WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN PHILHARMONIC
Anna Binneweg, Music Director

Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Presents its 55th Season: ILLUMINATE THE SPIRIT

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The **Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic** (WashMetPhil) is proud to announce its 2026|2027 Season: *Illuminate the Spirit*. As WashMetPhil celebrates 55 years of serving our community through music, we are expanding our season to **FIVE fantastic concerts**, with guest artists including violinist Robert McDuffie, the Alexandria Choral Society, cellist Laura Metcalf, guitarist Rupert Boyd, pianist Ieva Jokubavičiūtė, and a side-by-side performance with the Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra. All performances will be held at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, except oue concert on May 23, 2027 which will be at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall.

"We are excited for you to experience a season of sound that stirs the imagination and uplifts the spirit," **WashMetPhil Music Director Anna Bineweg** shares. "From the grandeur of *Myth & Majesty* to the radiance of *Festival of Light,* each program explores powerful themes of transformation, wonder, and human expression. Through a musical journey in *Ritual & Renewal, Landscapes of the Spirit,* and *Power & Possibility,* the orchestra becomes a celebration of storytelling, reflection, and inspiration."

Subscription Information:
Season subscriptions for the 2026|2027 season are available now: FIVE concerts for just $175.
Subscribe early to secure the best seats. Single tickets will go on sale September 1, 2026.
Purchase your subscription now at **wmpamusic.org/concerts.**

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MYTH & MAJESTY
Sunday, October 4 | 3 pm |George Washington Masonic National Memorial
Anna Binneweg, Conductor| Robert McDuffie, Violin

Starting the season is *Myth & Majesty,* featuring Robert McDuffie on Violin. This program opens with the powerful *Subito con Forza* by Unsuk Chin, followed by the unique *Violin Concerto No. 1* by Philip Glass and the iconic *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* by Claude Debussy, ending with the heroic *Pines of Rome* by Ottorino Respighi.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT
Saturday, December 12 | 7 pm |George Washington Masonic National Memorial
Anna Binneweg, Conductor
Alexandria Choral Society | Kathryn Harsha, Artistic Director

Celebrate the holiday season with WashMetPhil and Alexandria Choral Society in *Festival of Light.* This program opens with the lovely *Helios Overture, Op. 17* by Carl Nielsen, followed by the energetic *Starburst* by Jessie Montgomery, the distinctly American *Appalachian Spring Suite* by Aaron Copland, and *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* by Ralph Vaugh Williams, bringing a little twist to Christmas carols you love and know, and ending the program with the beautiful *Illuminare* by Elaine Hagenberg.

RITUAL & RENEWAL
Sunday, February 7 | 3 pm | George Washington Masonic National Memorial
Anna Binneweg, Conductor

Join WashMetPhil on a musical journey with *Ritual & Renewal.* This program opens with the progressive *Montgomery Variations* by Margaret Bonds, followed by the touching *Lyric for Strings* by George Walker and *The Firebird Suite* by Igor Stravinsky, ending with the one and only *Boléro* by Maurice Ravel.

LANDSCAPES OF THE SPIRIT
Sunday, March 21 | 3 pm | George Washington Masonic National Memorial
Anna Binneweg, Conductor| Laura Metcalf, cello & Rupert Boyd, guitar

Join us in reflection with *Landscapes of the Spirit,* featuring Laura Metcalf on cello and Rupert Boyd on guitar. This program opens with the Peruvian *Apu: A Tone Poem for Orchestra* by Gabriela Lena Frank, followed by the loving *Anahata: Unbroken Heart* for Cello and Guitar by Claire Assad, and ending with the beautiful *Symphony No. 6 in F Major, Op. 68, "Pastoral"* by Ludwig van Beethoven

POWER & POSSIBILITY
a Side-By-Side Concert with Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra
Sunday, May 23 | 3 pm| Schlesinger Concert Hall
Anna Binneweg, Conductor| Ieva Jokubavičiūtė, piano

Join us for the season finale *Power & Possibility,* a Side-By-Side Concert with the Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, featuring Ieva Jokubavičiūtė on piano. This program begins with *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra, Op. 34* by Benjamin Britten, followed by *Piano Concerto* by Grażyna Bacewicz, inspired by Polish folklore, and ends with the Finnish *Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 43* by Jean Sibelius.

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Anna Binneweg, Music Director, **Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic**
Alberto Rodriguez, Music Director, **Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra**
Martin Garfield-Levine, Music Director, **Washington Metropolitan Concert Orchestra**
Ulysses James, Music Director Laureate, **Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic**
Megan Yingst, **Interim Chief Operating Officer**

About Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association (WMPA):

WMPA's purpose is to unite and uplift our community through the transformative power of music.

Our mission is to provide programs to:

- Educate and engage students through our Youth Orchestras
- Perform and promote orchestral music through the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic
- Connect and communicate chamber music through our summer Lyceum Series
- Expand and enlighten newcomers to classical music through our Community Concerts

Our vision is to create and serve the future audience of orchestral music.

WMPA is…

- **Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic:** an adult orchestra for local professional, semi professional, and dedicated amateur musicians
- **Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra:** an inclusive youth orchestra for grades 9-12
- **Washington Metropolitan Concert Orchestra:** a beginner's orchestra for grades 6-8
- **Lyceum Chamber Series:** a summer series of weekly chamber music concerts at the Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum
- **Community Concerts:** A variety of free concert programs presented in underserved communities featuring members of the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic

For more information, visit wmpamusic.org.

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