NORTH CAROLINA **SYMPHONY**

Cirque Holiday Pops

WED, NOV 25, 2026 | 4PM
FRI, NOV 27, 2026 | 3PM & 7:30PM SAT, NOV 28, 2026 | 3PM & 7:30PM
MEYMANDI CONCERT HALL, RALEIGH

North Carolina Symphony
Joseph Peters, *conductor*
Cirque de la Symphonie

PROGRAM

Leroy Anderson
"A Christmas Festival"

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
"Dance of the Tumblers"
from *Snow Maiden*

Franz Schubert / Arr. Carmen Dragon
"Ave Maria"

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Polonaise from *Christmas Eve*

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
"Mother Ginger and the Clowns" from *The Nutcracker*, Act II

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Waltz from Suite from *The Sleeping Beauty*

John Williams
"Flight to Neverland" from *Hook*

Intermission

Alan Silvestri
"Main Title" from *A Christmas Carol*

David Arkenstone
"Snowdance"

Traditional / David Arkenstone
"I Saw Three Ships"

Lowell Mason / Arr. Carmen Dragon
"Joy to the World"

Delvyn Case
"Rocket Sleigh"

Jean Sibelius
***Finlandia*, Op. 26, No. 7**

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Pas de Deux from *The Nutcracker*, Act II

CONCERT SPONSOR

WRAL FOX 50

The North Carolina Symphony gratefully acknowledges financial support from the State of North Carolina, the honorable Josh Stein, Governor; Wake County; and the City of Raleigh.

DNCR North Carolina Department of Natural & Cultural Resources

WAKE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh

Thank you also to the generous individuals, businesses, foundations, and community partners who support the North Carolina Symphony through contributions each season.

About the Artists



Joseph Peters, *conductor*

The Lizette T. Dunham Chair
The Bruce and Margaret King Chair

Joseph Peters has conducted the Symphony in classical and pops programs, education concerts, and performances at UNC Health Summerfest. He also serves as Associate Principal Oboe and English horn with the North Carolina Symphony.

Joseph Peters conducts the Taneycomo Festival Orchestra in Branson, Missouri, and the Triangle Youth Symphony in Raleigh; he was previously Music Director of the SUNY Buffalo State Philharmonia Orchestra and the Saybrook College Orchestra of Yale University. He has also led a variety of programs at the New World Symphony in Florida.

In addition to his work as a conductor and instrumentalist with the North Carolina Symphony, Peters previously held Principal Oboe chairs with the Minnesota Orchestra and Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. He has performed as guest principal with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and The Florida Orchestra, and for three years, he was a member of the New World Symphony.

Peters first played with the Minnesota Orchestra at age 18, performing Mozart's Oboe Concerto. He has also appeared as a soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and New World Symphony, as well as the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, of which he is an alumnus.

Long committed to teaching, Peters was the oboe and conducting instructor at the SoBe Institute of the Arts and conducted side-by-side concerts for New World Symphony's MusicLab program. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree from Yale University.



Cirque de la Symphonie

Cirque de la Symphonie most recently performed with the North Carolina Symphony for Cirque Holiday Pops in 2025.

Founded in 2005, Cirque de la Symphonie is the only cirque company in the world that works exclusively with symphony orchestras. Aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strongmen perform to music selected to be both entertaining for the audience and challenging for the orchestra. Cirque de la Symphonie programs have included world-record holders, gold-medal winners, and Olympians.

The Musicians of the North Carolina Symphony

Carlos Miguel Prieto,
Music Director
The Maxine and Benjamin Swalin Chair

Sophie Sze-Ki Mok,
Assistant Conductor
The Lucy Moore Ruffin Chair

Violin I

Justin Bruns, Concertmaster
The Annabelle Lundy Fetterman Chair

Kai Bryngelson, Associate Concertmaster
The Assad Meymandi and Family Chair

Anna Black, Assistant Concertmaster
The Anne Heartt Gregory Chair

Karen Strittmatter Galvin, Assistant Concertmaster

Emily Rist Glover
The Jessie Wyatt Ethridge Chair

Paul Goldsberry
The Richard and Joy Cook Chair

Seula Lee
The Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. Chair

Maria Meyer
The Tom and Mary Mac Bradshaw Chair

K. Lee Morris
The Harvey At-Large Chair

Esther Roestan

Jessica Ryou
The James C. Byrd and Family Chair

Pablo Sánchez Pazos
The Phyllis ("Pat") Conrad Wells Chair

Erin Zehngut
The J. Felix Arnold Chair

Violin II

Jacqueline Saed Wolborsky, Principal
The Nancy Finch Wallace Chair

Tiffany Kang, Associate Principal
The Blanche Martin Shaw Chair

David Kilbride, Assistant Principal

Qui Cao

Nicholas Garcia-Hettinger
The Joseph C. and Diane Bastian Chair

Janet Gayer Hall

Chris Jusell

Oskar Ozolins

Subin Shin

Jeanine Wynton

Viola

Samuel Gold, Principal
The Florence Spinks and Charles Jacob Cate and Alma Yondorf and Sylvan Hirschberg Chair

Kurt Tseng, Associate Principal
The Betty Ellen Madry Chair

Brian Sherwood, Assistant Principal

Petra Berényi

Pin-Hao Liao

Amy Mason
The J. Sidney Kirk Chair

Daniel Moore

To Be Filled
The Samuel H. and Anne Latham Johnson Chair

Cello

Bonnie Thron, Principal
The June and Tom Roberg Chair

Elizabeth Beilman, Associate Principal
The Sarah Carlyle Herbert Dorroh Chair

Peng Li, Assistant Principal
Anonymously Endowed

Yewon Ahn
Anonymously Endowed

Emma Cary
The Sara Wilson Hodgkins Chair

David Meyer
The Nell Hirschberg Chair

Samuel Sykes
The William Charles Rankin Chair

Nathaniel Yaffe
The Secretary of Cultural Resources Betty Ray McCain Chair

Double Bass

Leonid Finkelshteyn, Principal
The Martha and Peyton Woodson Chair

Joshua DePoint, Associate Principal
The Dr. and Mrs. Preston H. Gada Chair

Omar Haffar
The Harllee H. and Pauline G. Jobe Chair

Javier Hernandez

Bruce Ridge
The John C. and Margaret P. Parker Chair

Flute

Megan Torti, Principal
The Mr. and Mrs. George M. Stephens Chair

Mary E. Boone, Assistant Principal
The Dr. and Mrs. Shaler Stidham, Jr. Chair

Alexandra Stokes*
The Jack and Sing Boddie Chair

Piccolo

Alexandra Stokes*

Oboe
Melanie Wilsden, Principal
The Hardison and Stoltze Chair

Joseph Peters, Associate Principal
The Lizette T. Dunham Chair

Hoon Chang
The Clarence and Alice Aycock Poe Chair

English Horn
Joseph Peters
The Bruce and Margaret King Chair

Clarinet
Samuel Almaguer, Principal
The Mr. and Mrs. J. Christopher Walker, II Chair

Sammy Lesnick, Assistant Principal
The Kathryn Powell and Green Flavie Cooper Chair

Bassoon
Aaron Apaza, Principal
The Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald S. Hudson Chair

Wenmin Zhang, Assistant Principal,
The Beethoven Chair

French Horn
Kimberly Van Pelt*, Principal
The Mary T. McCurdy Chair

Rebekah Daley**

Russell Rybicki*, Associate Principal
The Paul R. Villard and Gabriel Wolf Chair

Tristan Burns*
The Roger Colson and Bobbi Lyon Hackett Chair

Gabriel Mairson
The James Marion Poyner Chair

To Be Filled
The Mary Susan Kirk Fulghum Chair

Trumpet
Michael Brotherton, Principal
The George Smedes Poyner Chair

David Dash*,
Associate Principal
The Henry and Martha Zaytoun and Family Chair

Benjamin Hauser**

Trombone
Devin Drinan, Principal
The Thomas Warwick Steed, Jr. Family Chair

John Ilika, Assistant Principal
The Frances Armour Bryant Chair

Bass Trombone
Matthew Neff
Anonymously Endowed

Tuba
Seth Horner, Principal
The Governor and Mrs. James G. Martin, Jr. Chair

Timpani
Colin Hartnett, Principal
The Patricia R., Steven T. and George F. Hackney III Chair

Percussion
Rajesh Prasad*, Principal
The Margery and Earl Johnson, Jr. Chair

Peyton Esraelian*, Assistant Principal
The Abram and Frances Pascher Kanof Chair

Organ
To Be Filled
The Albert and Susan Jenkins and Family Organ Chair

Library
Stephanie Wilson,
Principal Orchestra Librarian
The Mary Colvert and Banks C. Talley Chair

Taylor Troyer,
Assistant Orchestra Librarian

**Acting position*
***Leave of absence*

Named musician chairs are made possible through very meaningful gifts to the Symphony's endowment. As such, these donor families are also members of the Lamar Stringfield Society.

All string players rotate stands on a periodic basis in each section with the exception of titled players: Principals, Associate Principals, and Assistant Principals.

The North Carolina Symphony is a member of the League of American Orchestras and the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians.

The North Carolina Master Chorale is the Resident Chorus of the North Carolina Symphony.

The North Carolina Symphony Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generous gift of the Lupot violin from Arnold and Zena† Lerman.
†deceased

NORTH CAROLINA
SYMPHONY

You can support over 150,000 North Carolina students this year by donating to the Annual Fund so they can experience *your* Symphony's education programs! Your contribution supports **artistic excellence**, **statewide service**, and **music education**.

Plus, your gift counts towards the 2026/27 State Challenge Grant goal!

Scan the QR code, visit **ncsymphony.org/donate,** *or call 919.733.2750.* **Thank you!**

