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Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Presents American Voices in collaboration with the Alexandria Choral Society

IMAGE GALLERY: High-resolution press images are available in [WMPA's Media Image Gallery](#).



Posted February 9, 2026 | WMPA News & Press | contact@wmpamusic.org

Alexandria, VA — The **Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic** (WashMetPhil) in collaboration with the Alexandria Choral Society, is proud to present '**American Voices**' on **Sunday, March 8 at 3 pm and 7 pm** at the **GW Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria**. Presented in two performances, this program explores themes of spiritual reflection, nature, hope, and humanity, bringing together bold contemporary works and beloved classics in a concert that speaks powerfully to our shared experience.

The concert opens with ***Kauyumari*** by acclaimed composer **Gabriela Ortiz**, a work inspired by Indigenous Mexican mythology. Evoking a ceremonial circle where music and spirituality intertwine, Ortiz's score pulses with rhythmic intensity and contemporary flair, inviting listeners into a world where sound and motion meet reverence and reflection.

From there, the program turns to one of the most iconic voices in American music: **Leonard Bernstein**. His ***Symphonic Dances from 'West Side Story'*** captures the electric energy and drama of the groundbreaking Broadway masterpiece, transforming its unforgettable moments into a thrilling concert experience that explores love and conflict, joy and despair—music that is deeply restless and filled with raw humanity.

The performance continues with ***Earth Symphony*** by **Grammy Award-winning Jake Runestad**, a striking and urgent contemporary work that calls listeners to attention. Through sweeping choral and orchestral soundscapes, Runestad confronts both the beauty and fragility of the planet, offering a compelling meditation on our responsibility to the world we share.

The program concludes with **Bernstein** once again, with ***Make Our Garden Grow from Candide***. Tender and quietly defiant, the piece offers a heartfelt affirmation of unity and resilience—an enduring call to build, nurture, and hope together.

With its sweeping musical range and timely message, 'American Voices' promises to be an unforgettable concert experience for audiences of all ages.

PO Box 16442 | Alexandria VA 22302 | contact@wmpamusic.org

Program funding provided by our donors, and in part by





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

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Ticket Information:

Reserved-seat tickets are available now at wmpamusic.org. Youth tickets are just **\$5** and we offer a discounted rate for educators and members of the military.

Last season, three of four concerts sold out—early booking is strongly recommended.

Upcoming Concerts in the 2025 | 2026 Season

Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra & Concert Orchestra Concert March 22, 2026 | 3 pm | Edison High School | Free; No Tickets Required

Edward Elgar: Cello Concerto Mvt. I featuring Senior Soloist Carter Kunz

Felix Mendelssohn: March of the Priests from "Athalie"

Johann Stamitz: Viola Concerto Mvt. III featuring Senior Soloist Gabriella Wheeler

Side-by-Side: Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Concert with pianist Stewart Goodyear & Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra Sunday, May 10, 2026 | 3 pm | Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall

An uplifting season finale featuring Stewart Goodyear performing Gershwin's *Piano Concerto in F*, alongside Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and Jessie Montgomery's *Hymn for Everyone*, uniting professional and student musicians in a powerful collaboration.

Lyceum Chamber Series

Sundays | June to August 2026 | The Lyceum in historic Old Town Alexandria

No tickets required | Suggested donation \$25

Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

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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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