes to life through the inimitable Geoffrey Holder's stunning sets and costumes and is accompanied by music recorded by the Gateways Festival Orchestra. This exclusive D.C. engagement by Washington Performing Arts and Dance Theatre of Harlem is the latest in a 50-year history of collaboration first established in 1973.

The program also includes other dynamic works to be announced.

Program:

Geoffrey Holder - *Firebird*

Additional program to be announced.

Firebird was reconstructed courtesy of the Holder Estate and under the supervision of Leo Holder, with assistance from Clifton Taylor and Don Padgett.

Hayes Piano Series

Élisabeth Pion, piano

Saturday, October 3, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater

Named the Gold Laureate and Audience Choice Award winner at the 2025 Honens International Piano Competition in Canada, 29-year-old pianist Élisabeth Pion has appeared on international stages as a recitalist, chamber musician, and guest artist. She continues to earn acclaim for her technical precision, expressive range, and deep engagement with her repertoire. In her Washington Performing Arts debut, Pion presents a program featuring works by Schubert arranged by Liszt, Brahms, and Chopin.

Program:

Franz Schubert / arr. Liszt - Der Müller und der Bach
Franz Schubert / arr. Liszt - Gretchen am Spinnrade
Franz Schubert / arr. Liszt - Auf dem Wasser zu Singen
Franz Schubert / arr. Liszt - Der Erlkönig
Johannes Brahms - 3 Intermezzi op. 117
Cécile Chaminade - Sonata in C minor op. 21
Frédéric Chopin - Études op. 25

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

Itzhak Perlman, violin**Rohan De Silva, piano****Wednesday, October 14, 2026, 7:30 p.m.****Music Center at Strathmore**

“Itzhak Perlman's violin playing has always had a sweet, gracious quality about it that communicates the joy he finds in making music.” - *The Washington Post*

A friend of Washington Performing Arts since the 1960s, internationally beloved violinist Itzhak Perlman returns to The Music Center at Strathmore alongside frequent musical collaborator, pianist Rohan De Silva. Perlman is celebrated for a decades-long career replete with remarkable artistry, humanity, and his own infectious joy for making music. The evening concludes with an onstage *Linger Longer* conversation with Perlman and Washington Performing Arts President & CEO Jenny Bilfield.

Program:

Announced from the stage.

Mars Arts D.C.**Tregaron Unplugged****Saturday, October 17, 2026, 1:00 p.m.****Tregaron Conservancy**

Step into a world of serene natural beauty with Tregaron Unplugged, presented by Washington Performing Arts. This vibrant 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.

Advance registration required; available August 2026.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital
Simone Dinnerstein, piano
Sunday, October 18, 2026, 7:30 p.m.
Sixth & I

Lauded by The Washington Post as “an artist of strikingly original ideas and irrefutable integrity,” Simone Dinnerstein returns to Washington Performing Arts for an evening of distinctive artistry at Sixth & I. The program opens with the world premiere of a new work by Ellis Ludwig-Leone, inspired by Philip Glass's *Songs for Liquid Days*. The recital also features Rameau's rarely performed Gavotte et six doubles, followed by American composer Philip Lasser's Twelve Variations on a Chorale by J.S. Bach, exploring the power and modernity of Bach's harmonic poetry. Dinnerstein continues to demonstrate her “unique voice in the forest of Bach interpretation” (*The New York Times*) with the composer's 15 Sinfonias and closes her program with Keith Jarrett's Encore from Tokyo, ending the night on a note of otherworldly serenity.

Program:

Jean-Philippe Rameau - Gavotte et six doubles
Philip Lasser - Twelve Variations on a Chorale by J.S. Bach
J. S. Bach - 15 Sinfonias, BWV 787-801
Keith Jarrett / trans. Uwe Karcher - Encore from “Tokyo”

Dinnerstein's performance is the fifth-annual **Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Recital**—a creative initiative connecting Justice Ginsburg's love of music, the esteemed artists she championed and befriended, and the future of the vocal and instrumental arts in which she delighted.

Niladri Kumaar, sitar
Satyajit Talwalkar, tabla
Charlie Lindner, keys
Dèmitrio Albano, drums
Saturday, October 24, 2026, 7:30 p.m.
Sixth & I

Celebrated sitar maestro Niladri Kumaar is a compelling force in Indian classical music and an innovator who carries centuries of tradition in every note. This evening is both a forward-looking showcase and a tribute to an irreplaceable musical bond: curated selections from *Space Between the Notes*, the only recorded live performance between Kumaar and the late, legendary Zakir Hussain. Their singular partnership resounds once more—a gift, before the album's release later this year. Featuring sitar, zitar, and an ensemble of Indian and American musicians with jazz influences, this is Indian music at its most expansive, where centuries of classical tradition meet improvisational spirit.

Minsoo Sohn, piano
Saturday, November 14, 2026, 7:30 p.m.
Sixth & I

“A genuine artist, with a thoughtfully conceived and poetic interpretation.” - *The New York Times*

Pianist Minsoo Sohn debuts with Washington Performing Arts for a program exhibiting his undeniable musical intelligence and masterful virtuosity. Studied by the likes of Beethoven and Mozart, Bach's *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book I*, is frequently regarded as one of the most significant works in the history of classical music. Sohn brings his own poetic interpretation to this storied collection of 24 prelude and fugue pairs, creating an unforgettable evening with one of the most audacious and influential works for piano as the centerpiece. Known for his career as a devoted pedagogue, Sohn is also recognized as the teacher of Yunchan Lim, the youngest first-prize winner in the history of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

Program:

J.S. Bach - The Well-Tempered Clavier Book I

Aga Khan Master Musicians

Basel Rajoub, saxophone and clarinet

Feras Charestan, qanun

Yurdal Tokcan, oud

Abbos Kosimov, drum

Vincent Peirani, accordion

Vincent Ségal, cello

Thursday, November 19, 2026, 7:30 p.m.

Sixth & I

Washington Performing Arts presents an evening where the musical worlds of Central Asia, China, the Middle East, and contemporary Europe meet in striking and unexpected harmony. Five performers from the Aga Khan Master Musicians—an artistic collective dedicated to living musical traditions—are joined by celebrated French artists Vincent Peirani and Vincent Ségal for a concert that is wholly its own.

Syrian-born Basel Rajoub has reimagined an entirely new vocabulary for the saxophone; his compatriot Feras Charestan commands the qanun, the shimmering Middle Eastern plucked zither. Turkish oud master Yurdal Tokcan and Uzbek percussionist Abbos Kosimov, a virtuoso on the doira frame drum, complete the collective's lineup. They are joined by Vincent Peirani, award-winning accordionist, singer, and composer whose work spans jazz, contemporary music, and improvisation, and by cellist and bassist Vincent Ségal, whose collaborators have included Sting, Cesaria Evora, and Elvis Costello. Seven distinct voices in one extraordinary evening.

Strathmore & Washington Performing Arts Present

Terence Blanchard & Ravi Coltrane

MILES DAVIS & JOHN COLTRANE CENTENNIAL

Saturday, November 21, 2026, at 8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

The year 2026 marks 100 years since the births of Miles Davis and John Coltrane, two visionaries of modern jazz. To mark the occasion, esteemed trumpeter and composer Terence Blanchard and saxophonist and composer Ravi Coltrane join forces for a centennial tribute celebrating the history, evolution, and continuing future of jazz. The two bandleaders bring distinct personal and artistic connections to this performance: Coltrane as the son of John Coltrane and Blanchard as one of today's leading trumpeters, shaped by the music and

innovation of Miles Davis. Together, they channel the creativity, freedom, and spirit of experimentation that defined Davis and Coltrane's artistry. Rather than a nostalgic reenactment, the concert offers a reimagining grounded in the legacy of Davis and Coltrane while remaining anchored in the present. True to jazz's essence, Blanchard, Coltrane, and their ensemble embrace improvisation, invention, and emotional intensity, allowing the music to evolve in the moment throughout the evening.

Lineup:

Terence Blanchard, trumpet
Ravi Coltrane, saxophone
Charles Altura, guitar
Tom Oren, keyboard
David Ginyard, bass guitar
Jaylen Petinaud, drums

Daniil Trifonov, piano
Thursday, December 10, 2026, 7:30 p.m.
Music Center at Strathmore

"Few artists have burst onto the classical music scene in recent years with the incandescence of the pianist Daniil Trifonov." -*The New York Times*

Combining consummate technique with rare sensitivity and depth, Daniil Trifonov's performances have been a source of perpetual awe for Washington Performing Arts's audiences since his premiere on our Hayes Piano Series during the 2012/13 season. The Grammy Award-winning pianist returns for a program spanning continents and centuries, from Handel and Schubert to Ginastera and Villa-Lobos. The journey begins in the Baroque era, concluding with contemporary works by a breadth of Latin American composers, all performed by "without question, the most astounding pianist of our age" (*The Times* of London).

Program:

George Frideric Handel - Suite in E Major
Igor Stravinsky - Piano Sonata
Franz Schubert - Fantasie in C Major, D.760, "Wanderer-Fantasie"
Juan Francisco García - Sambumbia (Rapsodia Dominicana)
Heitor Villa-Lobos - Valsa da Dor, W. 316
Rafael Bullumba Landestoy - El Vals de Santo Domingo
Alberto Ginastera - Milonga, Op. 3, No. 1
Daniil Trifonov - Tango
Rafael Landestoy - Estudio en Zamba
Mozart Camargo Guarnieri - Dança Negra
Heitor Villa-Lobos - Bachianas Brasileiras No. 4

Hayato Sumino, piano
Saturday, January 30, 2027, 7:30 p.m.
Music Center at Strathmore

Pianist Hayato Sumino defies easy categorization: a sold-out debut recital at Carnegie Hall, a semi-finalist at the 2021 International Chopin Piano Competition, an acclaimed performance at

the Hollywood Bowl, and over 1.5 million YouTube followers. A graduate of the University of Tokyo's prestigious information science program, Sumino has pursued cutting-edge music research at IRCAM in Paris, and that rare fusion of analytical depth and improvisational flair defines everything he plays. Washington Performing Arts is thrilled to introduce D.C. audiences to this singular artist through a program of Chopin, Ravel, and Saint-Saëns alongside Sumino's own compositions, performed across three instruments, grand piano, upright piano, and electric keyboard, in one extraordinary evening.

Program:

Frédéric Chopin – Scherzo No. 1 in B minor, Op. 20
Frédéric Chopin - Etude in A-flat major, Op. 25, No. 1
Hayato Sumino - Lydian Harp
Frédéric Chopin – Piano Sonata No. 2
Improvisation
Camille Saint-Saëns/Sumino arr – Danse Macabre
Hayato Sumino - Big Cat Waltz
Frédéric Chopin – Mazurka Op. 59, No. 1
Frédéric Chopin – Mazurka Op. 24, No. 2
Thomas Adès – Mazurka Op. 27 No. 2
Frédéric Chopin – Etude Op.10 No. 5 “Black Keys”
Hayato Sumino – White Keys
Hayato Sumino – Imaginary Polonaise
Improvisation on the ostinato from Chopin's Berceuse in D-sharp major, Op. 57
Igor Stravinsky / Guido Agosti - Firebird Suite

Seth Parker Woods, cello

Conor Hanick, piano

Thursday, February 18, 2027, 7:30 p.m.

Sixth & I

Three-time GRAMMY-nominee Woods has garnered a reputation for his versatile and inventive musicality, earning him global acclaim and the 2022 Chamber Music America Michael Jaffee Visionary Award. Hanick is a pianist praised for his precision and articulation of classic and contemporary fare. The two unite at Sixth & I in a performance of Fazil Say's vivid *Four Cities*, George Walker's 1956 Sonata for cello and piano, and Rachmaninov's sweeping Cello Sonata Op. 19, one of the most passionate works in the duo repertoire.

Program:

Fazil Say - Four Cities
George Walker - Sonata for cello and piano (1956)
Sergei Rachmaninov - Cello Sonata Op. 19

Living the Dream...Singing the Dream

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

Washington Performing Arts Gospel Choirs

David Powell & Michele Fowlin, conductors

The Choral Arts Society of Washington
Marie Bucoy-Calavan, artistic director
Sunday, February 21, 2027, 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 tens of thousands of *Living the Dream* attendees over a decade can attest. Join us as the combined Men, Women, and Children of the Gospel choirs of Washington Performing Arts, and the Choral Arts Symphonic Chorus raise their voices in tribute both to Dr. King’s achievements and to his ongoing, indelible impact. Through song, *Living the Dream...Singing the Dream* unites all who honor Dr. King's ideals.

This performance is co-presented by Washington Performing Arts and The Choral Arts Society of Washington.

Balourdet Quartet
Saturday, February 27, 7:30 p.m.
Sixth & I

Recipient of the 2024 Avery Fisher Career Grant and Chamber Music America's Cleveland Quartet Award, the Balourdet Quartet was born from late-night chamber music sessions and became one of the most celebrated young ensembles in the world. Described as "unafraid to show its personality," their playing balances clarity with expressive warmth and a deep belief that music exists to break down walls. Their Washington Performing Arts program reflects that ambition: spanning four centuries from Monteverdi to Ben Johnston's microtonal meditation on “Amazing Grace,” with Bartók's haunted and personal Sixth Quartet, and Mendelssohn's passionately constructed Second at the center.

Program:

Claudio Monteverdi - (arr. Benjamin Zannoni): Selection of Madrigals
Béla Bartók - String Quartet No. 6, Sz. 85
Ben Johnston - String Quartet No. 4, “Amazing Grace”
Felix Mendelssohn - String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 13

Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd [FREE]
SHE: A Celebration in Sound
Featuring Be'La Dona
Wednesday, March 3, 2027 / 8:00 p.m.

Be’la Dona, D.C.’s female go-go band, kicks off Women’s History Month and our spring Mars Arts D.C. concert series at Songbyrd Music House with *SHE: A Celebration in Sound*. Comprised of musicians with deep local roots, including attending Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Howard University, and Bowie State University, each member brings a strong background in gospel, jazz, rock, and R&B. Enjoy their lively go-go-infused classic radio hits, original music, and more in this exciting free event.

Registration required and available in February 2027.

**Washington Performing Arts & Strathmore present
Matthew Whitaker**

UPLIFT!

Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel, special guest

Christie Dashiell, special guest

Saturday, March 6, 2027, 8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Pianist Matthew Whitaker has captivated audiences worldwide with his remarkable versatility across jazz, gospel, and beyond. In "UPLIFT!" a jubilant, multi-generational one-night celebration tailored for Washington Performing Arts and Strathmore, Whitaker joins forces with Grammy Award-winning vocalist Christie Dashiell, his dynamic band, and youth ensembles the Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir and alumni, led by Artistic Director Michele Fowlin, featuring horns and strings from members of Strathmore's resident artist programs. Don't miss this soulful evening of music.

Seong-Jin Cho, piano

Wednesday, March 10, 2027, 7:30 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

"Cho is a master. He displayed an impressive variety of tonal colors and remarkable technique, dispatched with jaw-dropping panache. He had something to say and communicated it well." - *The Wall Street Journal*

A leading pianist of his generation, Seong-Jin Cho is celebrated universally for his expressive, illuminating, and distinctive pianistic voice. His First Prize at the 2015 International Chopin Competition opened doors to perform with the world's most prestigious orchestras, including the Berliner Philharmoniker, Wiener Philharmoniker, London Symphony Orchestra, and Boston Symphony Orchestra. His Washington Performing Arts recital return begins with Jörg Widmann's Sonatina facile for Piano, an homage to Mozart's famous Sonata in C major, K. 545. Cho's colorful playing shines with two works from Prokofiev: 10 Pieces from "Romeo and Juliet," and Piano Sonata No. 8 (one of his epic "war sonatas"), plus Mozart's dramatic Fantasia in C minor.

Program:

Jörg Widmann - Sonatina facile for Piano (2016)

Sergei Prokofiev - 10 Pieces from *Romeo and Juliet*, Op. 75

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Fantasia in C minor, K. 396 (completed by Maximilian Stadler)

Sergei Prokofiev - Piano Sonata No. 8 in B-flat major, Op. 84 (1939-44)

Yuja Wang, piano

Wednesday, March 31, 2027, 7:30 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

"I firmly believe every program should have its own life and be a representation of how I feel at the moment." - Yuja Wang to *The New York Times*

After spending nearly two decades on the international scene, pianist Yuja Wang continues to astound with her charismatic artistry, emotional honesty, and captivating stage presence. A Washington Performing Arts favorite since her debut on our Hayes Piano Series in the 2007/08 season, Wang returns to The Music Center at Strathmore for a highly anticipated recital showcasing her incomparable musicianship.

Program:

Program announced from stage.

Anthony “Tony” Walker & Friends

D.C. Icons

Saturday, April 3, 2027, 7:30 p.m.

Sixth & I

Washington, D.C., has given the music world some of the most transcendent voices in American music. Longtime Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir music director and accompanist, producer, educator, and DMV-area luminary Anthony "Tony" Walker leads an evening celebrating the legendary Roberta Flack, Marvin Gaye, Donnie Hathaway, and Richard Smallwood, whose roots in D.C.'s Black communities helped shape the sound of a nation. Part concert, part storytelling, the evening weaves the music and the stories together to celebrate the people and places behind the songs you know by heart.

Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd [FREE]

Jazz is Now: Celebrating Jazz Music Appreciation Month

Featuring Cecily Alexa and Tyler Leak Band

Wednesday, April 7, 2027, 8:00 p.m.

Songbyrd Music House

D.C. vocalist and songwriter Cecily Alexa brings her signature blend of jazz and soul to the Songbyrd stage. Known for her agile soprano and poetic, emotionally resonant lyrics, her work explores themes of love, self-acceptance, and community, placing her among a distinct class of contemporary artists. With performances spanning major festivals such as the DC Jazz Festival and Essence Festival of Culture, and collaborations with artists like José James and Gregory Porter, Cecily continues to build a national and international presence. Her acclaimed *Awakening* projects have earned industry recognition, highlighting her ability to merge thoughtful storytelling with a refined, jazz-influenced sound. Opening the evening, drummer, songwriter, and producer Tyler Leak leads his band through a dynamic set rooted in jazz, soul, and improvisation—setting the tone for a night of musical depth and creative exchange.

Advance reservations will be available in spring 2027.

Washington Performing Arts & Young Concert Artists Present

Estel Vivó Casanovas, saxophone

Soojin Kang, piano

Saturday, April 10, 2027, 2:00 p.m.

Church of the Epiphany

A multi-award-winning musician Estel Vivó Casanovas's achievements include winning the Young Concert Artists 2025 Jacobs Fellowship and First Prize at the 2023 International Saxophone Academy, among other national and international prizes. She shapes a program for solo saxophone and piano spanning Baroque foundations to newly commissioned work, unfolding as a vivid sequence of contrasts and connections.

This performance is co-presented with Young Concert Artists.

Program:

David Salleras - Mi bailaora

Fritz Kreisler - Praeludium and Allegro in the Style of Pugnani

Viet Cuong - Sanctuary

J.S. Bach - Presto from Violin Sonata No. 1 in G Minor, BWV 1001

Manuel de Falla - Siete canciones populares españolas

Hannah Ishizaki - New work

Sergei Rachmaninoff - Prelude; Elegie from Morceaux de Fantaisie, Op. 3

Takashi Yoshimatsu - Fuzzy Bird Sonata for alto saxophone and piano

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Andris Nelsons, Music Director

Himari, violin

Monday, April 12, 2027, 7:30 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Now in its 145th season, the Boston Symphony Orchestra continues to be one of the world's leading ensembles, returning to Washington Performing Arts under the baton of renowned conductor Andris Nelsons for the first time since 2011. Joined by 15-year-old violin prodigy Himari, the symphony begins with Prokofiev's Second Violin Concerto. Himari's exceptional technique, imaginative interpretations, and "once-in-a-generation talent" shine, bringing out the composer's radiant lyricism. Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5 thrills with the BSO's magnificent sonic power, performing a piece which the composer claimed, "was born in me and clamoured for expression."

Program:

Sergei Prokofiev - Violin Concerto No. 2

Sergei Prokofiev - Symphony No. 5

Hayes Piano Series

Tom Borrow, piano

Saturday, April 17, 2027, 2:00 p.m.

Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater

Praised by *Pianist Magazine* as "one of the greats of tomorrow," Tom Borrow makes his Washington Performing Arts debut with a program showcasing his musical brilliance, further proving he is "the very definition of 'one to watch'" (*International Piano*). The *BBC New Generation* artist opens the afternoon with Mozart's somber Sonata No. 8 in A minor, then transitions to Liszt's *Reminiscences de Don Juan*, the composer's spirited celebration of the life of one of Mozart's most memorable characters. The program concludes with two ethereal

Chopin works, featuring the composer's late masterpiece, Polonaise-Fantaisie, and his fiendishly difficult Sonata No. 3.

Program:

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Sonata No. 8 in A minor K. 310
Franz Liszt - Reminiscences de Don Juan
Frédéric Chopin - Polonaise-Fantaisie
Frédéric Chopin - Sonata no.3

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

Hayes Piano Series

Evren Ozel, piano

Saturday, May 1, 2027, 2:00 p.m.

Hopkins Bloomberg Center Theater

Washington Performing Arts presents Evren Ozel, Bronze Medalist of the 2025 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and recipient of the 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant, in a program as intellectually daring as it is deeply personal. Ozel interweaves Beethoven's final three piano sonatas with selections from György Kurtág's *Játékok* (Games), placing two radically different musical visions in conversation.

Beethoven's Sonatas No. 30-32 mark the close of the classical era; restless, experimental works that pointed an entire generation of romantic composers toward new terrain. Kurtág's *Játékok* moves in the opposite spirit: intimate, unguarded pieces that capture the pure pleasure of a young person discovering what the piano can do. Together, they trace the full arc of what music can be, from the monumental to the joyfully spontaneous.

Program:

Ludwig van Beethoven - Sonata No. 30 in E Major, Op. 109
György Kurtág - Selections from "Játékok" (Games)
Ludwig van Beethoven - Sonata No. 31 in A-flat Major, Op. 110
György Kurtág - Selections from "Játékok" (Games)
Ludwig van Beethoven - Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111

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

Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd [FREE]

Rhythms of Celebration: Cinco de Mayo

Featuring Jonathan Acosta Band

Wednesday, May 5, 2027 / 8:00 p.m.

Songbyrd Music House

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with an electrifying evening led by the Jonathan Acosta Band, bringing vibrant rhythms and dynamic musical fusion to the Songbyrd stage. Blending Latin influences with contemporary sounds, the band delivers a high-energy performance rooted in cultural celebration, musicianship, and connection. Audiences can expect an engaging set filled with rhythmic intensity, rich instrumentation, and a festive atmosphere that honors the spirit of the holiday.

Kick off the evening with a Latin dance demonstration at 7:30 p.m., inviting audiences to experience the movement and energy behind the music before the concert begins.

Advance reservations will be available in spring 2027.

**Tregaron Meadow Concert [FREE]
Saturday, May 8, 2027, 1:00 p.m.
Tregaron Conservancy**

Join us at the Tregaron meadow for an afternoon of live music rooted in jazz, rhythm, and soul. One of D.C.'s most scenic greenways, Tregaron Conservancy, welcomes us for an afternoon on a tranquil hillside. Guests should enter Tregaron Conservancy by the pedestrian walkway at 3100 Macomb Street NW and proceed up the driveway-side walkway to the event location. Limited street parking is available; there is no parking on site.

Artists details to be announced and registrations to become available in spring 2027.

**Washington Performing Arts & Strathmore Present
Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra
With Wynton Marsalis
Tuesday, May 11, 2027, 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 13, 2027, 8:00 p.m.**

An unmissable evening of American jazz at its pinnacle, and a rare opportunity to witness trumpeter and nine-time Grammy Award-winner Wynton Marsalis in his final season as Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center and Music Director of the Orchestra. Washington Performing Arts and Strathmore are proud to co-present this legendary ensemble at the Music Center at Strathmore on May 11 and May 13. The incomparable 15-member orchestra brings lock-step precision and stunning virtuosity to the timeless big-band tradition. *The Financial Times* called Marsalis's playing a seamless welding of "classic jazz references into a modal jazz palette." Their program draws from jazz's great tradition, with two unique programs, each emphasizing works by Wynton Marsalis and the orchestra's own composers and arrangers, a testament to three decades of bringing this singular art form to audiences across 40 countries and counting.

Program:
Program announced from stage.

**Washington Performing Arts & Young Concert Artists Present
Paul Huang, violin
Anne-Marie McDermott, piano
Jose Franch-Ballester, clarinet
Clive Greensmith, cello**

Saturday, May 15, 2027, 7:30 p.m.
Sixth & I

Four acclaimed musicians join in a powerful program meditating on time, loss, and hope. Bela Kovacs' *Sholem-Alekhem, rov Feidman!*, is a vibrant clarinet homage to klezmer song and spirit, laughter edged with lament. It casts light on the echoes that follow, reminding us that even in the face of ruin, sound endures. Shostakovich's Piano Trio No. 2, written amid war and loss, spins a ghostly klezmer dance: ironic, grief-stricken, unforgiving. Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time*, born in a prison camp, reaches beyond suffering toward eternity, where time dissolves into silence and praise. These works are fragments of memory, breath, and belief; resonating through the stillness that time leaves behind.

Program: Time's Echo

Dmitri Shostakovich - Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor
Béla Kovacs - *Sholem-Alekhem, rov Feidman!*
Olivier Messiaen - Quartet for the End of Time

This performance is co-presented with Young Concert Artists.

Mars Arts D.C. Concert Series at Songbyrd [FREE]

Sounds of Legacy

Featuring Washington Performing Arts Men and Women of the Gospel Choir

Wednesday, June 2, 2027, 8:00 p.m.

Songbyrd Music House

A resident ensemble of Washington Performing Arts, the Men and Women of the Gospel Choir celebrate the heritage of gospel music and its related genres with vibrant, dynamic performances. The choir is dedicated to presenting gospel music at its highest artistic level, performing contemporary and classic works of African American heritage, including gospel standards, hymns, anthems, and other choral repertoire. Join us for this free *Sounds of Legacy* concert at Songbyrd.

Advance reservations will be available in spring 2027.

Washington Performing Arts

Children of the Gospel Choir

Saturday, June 5, 2027, 5:00 p.m.

National Church of God (Fort Washington, MD)

The Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir presents *The Homecoming: Still Rising*, bringing its signature sound back to sacred ground. This high-spirited performance at Fort Washington's National Church of God celebrates the power of community, the strength of its foundation, and the voices that continue to carry the choir forward with passion and purpose, grounded in resilience, identity, spirit, and expression. With the energy of a dynamic five-piece band, the choir gloriously celebrates this uniquely American art form in a performance for all ages.

Washington Performing Arts 60th anniversary year is generously sponsored by Dr. Gary Mather+ and Ms. Christina Co Mather. + Deceased

