

NORTH CAROLINA **SYMPHONY**

Gladys Knight

SAT, NOV 23, 2024 | 8PM

MEYMANDI CONCERT HALL, RALEIGH

North Carolina Symphony

Herb Smith, *conductor*

Gladys Knight, *vocalist*

PROGRAM

Selections will be announced from the stage.

CONCERT SPONSORS



About the Artists



Herb Smith, *conductor*

Tonight's concert is a return to the North Carolina Symphony for Herb Smith, who conducted Let's Groove Tonight: Motown Meets the Philly Sound in February, 2024.

Herb Smith is a regular guest conductor with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. He frequently conducts the Syracuse Orchestra and currently directs the Eastman Youth Jazz Orchestra at the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music. He also guest conducts for All-State and All-County bands, orchestras, and jazz ensembles across New York State.

Voted "Best Instrumentalist" of Rochester 2022 by CITY Magazine, Smith currently holds the third trumpet position in the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. He has served as principal trumpet in the Gateways Festival Orchestra, which made its Carnegie Hall debut in 2022. He also serves as principal trumpet in the Gateways Brass Collective, a nationally touring brass quintet, and has been a frequent guest with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. His Freedom Trio (composed of trumpet played through electronics, bass, and drums) performs around the country.

A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Smith is also an active composer and a trumpet instructor at the Community Education Division of the Eastman School of Music.



Gladys Knight, *Empress of Soul*

This concert is the North Carolina Symphony debut for Gladys Knight.

The great ones endure, and Gladys Knight has long been one of the greatest. Very few singers over the last 60 years have matched her unassailable artistry. This seven-time Grammy Award winner has enjoyed #1 hits in Pop, Gospel, R&B, and Adult Contemporary, and has triumphed in film, television, and live performance.

All told, Knight has recorded more than 38 albums over the years, including four solo albums: *Good Woman* (1991); *Just for You* (1994); the inspirational *Many Different Roads* (1999); and *At Last* (2001). *At Last* showed the world that she still has what it takes to record a hit album, employing the talents of contemporary producers like Randy Jackson.

Knight has continued to spread her acting wings, making a guest star appearance in the FOX TV show *Star* and appearing in the film *Almost Christmas* in 2016, both which were produced and directed by Lee Daniels. She appeared on ABC's 14th season of *Dancing with the Stars* in 2012. In 2019, she competed on the inaugural season of *The Masked Singer* and sang the National Anthem at Super Bowl LIII in Atlanta. Knight sang the National Anthem on yet another major sports stage at the 2021 NBA All-Star Game. In the 2022 holiday season she starred in *I'm Glad It's Christmas* on Great American Family and received the 45th Kennedy Center Honors for lifetime artistic achievements along with George Clooney, Amy Grant, Tania Leone, and U2. She received the National Medal of Arts in 2021 along with Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Bruce Springsteen, Jose Feliciano, and Mindy Kaling. This year she has been honored as a 2024 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree.

Her involvement in other creative undertakings, business ventures, and humanitarian activities has been extensive and has brought her honors from industry and community alike. In 2015, a portion of Atlanta's State Route 9 from Peachtree Street to 14th Street was officially named Gladys Knight Highway.

The Musicians of the North Carolina Symphony

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

Grant Llewellyn,
Music Director Laureate

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

Violin I

To Be Filled, Concertmaster *The
Annabelle Lundy Fetterman Chair*

Jessica Hung,
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

Joseph Meyer*

Maria Meyer
The Tom and Mary Mac Bradshaw Chair

Minjoo Moon*
The Harvey At-Large Chair

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

Jessica Ryou
The James C. Byrd and Family Chair

Erin Zehngut
The J. Felix Arnold Chair

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

Violin II

Jacqueline Saed Wolborsky,
Principal
The Nancy Finch Wallace Chair

Tiffany Kang,
Associate Principal
The Blanche Martin Shaw Chair

David Kilbride,
Assistant Principal

Qi Cao

Janet Gayer Hall

Chris Jusell

Oskar Ozolinch

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

Paul Malcolm

Amy Mason
The J. Sidney Kirk Chair

Daniel Moore

Sandra Schwarcz
*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

David Meyer
The Nell Hirschberg Chair

Marc Moskovitz*
*The William Charles Rankin
Chair*

Lisa Howard Shaughnessy
The Sara Wilson Hodgkins Chair

Samuel Sykes*

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*

Craig Brown
*The Mark W. McClure Foundation
Chair*

Erik Dyke
*The Harlee H. and Pauline G.
Jobe Chair*

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*
The Jean Dunn Williams Chair

Oboe

Melanie Wilsden, Principal
The Hardison and Stoltze Chair

Joseph Peters,
Associate Principal,
The Lizette T. Dunham Chair

Rachel Ahn*
*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

Rebekah Daley, Principal
The Mary T. McCurdy Chair

Kimberly Van Pelt,
Associate Principal
*The Paul R. Villard and Gabriel
Wolf Chair*

Gabriel Mairson
The James Marion Poyner Chair

Russell Rybicki
*The Roger Colson and
Bobbi Lyon Hackett Chair*

To Be Filled
*The Mary Susan Kirk Fulghum
Chair*

Trumpet

Paul Randall, Principal
The George Smedes Poyner Chair

Ben Hauser,
Associate Principal
*The Henry and Martha Zaytoun
and Family Chair*

Trombone

John Ilika, Principal
*The Thomas Warwick Steed, Jr.
Family Chair*

Steven Osborne*,
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

Richard Motylinski, Principal
*The Margery and Earl Johnson,
Jr. Chair*

Rajesh Prasad,
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.*

**Thank you to the generous individuals, businesses, foundations, and
community partners who support the North Carolina Symphony each year.**

The North Carolina Symphony gratefully
acknowledges financial support from
Wake County, the City of Raleigh,
and the State of North Carolina.



NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY

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