



VIRTUAL
CONCERT
HALLS



LAUREATE GALA WEILL RECITAL HALL AT CARNEGIE HALL



NOVEMBER 25, 2025 @ 7 PM



Anna Ouspenskaya
Sound Espresso &
Virtual Concert Halls



Jack Price
Price Attractions



Frane Rušinović
Sound Espresso &
Virtual Concert Halls

Welcome to the 12th Laureate Gala, hosted by Sound Espresso, Virtual Concert Halls, & Price Attractions! Today's program features musicians from around the world who participated in our 2025–2026 Laureates' Auditions.

Our mission is to help musicians of all ages grow artistically through innovative online competitions. Since 2020, we have provided virtual platforms for performers to reach global audiences, receive expert feedback, share their work, and gain opportunities to perform in prestigious venues. We celebrate the dedication of teachers, families, and communities, as well as the courage it takes for musicians to share their art.

Music connects storytelling, history, mathematics, imagery, and emotion. It reflects cultural heritage, inspires other art forms, and creates meaningful human connections. Strong musical training combines expert instruction, disciplined practice, collaboration, and performance opportunities, allowing unique artistic voices to flourish.

We are proud to work with an extraordinary team of professionals who educate, encourage, and reward musicians at every stage. Today, we are honored to have pianist James Adler of AdlerOaks Music present the James Adler Audience Favorite Award to a selected pianist or composer.

Thank you to all our families, supporters, and contributors—this Gala would not be possible without you. Enjoy the celebration!

SOUND ESPRESSIVO
VIRTUAL CONCERT HALLS
PRICE ATTRACTIONS

proudly presents its

4TH SEASON
LAUREATE GALA

WEILL RECITAL HALL
CARNEGIE HALL

NOVEMBER 25, 2025 | 7PM

FEATURING

OUR SELECTED LAUREATES
ORCHESTRA MANHATTAN

Program

November 25, 2025, 7:00 pm

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

Opening Remarks

Scherzo No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 31 Chopin
Joanna Chow, piano solo

Orchestra Manhattan, Maestro David Wroe

By the Baltic Sea for Piano and String Orchestra Katharina Nohl*
Amalia Nohl, piano

Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Op. 23 Tchaikovsky
(III. Allegro con fuoco)
Ayla Moreno, piano

Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26 Bruch
(I. Vorspiel. Allegro moderato)
Allison Li, violin

Violin Concerto No. 9 in A minor, Op. 104 Bériot
(I. Allegretto maestoso)
Charlotte Chan, violin

Violin Concerto No. 3 in G major, K.216 (I. Allegro) Mozart
Ayla Moreno, violin

“An Exaggeration” for Chamber Orchestra Mason Ishida*

Violin Concerto, Op. 14 (I. Allegro) Barber
Shuhuai Linus Zhang, violin

Zigeunerweisen (Gypsy Airs), Op. 20 Sarasate
Emily Liu, violin

Escualo
Tango-Étude No.4

Piazzolla
Piazzolla

Ralitsa Tcholakova, violin

Violin Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 63
(I. Allegro moderato)

Prokofiev

Guo Ru, violin

Violin Concerto in D minor, Op 47
(1st Movement)

Sibelius

Joshua Gwon, violin

Program Notes

By The Baltic Sea - Orchestra Manhattan, Amalia Nohl (piano)
Music by Katharina Nohl

"I was asked to write a piece for the youth symphony orchestra of St Petersburg. As I started composing it became more and more clear that I describe the scenes of the Baltic Sea that I grew up with. The low skies that reflect on the water, the quick changes of weather and the low rolling sea. Some days it has that sunny and uplifting feel others it can be quite frightening and loud. The waves go crashing into one another and one thinks "better not to be out there now!" ...and in the morning...nothing but quiet low rolling sea."

"An Exaggeration" for Chamber Orchestra - Orchestra Manhattan
Music by Mason Ishida

For this piece, I was tasked with composing something catchy that also tells a story. I wanted to create an accessible musical representation of the emotional experience of having one's sense of reality distorted or diminished—basically, the experience of being gaslit. I was inspired by my own experience with this kind of manipulation (which I won't get into here) and thought a lot about that while composing.

Looking at the score, the various labels next to the tempo markings offer a sense of the story's progression—markings such as Agitated, Self-doubt, Rebuttal, Reassurance, and A Grand Exaggeration. That last one represents a moment of realization about what has been happening throughout the story. The final rock-influenced section is both triumphant and disheartening, and the piece closes with a harsh gesture representing a door slam, or the abrupt act of cutting someone out of one's life.

ORCHESTRA MANHATTAN



David Wroe Music Director

Maestro David Wroe is Music Director of the New Jersey Festival Orchestra, Principal Conductor at the Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice, and a frequent guest conductor of L'Orchestre Régional de Normandie. From 2000–2014, he was a regular conductor with New York City Opera. He has led major orchestras worldwide, including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Saint Louis Symphony, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, L'Orchestre National de Lille, Opera de Toulon, New Jersey Symphony, L'Ensemble de Paris, Symphony Nova Scotia, New York City Ballet, and many others. In Asia, he has conducted the Taiwan National Symphony, Pusan Philharmonic, Shenzhen, Macau, Hangzhou, Nanjing, Wuhan, Zhejiang, Guiyang, and Taipei and Taichung Symphony Orchestras.

Wroe served as Seiji Ozawa's Assistant Conductor at the Boston Symphony Orchestra, performing at Tanglewood, Boston's Symphony Hall, and on European tours with the BSO Chamber Players. He collaborated on recordings with Jessye Norman and Itzhak Perlman and made his recording debut in 2007 with L'Orchestre National de Lille.

He has also held residencies as Resident Conductor at Oper der Stadt Heidelberg, Principal Conductor at Opera Delaware, and Music Director of Opera Teatro Grattacielo, in addition to directing large-scale summer festivals. Through the NJ Festival Orchestra, he has collaborated with artists across classical and crossover genres, including Kristin Chenoweth, Mannheim Steamrollers, Celtic Women, Natalie Merchant, Joan Rivers, and Jackie Evancho.

A dedicated mentor, Wroe has led youth orchestras, given masterclasses at institutions including New England Conservatory, Harvard, and Rutgers, and served as a judge for numerous competitions, including the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. His awards include the Seiji Ozawa Fellowship at Tanglewood, a U.S. Congressional citation for community service, and finalist status in the first Bernstein International Conducting Competition. Wroe studied at Lancing College, earned a BMus from Manchester University and an MM from Northwestern University, and studied with Gustav Meier and Victor Yampolsky.



The Host

Steve Robinson

Steve Robinson is an American radio executive, producer, and media leader whose 50-year career spans some of the nation's most respected public radio stations. He has held senior management roles at WFMT and the WFMT Radio Network/Chicago, WBUR/Boston, WGBH/Boston, WCRB/Boston, KPFA/Berkeley, WBGO/Newark, Vermont Public Radio, and the Nebraska Public Radio Network, where he served as General Manager from 1990–2000. From 2000 to 2016, he was General Manager of WFMT and the WFMT Radio Network.

Robinson has produced an extensive range of programming—from classical music documentaries to public affairs—and directed more than 100 on-air fundraising drives. In 1984, he co-founded AIR: the Association of Independents in Radio, securing its first major grants from NYSCA and the NEA.

His broadcasts have reached audiences worldwide, including live programs from Salzburg for Mozart's 250th birthday, Durban for the premiere of Princess Magogo, Quebec City for Mahler's Symphony of a Thousand, and Jerusalem for the Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival. He has collaborated with leading composers such as William Schuman, Elliott Carter, Charles Dodge, Roger Reynolds, and Alan Hovhaness.

In 2003, Robinson created the acclaimed daily classical music program Exploring Music with Bill McGlaughlin, now airing on more than 60 U.S. stations and internationally. He also established the first classical music radio exchange between the United States and China.

During his WFMT tenure, he expanded live broadcasting, broadened programming, and launched new series including Introductions and Impromptu. In 2007, the Chicago Tribune named him "Chicagoan of the Year" in the arts.

Robinson also led major charitable broadcast campaigns in 2004 and 2010, each raising over \$3 million for global disaster relief, earning him two Wesbury Awards from the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago.

His work has been recognized with numerous honors, including the ASCAP/Deems Taylor Award, the Champion Award from the Merit School of Music, and the Dushkin Award for Exploring Music.

THE MUSICIANS



Katharina Nohl
composer

Katharina credits her first piano teacher with opening her ears to Eastern music and the works of female composers—an early influence that shaped her lifelong commitment to championing fellow creators. This dedication ultimately led her to found the Swiss Female Composers Festival, a platform for exchange, networking, and the performance of new works.

In 2002, Katharina moved to Switzerland and began a new chapter as she built a family. Although her travels slowed, her artistic life continued to grow. She performed across Europe and created interdisciplinary projects for children, combining music and visual arts in live concerts. “Giving children the chance to experience classical music firsthand and create lasting memories—that is beautiful,” she reflects.

Encouraged by fellow musicians, she naturally gravitated toward composition and arrangement. Since then, she has written numerous orchestral, ensemble, and piano works, with performances in Russia, Turkey, the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Albania, and beyond.

In 2019, she brought a long-held idea to life by founding the Swiss Female Composers Festival, dedicated to connecting and promoting women composers. The festival’s first piano anthology of living Swiss female composers was published by Universal Edition in 2023, with a violin and piano edition planned for 2024.

Her Piano Rhapsody Spices received the Global Music Award (Silver) in 2022 for creativity and composition. In 2023, her orchestral work Rave earned the Amadeus Composition Award (Silver, Austria), following its premiere with the Sinfonieorchester Kanton Schwyz under Urs Bamert and featuring Olga Mischula on Hackbrett and Cymbal.

Her composition September Tango, awarded the James Adler Audience Favorite Award (USA, 2025), showcases her signature blend of lyricism and rhythmic vitality.



Joanna Chow
piano

Joanna Chow began her musical journey at the age of four, discovering a deep connection to the piano early in life. At nine, a new passion for tennis led her to train full-time, temporarily stepping away from music to pursue excellence in sport. Yet, her love for the piano never faded.

Now 23, Joanna has returned to her first calling with renewed purpose and dedication. For nearly two years, she has been studying under the guidance of Dr. Anna Ouspenskaya, refining her artistry and preparing to share her music with audiences.

Drawing on the discipline and focus developed through years of athletic training, Joanna brings a unique blend of strength, sensitivity, and creativity to her performances. She is committed to building a career as a performing artist, inspired to connect with others and to share her journey through music.



Ayla Moreno
violin

Ayla began studying piano and violin at the age of three, making her orchestral solo debut at six with the Tucson Civic Orchestra performing Berkovich's Piano Concerto. The following year, she performed Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra and with the Tucson Repertory Orchestra during their tour in Japan. In 2022, at age ten, she performed Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 with the Tucson Philharmonia Youth Orchestra, followed in 2023 by Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Orquestra do Algarve in Portugal under Maestro Maurizio Colasanti.

Ayla has participated in numerous prestigious music festivals, including the Cleveland Institute of Music Young Artist Seminar, the Chopin Festival in Poland, the Philadelphia International Music Festival, Heifetz PEG, Colburn Piano Seminar, Sima Classics in Poland, and the Piano Concerto Festival, studying with distinguished teachers and performing in orchestral and recital settings. She also enjoys performing at the annual Tucson Folk Festival.

Ayla has won awards in national and international competitions, including the Chopin International Piano Competition (Hartford, CT), the Young Artists' Competition by the Civic Orchestra of Tucson, the Dorothy Vanek Youth Concerto Competition (Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra), the Tucson Philharmonia Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition, the WPTO Spain International Piano Competition, the Sound Espresso Competition, the Frantz Liszt Center International Piano Competition, and the Charleston International Music Competition, among others.

She is an active member of the Tucson Philharmonia Youth Orchestra and studies piano with Dr. Kyungsun Choi and violin with Dr. Laura Tagawa. Outside of music, Ayla enjoys playing chess and taking dance classes.



Charlotte Chan
violin

Charlotte Chan began her musical journey at the age of five and commenced masterclass studies with Olga Khroulevitch at age nine. Driven by her passion for the violin, she has rapidly developed as a performer and earned awards in numerous regional, national, and international competitions, including the Metropolitan Music Festival, New Asia International Music Competition, American Virtuoso International Music Competition, and the Young Soloist International Competition.

Charlotte regularly collaborates with the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra (AYPO) and has served as Assistant Concertmaster for AYPO's Prelude Strings and Prelude Violins since 2023. She has also participated in several string and orchestral programs at the Greater Washington Suzuki Institute and performed in chamber music ensembles at Immanuel Christian School, the Peabody Institute, and the Maryland Youth Philharmonic Orchestra (MYCO).

An accomplished performer, Charlotte has been invited to play at school, church, and community events, as well as at Carnegie Hall. She thrives in both solo and ensemble settings, cherishing the friendships and experiences that grow from her shared love of music.



Mason Ishida
composer

Mason Ishida is a composer and pianist from Northern Virginia and a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, where he studied composition with John Mallia. With more than twenty years of piano study and performance experience, he has appeared as both a soloist and collaborator, including performing as a cellist in his high school orchestra and at Carnegie Mellon University's Pre-College Program, where he studied piano performance and composition on a partial scholarship. He also sang in the NEC choir during his first two years and spent three summers at the New York Summer Music Festival studying piano and performing with the choir.

Mason composes for chamber ensembles, orchestra, and solo instruments. His musical language draws inspiration from Beethoven, Scriabin, Bartók, and Shostakovich, as well as the creative energy of bands like Nirvana and Radiohead. His works have been performed by fellow NEC musicians at Tuesday Night New Music concerts—including performances in the historic Jordan Hall—and include string quartets, an orchestral suite, and MAD for Symphony Orchestra. Several pieces are awaiting premiere, but Mason values every stage of bringing a composition to life and the shared collaboration that comes with it.

Balancing tradition with exploration, Mason strives to create music that is personal, expressive, and continually evolving. He remains grateful for every opportunity to learn, grow, and connect with others through his work.



Amalia Nohl
piano

Amalia Nohl is an emerging composer with a growing passion for film and theater music. Born on November 1, 2006, in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, she grew up in a creative, music-filled environment with her parents and older sister. Encouraged early on by her mother, Amalia developed a deep connection to music from an early age.

After primary school, she chose homeschooling to dedicate more time to her artistic development, especially composition. She participated in several major creative programs, including the Composition Camp in Boswil (2021–2022) and the Student Manager Program at the Tonhalle Zürich (2023–2024).

In Boswil, her original works were performed in the camp's final concert, giving her hands-on experience with various compositional styles. At the Tonhalle Zürich, she worked as part of a five-member team to organize a concert—contributing to concept creation, budgeting, lighting design, communication, and social media. These projects strengthened both her artistic voice and her ability to collaborate and manage musical productions.

Amalia plans to pursue Film and Theater Composition at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), aiming to develop her musical storytelling skills and create works that connect deeply with audiences.

Outside of music, she enjoys traveling, visiting museums and concerts, climbing with friends, and cooking. Curious and open-minded, she is passionate about exploring ancient cultures, discovering new ideas, and continuing to grow as an artist with independence, enthusiasm, and purpose.



Emily Liu
violin

Emily Liu is a 13-year-old violinist and 8th grader from Fairfax, Virginia, whose musical journey reflects both talent and dedication. She began studying the violin at the age of seven with her grandfather, building upon a cherished family tradition and a shared love for the instrument.

Over the past six years, Emily has developed into a gifted young musician, earning multiple awards in local violin competitions. Her achievements are a testament to her passion, perseverance, and growing artistry.

Since 2024, Emily has continued her advanced studies under the guidance of Olga Khroulevitch, a distinguished violin pedagogue known for her mastery of the Russian School of violin technique and for mentoring many accomplished students in the United States. Under Ms. Khroulevitch's direction, Emily continues to refine her technical and expressive skills, striving toward ever greater musical excellence.



Ralitsa Tcholakova
violin

Ralitsa Tcholakova is an internationally recognized, award-winning Canadian violinist and violist known for her rich tone, expressive depth, and commitment to contemporary and underrepresented voices in classical music. She holds a Master's Degree from the State Academy of Music in Bulgaria and a Diploma from the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Vienna, studying in the class of Prof. Michael Frischenschlager. During her studies, she was a recipient of a prestigious scholarship from the Austrian Ministry of Culture.

Tcholakova has performed as a soloist, chamber musician, and festival artist in more than 25 countries, and has appeared with orchestras across Europe and North America. She has been recognized for her artistic contributions through nominations for both the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts (2018) and the Governor General's Persons Case Award (2017).

Her discography includes several acclaimed recordings. *Ballad of the North*—featuring works by Canadian women composers—was distributed by SOCAN to 135 radio stations worldwide. *Remembered Voices*, released on the Carleton Sound label in collaboration with Dr. Elaine Keillor (Order of Canada), was praised by *The Whole Note* as “an excellent CD.”

Her album *Aboriginal Inspirations*, featuring multiple GRAMMY Award-winner Ron Korb, is promoted globally by the Canadian Music Centre and NAXOS.

Tcholakova has performed annual recital programs at the Parliament of Canada since 2015, and in 2021 was featured at the National Prayer Breakfast, held under the joint authority of the Speakers of the Senate and House of Commons.

She premiered the solo viola work *Prayer for Peace*, commissioned for her from composer Evelyn Stroobach, at the Laureate Gala at Weill Carnegie Hall in 2022. Most recently, in November 2023, she returned to Weill Carnegie Hall as a violin soloist with the New York Chamber Players.



Joshua Gwon
violin

Joshua Gwon is an accomplished 11th-grade violinist at Woodson High School in Fairfax, Virginia. He began studying the violin at age five in Belgium under Isabelle Deschamps of the Belgium National Orchestra, continued his studies in South Korea with Joycelyn Tye, and later trained in Oklahoma with Dr. Marat Gabdullin, Assistant Concertmaster of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic.

Currently based in the Washington, D.C. area, Joshua studies with renowned pedagogue Olga Khroulevitch. He has earned first-place honors in numerous prestigious competitions, including the Great Composers Concerto Competition, American Fine Arts Festival (performing at Carnegie Hall), American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition, Fairfax Arts Coalition for Education Solo Competition, YMIC Metropolitan Music Festival, NVMTA Concerto Competition, and NVMTA Achievement Competition. He also received Honorable Mention at the Army Orchestra Young Artist Competition and performed with the Army Orchestra in 2024 and 2025.

Joshua has held the position of Concertmaster for his school and youth orchestras and participated in distinguished ensembles such as the Senior Regional Orchestra and Virginia State Orchestra. He further honed his leadership skills as Concertmaster during Peabody Institute Summer Chamber Week.

Committed to giving back, Joshua volunteers performances at senior living facilities. Outside of music, he enjoys soccer and staying active.



Guo Ru
violin

Guo Ru is a sophomore at Phillips Academy Andover and studies violin with Professor Peter Zazofsky at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. He has served as Concertmaster of the Northeastern District Senior Orchestra and as Principal Second Violin of the Massachusetts All-State Orchestra.

Before moving to the United States, Guo was a merit scholar in the Rising Stars Program at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and earned the prestigious Licentiate Diploma of Music Australia (LMusA). He has also studied with Kimberly Fisher, Principal Second Violin of the Philadelphia Orchestra and cofounder of the Philadelphia International Music Festival.

Guo has received numerous first prizes in national and international competitions, including the American Protégé Music Talent Competition (Judge's Distinction) and the New York Young Virtuoso Competition. He has appeared as a soloist with the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra and has performed in major concert venues across the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Singapore, Japan, and Canada. His performance tours have taken him to notable locations such as the Royal Academy of Music, Postojna Caves, the Croatian National Theatre, and Teatro Pacini.

Committed to using music for community impact, Guo has long performed in aged-care facilities and hospitals. At Phillips Academy, he offers free weekly lessons to children from underserved communities and composes and conducts music projects focused on environmental awareness and mental well-being.



**Shuhuai Linus
Zhang**
violin

Linus has been studying violin under the guidance of Ms. Shuwei Liu for the past six years, developing a strong technical foundation and a deep love for music. In 2023, he joined the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra, where his dedication and musical leadership quickly earned him the position of concertmaster.

In 2024, Linus performed internationally with the orchestra on tour in Vienna and Prague, gaining invaluable experience on renowned stages and further strengthening his artistic growth. With each new performance opportunity, he continues to refine his craft and pursue his passion for the violin with determination and joy.



Alison Li
violin

From her first violin lesson at age five, Allison has been deeply immersed in music, making the instrument a central part of her life. Now 14 and a freshman at Paul VI Catholic High School, she studies under the guidance of Olga Khroulevitch in Falls Church, Virginia, honing her technique and artistic expression.

Allison's dedication to her craft is reflected in her success in numerous competitions across the DMV area, where she has consistently distinguished herself among her peers. With a profound passion for music, she is committed to pursuing her dream of a lifelong career as a violinist, bringing artistry and devotion to every performance.

Special Thanks

to all the teachers and families for their endless
nurturing and support!

Mentors



Olga Khroulevitch
violin



Shurwei Liu
violin



Dr. Laura Tagawa
violin

Olga Khroulevitch, Violin

Students: Charlotte Chan, Joshua Gwon, Allison Li, Emily Liu

Olga Khroulevitch began her violin studies under the guidance of her mother, a distinguished teacher and performer trained at the St. Petersburg Conservatory by Miron Poliakin, a direct student of Leopold Auer. This rich lineage of the great Russian violin tradition shaped Olga's early musical foundation. She later continued her studies at the St. Petersburg Conservatory with Rebenkov and at the Moscow Conservatory with Yankelevich and Bronin, carrying forward the technical and artistic principles of Auer's renowned school.

Recognized for her exceptional talent, Olga immigrated to the United States under a special category for extraordinary ability. She served for several years as a master teacher at the Levine School of Music before establishing her own studio in Virginia.

Today, she is regarded nationally as one of the leading violin pedagogues for gifted young musicians, known for her deep technical insight, expressive approach, and commitment to cultivating musical excellence.

Her students—Charlotte Chan, Joshua Gwon, Allison Li, and Emily Liu—continue this distinguished heritage as they perform with Orchestra Manhattan, a testament to Olga's unmatched dedication and artistry as a mentor.

Shuwei Liu, Violin

Student: Shuhuai Linus Zhang

Shuwei Liu is a distinguished violin educator whose career in the United States spans more than three decades. A graduate of the Violin Department at Shandong University of Arts in China, she brought her strong classical foundation to the U.S. in 1988 and has since guided generations of young musicians with her disciplined, expressive, and deeply informed approach.

Her students have earned top prizes in major competitions—especially in violin concerto repertoire—and many have gone on to study at elite institutions such as MIT, Caltech, Harvard, Stanford, and UC Berkeley. Among her notable protégés is violin soloist Shuhuai Linus Zhang, whose artistry reflects her rigorous and inspiring mentorship.

Beyond music, Shuwei has impacted more than a hundred students who now thrive in medicine, healthcare, and high-technology fields. Dedicated to both musical excellence and personal growth, she continues to shape exceptional musicians and well-rounded individuals.

Dr. Laura Tagawa, Violin

Student: Ayla Moreno

Dr. Laura Tagawa is an accomplished violinist and dedicated educator with an active performing career. She is a member of the Arizona Opera Orchestra, Sierra Vista Symphony Orchestra, and Tucson Repertory Orchestra, and has previously performed with orchestras across the United States, Canada, and Japan. She frequently appears with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra and Tucson Pops Orchestra and has participated in international opera festivals in Mexico and Colombia with the Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to her performing career, Dr. Tagawa serves as the orchestra librarian for the Arizona Opera Orchestra and is a member of the Major Orchestra Librarians' Association. She has also appeared as a baroque violinist with ensembles such as the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra and worked with members of Tafelmusik at the Scotia Festival of Music. As a chamber musician, she performs with her family in Duo Tutti and the Tagawa Trio throughout the U.S., Canada, and Japan.

A highly respected teacher, Dr. Tagawa maintains a private studio in Tucson and is a registered Suzuki violin instructor, having completed extensive training with leading Suzuki pedagogues in the U.S. and Japan. She holds degrees from Northern Arizona University, Florida State University, and the University of Arizona.

Her student Ayla Moreno continues this tradition of excellence, bringing artistry and dedication to today's performance.

ORCHESTRA MANHATTAN



- *Flute / Piccolo - Ryu Cipriš*
- *Oboe / English horn - Marie Trudeau*
- *Clarinets - Taig Egan*, Jin Yingcun*
- *Bassoon - Joe Swift*, Yuki Higashi*
- *Horns - Emily Buehler*, Peter Delgrosso*
- *Trumpet - Tom Boulton*
- *Violins 1 - Francisco Salazar**, Xuan Yao, Heather Olsen*
- *Violins 2 - Benjamin Kronk*, Sabina Torosjan*
- *Violas - Bradley Bosenbeck*, J. J. Johnson*
- *Cellos - Valeryia Sholokhova*, Matt Armbruster*
- *Bass - Carlos Barriento*
- *Piano - Jennifer Savage*

*** - Concertmaster; * - Principal*

Librarian - Yi Fei Xu

2025-2026 CONCERT SEASON

07.28.25 Tahoe Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus. Kevin Matheson, violin. James Rawe, conductor

09.11.25 Paducah Symphony Orchestra. Jennifer Savage, piano. Raffaele Livio Ponti, conductor

09.12.25 Tahoe Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus. Jennifer Choi, violin. James Rawe, conductor

09.25.25 Magnificent Nine. Beethoven Symphonies. Internet TV Season 3

09.27.25 Barge Music. Recital by Misha Dichter, piano

10.11.25 Paducah Symphony Orchestra. Dina Nesterenko, violin. Raffaele Livio Ponti, conductor

11.07.25 Orquesta Filarmónica Municipal de Guayaquil. Kaiden Griggs, piano. Gevorg Sargsyan, conductor

11.15.25 Paducah Symphony Orchestra. Ayla Moreno, piano. Raffaele Livio Ponti, conductor

11.24.26 Laureate Gala - Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

11.25.26 Laureate Gala - Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

02.16.26 Laureate Gala - Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

02.19.26 Laureate Gala - Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

03.07.26 Butler Philharmonic Orchestra. Kate Lee, piano. Calliope Smith, violin. Scott Woodard, conductor

04.18.26 Paducah Symphony Orchestra. Anna Maria Medietta, harp

04.28.26 Laureate Gala - Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

04.29.26 Recording session with Orchestra Manhattan. David Wroe, conductor

06.28.26 Laureate Gala - Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

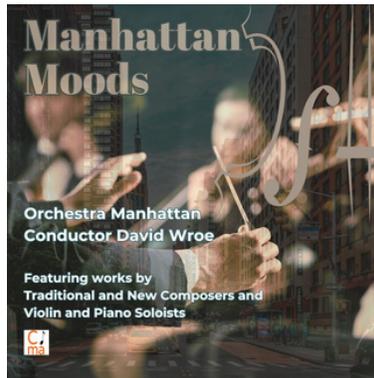
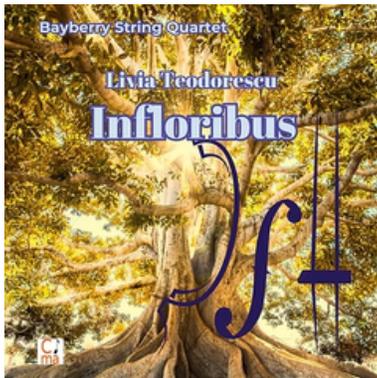
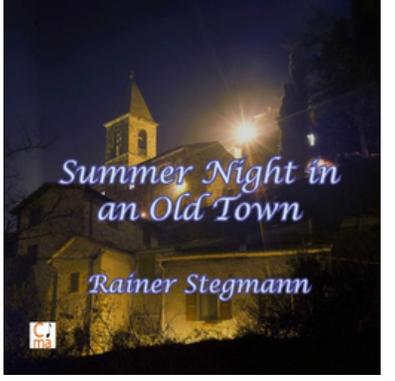
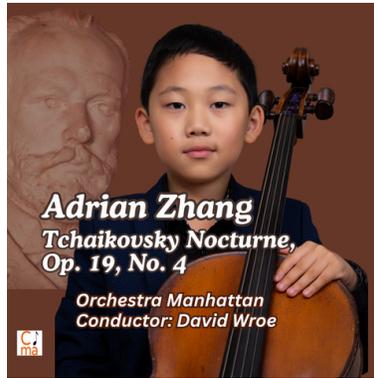
06.30.26 Laureate Gala - Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall



VIRTUAL
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HALLS



ALBUM RELEASES



James Adler Audience Favorite Award for the Carnegie Hall Laureate Gala season 2025-26.



LAUREATES GALA
WEILL RECITAL HALL AT CARNEGIE HALL

Sit back, listen, enjoy -- and please vote!"
~James Adler

James Adler
Audience Favorite Award

ADLER OAKS MUSIC

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- One vote per audience member
- Vote by choosing a Laureate from the list on the form
- Duplicate votes will be deleted
- One winner
- The simple majority determines the winner - the Winner will have received the highest number of audience votes
- Minimum votes for the cash Prize to be awarded -100
- No purchase necessary to vote, you do not need to create account to vote

Audience Favorite Award
is co-founded by
James Adler



<https://www.soundespressivocompetition.com/audience-award-james-adler>

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THANK YOU JUDGES



Giacomo Franci
The New York Chamber Players



David Wroe
New Jersey Festival Orchestra



Raffaele Livio Ponti
Paducah Symphony



Scott E. Woodard
West Virginia State Philharmonic



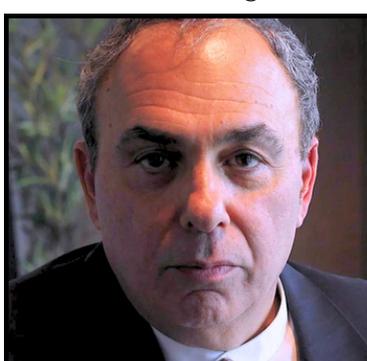
James Greening-Valenzuela
Vocal Arts Management



Nvart Andreassian
Armenian Nation Opera



Gevorg Sargsyan
Ministry of Culture Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



Dickran Atamian
Price Attractions



Raymond Fawzy
Clarinetist, Cairo Opera House



Avguste Antonov
Concert Pianist & Educator



Ivan Violić
Pianist & Composer



Ani Umedyan
Violinist & Educator

OUR TEAM



Anna Ouspenskaya
Sound Espresso &
Virtual Concert Halls
Co-Founder



Igor Zubkovsky
Sound Espresso &
Virtual Concert Halls
Co-Founder



Frane Rušinović
Sound Espresso &
Virtual Concert Halls
Co-Founder/Tech Director



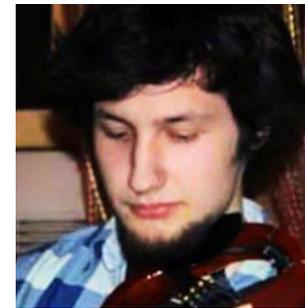
Fedor Ouspensky
Sound Espresso &
Virtual Concert Halls
Co-Founder



Ante Božić-Kudrić
Virtual Concert Halls
Technical Producer



Jennifer Savage
Virtual Concert Halls
Assistant Director, Host



Marko Torre
Virtual Concert Halls
Assistant Director



Krisztian Palagyi
Virtual Concert Halls
Assistant Director, Host



Kateryna Li Khemmett
Virtual Concert Halls
PR/Social Media, Graphic & Photo Design



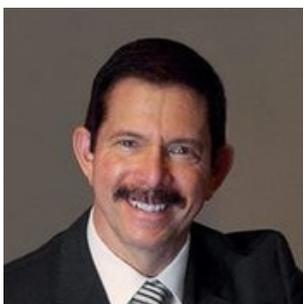
Miro Dobrovic
Virtual Concert Halls
Videographer, Filmmaker



Ann Lathan Kerzner
Price Attractions
Special Projects



Chris Au
Virtual Concert Halls
Host



James Adler
AdlerOaks Library
Audience Awards Founder



Jack Price
Price Attractions
Artist Manager, Host



Gianriccardo Pera
Cicerone Music & Art
Audio Producer



Irma de Jong
iClassical Academy
Publishing Coordinator

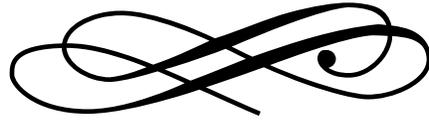


*Welcome to Virtual Concert Halls!
Presenting Orchestras, Operas, Artists, Composers, Ensembles,
Music Educators, Music Managers, Publishers, Foundations,
and Competitions From Every Corner of the World!*



<https://www.youtube.com/@VCHs20>





Thank You for Joining Us!

We are delighted to have you with us for today's performance.

*Your presence supports the dedication, passion,
and hard work of our talented musicians and composers.*

*We hope you enjoy the music and feel inspired
by the creativity on stage.*

*We invite you to stay connected with us through our programs,
social media, and upcoming events.*

*Your encouragement helps us continue to nurture artistic growth
and share extraordinary music with the world.*

With gratitude,

The Sound Espresso Team



Visit our Websites

www.soundespressivo.com

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www.virtualconcerthalls.com

*Program Booklet Created and Designed by:
Kateryna Li Khemmett*