



Music based on mythology and folklore from around the world.



7 p.m. Saturday October 14, 2023

North Canyon High School Auditorium

1700 E. Union Hills Dr., Phoenix

Partially funded by:





Welcome to NVSO's 2023-2024 Season!

We hope you will join us for an exciting season of music.

"MYTHOLOGY AND FOLKLORE"

OCTOBER 14, 2023, 7 p.m.

"HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD"

DECEMBER 16, 2023, 7 p.m.

"POSTCARDS FROM BOHEMIA"

MARCH 16, 2024, 7 p.m.

"VICTORS AND HEROES"

MAY 18, 2024, 7 p.m.

All concerts will take place at the North Canyon High School Auditorium 1700 E Union Hills Dr, Phoenix, AZ

Tickets, concert information, advertising and sponsorship opportunities, and volunteer details are available on our website

NorthValleySymphony.org

Join us for our 2023-2024 Season













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Concert Sponsorship: \$1,000

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Funding and Support



North Valley Symphony Orchestra is Office of Arts and Culture.



This project is supported in part by an supported, in part, by the City of Phoenix award from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, an agency of the State of Arizona.

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Welcome to "Myths and Legends", North Valley Symphony Orchestra's first concert of the 2023-24 season. If you are a past patron, Welcome Back! We missed you over the summer and are glad you are back. If you are new to NVSO, we are so happy to have you join us for tonight's concert and hope to see you back again soon.

People often ask me how NVSO selects the music that we perform. Unlike many organizations, our musicians can have a direct role in selecting music. The NVSO Repertoire committee is comprised of musicians in the orchestra who work together as a group and in smaller teams to come up with concert themes and specific repertoire to perform. They meet several times a year and start working on program ideas for the next season and beyond. I would like to thank all of the volunteer committee members for their hard work last year in preparation for this season. They have put together some wonderful concerts and I am sure you will enjoy them all! Tonight, we will be exploring musical representations of Greek Mythology, the Arthurian Legends, a Chickasaw Indian legend, and so much more. In December we celebrate "Holidays Around the World," including Christmas carols and other global holiday music. Come celebrate Smetana's 200th Birthday in March with "Postcards from Bohemia." In May we will wrap up the season with "Victors and Heroes", celebrating human achievement in sports and science, superheroes, and more.

We hope you will be able to join us for the rest of the concerts this season. And don't forget to put February 3, 2024, on your calendar. You won't want to miss "Mardi Gras Melodies," our annual fundraising gala. It is sure to be a fun evening! Let the good times roll!

Thank you for your ongoing support of NVSO!

Líz Galpín

Biographies



Kevin Kozacek, Music Director

Originally from Colorado, Kevin Kozacek graduated from the University of Northern Colorado, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education with an emphasis in choral conducting, under the tutelage of Dr. Howard Skinner. Mr. Kozacek received both his Master of Arts and Master of Music degrees from Northern Arizona University, studying orchestral conducting under Dr. Nicholas Ross and Dr. Daniel O'Bryant. He has additionally studied conducting under Maestros Lawrence Golan, Don Thulean, Apo Hsu,

Harold Farberman, Raymond Harvey, and Zvonimir Hacko. Mr. Kozacek has guest-conducted orchestras in Kiev, Ukraine, and Krasnoyarsk, Russia, and been invited to conduct workshops and high school honor orchestras in local Arizona school districts. Mr. Kozacek has taught public school music in grades K-12, and directed theater, instrumental ensembles, and choral groups in churches and communities in England, Nebraska, Colorado, Texas, and Arizona. He has served as Artistic Director for ProMusica Arizona Chorale and Orchestra in Phoenix, and Music Director for the Verde Valley Sinfonietta in Sedona. In 2012, Mr. Kozacek was invited to serve as the founding Music Director for North Valley Symphony Orchestra. Kevin and his wife Cindy have two grown sons, Matt and Chris, and four grandchildren, Audrey, Owen Zeke and Sylvee.



Ellen Hansbury, Concertmaster

Ellen began studying the violin at the age of four. At the College Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati, she went on to major in violin performance under the direction of Kurt Sassmannshaus. Ellen later earned her MBA from UC and decided to pursue a career in marketing. With a strong passion for music and performing, she continued to play in community orchestras. Ellen joined NVSO in 2015 and thoroughly enjoys the musicianship and sense of community

this organization brings. When she's not playing the violin, Ellen explores the outdoors with her husband and their pups Stella and Samson.

Biographies



Josh Condon, Assistant Conductor

Josh is thrilled to be in his second year as
Assistant Conductor for North Valley Symphony
Orchestra! Around the valley, Josh has worked as
a theatrical music director for Arizona Broadway
Theatre, The Phoenix Theatre Company, Xavier
College Preparatory, Scottsdale Center for the
Performing Arts, Childsplay, Arizona State
University, and the Arizona Musical Theatre
Orchestra. Prior to coming to Arizona, Josh served
as a music director/pianist for the Norwegian,
Celebrity, and Princess cruise lines, where he

collaborated with numerous West End and Broadway performers. He holds a B.M. in Jazz Studies from Ithaca College and an M.M. in Musical Theatre/Opera Music Direction from ASU. He currently serves as Resident Artist & Director of Community Music Programs at Arizona Musicfest and as Director of Music at St. Francis Xavier Parish.



MYTHS & LEGENDS

Conductor - Kevin Kozacek Assistant Conductor - Joshua Condon

Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880) Orpheus in the Underworld: Overture

Claude Debussy (1862-1918) Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun

Frederick Loewe (1901-1988) Camelot Selections

arr. Robert Bennett

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971) **"Berceuse and Finale"**

from **The Firebird**

Repertoire sponsored by The Pye Family

- 20 Minute Intermission -

Jerod Impichch<u>a</u>achaaha' Tate **"Spider Brings Fire"**

(b. 1968) from *Lowak Shoppala*'

Narrator Jamie Parnell

Pyotr Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) **The Sleeping Beauty Suite, Op. 66a**

1. "Intro: Dance of the Lilac Fairies"

2. "Adagio: Dance of Suitors"

3. "Dance of Characters: Puss-n-Boots

and the White Cat"

4. "Panorama"

5. "Waltz"



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Adult Orchestra

First Violin

Section sponsored by Custom Plumbing of Arizona Ellen Hansbury + Dr. Melinda Wang ^ Pearl N.M. Bailey **Gabby Getty** Kaitlyn Golden Breana Keen Heather Merchut Tracy N. Petersen Musician sponsored by Twylla Gordon / Daniel Paanillo Rebecca Sumison Lisa Tufts Musician sponsored

Second Violin

Gabrielle Beam *
Sylvia L. Depta
Eileen L. Friedman
Jay Friedman
Kimberly Klatt
Heidi Kosiorek
Christian Ortega
Jordan Scott-Martin
Kathleen Womack

by Non Conformists

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Emma Mazur * Elizabeth Birch Mason Haskett # Carol Routh

Cello

Liz Galpin *

Musician sponsored by

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Byron Edgar *
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Flute

Cheryl Riggle *
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Piccolo

Nora Welsh *
Musician Sponsored by
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Oboe

Evelyn Rodriguez * Bryan Held Suzanne Johnsen

English Horn

Suzanne Johnsen *

Clarinet

Mandy Gifford *
Annemarie Strzelecki

Bassoon

Gina L. Stevens *

Horn

Philip Johnson * Chris Clark Anita Murray Steven A. Thomasson

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Dr. Leah Hodge * Trint Castle # Nathan Lievre

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Will Kurth * #
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Mike Burt *

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Eric Sundberg *
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Cindy Kozacek
Melissa Krout
Christopher Woodward

Keyboard

Nora Johnston *

Harp

Pam Hahn * # Jane Dastrup

> Personnel listed alphabetically after principal or concertmaster

- + Concertmaster
- ^ Asst Concertmaster
- * Principal
- # Guest

MYTHS & LEGENDS PROGRAM NOTES

Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880) was born a German, but his popularity and success was centered in Paris. His father had secured an appointment for Jacob (Jacques' German name) to the Conservatoire de Paris at age 14, but Jacob left the school to make it on his own as a cellist. After struggling for 5 years, he began composing small operettas, and took a chance on leasing a small theater on the Champs-Élysées and producing small performances. He became very popular due to his raucous themes and style, becoming remembered for his nearly 100 operettas between 1850 and 1870. His first full-length operetta, *Orphée aux enfers* ("Orpheus in the Underworld"), opened in 1858, and has remained one of his most played works. The Paris cabarets "Moulin Rouge" and "Folies Bergère" adopted the music of the "Galop infernal" from the culminating scene of the opera to accompany the can-can — the tune has been popularly associated with the dance ever since.

Claude Debussy (1862-1918) is known as a French impressionist composer, though he did not like that term applied to his works. He was admitted at age ten to the Conservatoire de Paris. He originally studied the piano, but found his vocation in innovative composition. It took many years for him to develop his mature style, and was nearly 40 when he finally achieved fame with the only opera he completed, *Pelléas et Mélisande*. Debussy's orchestral works include *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* (1894), *Nocturnes* (1897) and *La mer* (1903). He regarded the classical symphony as obsolete, and provided an alternative style through what he called his "symphonic sketches."

Frederick Loewe (1901-1988) collaborated with lyricist Alan Jay Lerner on a wide series of Broadway musicals, including *Brigadoon* (1947), *Paint Your Wagon* (1951), *My Fair Lady* (1956), and *Camelot* (1960). The Broadway production of *Camelot* starred Richard Burton, Julie Andrews and Robert Goulet (who became widely known for his rendition of "If Ever I Would Leave You." The show struggled with initially being too long — over four hours at the premiere. After editing, and a healthy boost in sales and popularity when Burton and Andrews previewed the musical on the Ed Sullivan Show, *Camelot* went on to run for 873 performances. Earlier this year (2023), *Camelot* enjoyed a 115 performance revival, and is expected to launch a national tour next year.

MYTHS & LEGENDS PROGRAM NOTES CONT...

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971) was born a Russian, but attained French citizenship in 1934, and American citizenship in 1945. Stravinsky initially studied law at the University of Saint Petersburg, where he met Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. He studied composition under Rimsky-Korsakov until 1908, and soon after met the ballet director Sergei Diaghilev, who commissioned him to write three ballets: The Firebird (1910), Petrushka (1911), and The Rite of Spring (1913). The story of The Firebird opens in the garden of the mythical king Koschei, with Prince Ivan chasing the Firebird, whom he captures and plucks a feather. Prince Ivan falls in love with one of thirteen princesses that are enslaved by the evil Koschei, and Ivan tries to free them. Koschei attempts to turn Ivan to stone, but the prince summons the Firebird with the feather, and the Firebird makes Koschei and the princesses perform an "Infernal Dance", which exhausts them and puts them to sleep. Ivan steals an egg that holds Koschei's soul and destroys it, killing Koschei and freeing the princesses. The ballet ends with rejoicing among the freed subjects. The "Berceuse" (lullaby) and "Finale" that are part of the performance suite represent the two movements where Koschei sleeps, and the final rejoicing when the subjects are released.

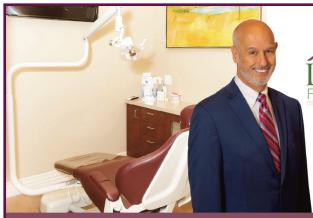
Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate (b. 1968) is a Native American Indian of the Chickasaw Nation, located in Oklahoma. Tate is a very successful composer and virtuoso pianist, and his works reflect both Native American and classical themes and elements. "Spider Brings Fire" is actually only one scene from a broader piece called Lowak Shoppala' (Fire and Light), a collection of traditional Chickasaw stories compiled by writer Linda Hogan. Lowak Shoppala' includes eight scenes that feature orchestra, narration, children's chorus, traditional Chickasaw and modern dancers, traditional Chickasaw and classical vocal soloists and Chickasaw storytellers. Each scene depicts a part of Chickasaw culture and history.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) was considered the first Russian composer to achieve international renown. His works include the very popular ballets *Swan Lake, The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty*, as well as his classic *1812 Overture*, and several symphonies. At the age of five, Tchaikovsky emerged as a child prodigy on the piano. But he was first educated as a civil servant — there were no real opportunities for a career in music at that time.

MYTHS & LEGENDS PROGRAM NOTES CONT...

After working as a counselor for three years, he was accepted to the newly opened Saint Petersburg Conservatory of Music and graduated in 1865. Under the directorship of Anton Rubenstein, the Western-oriented teaching of the conservatory set Tchaikovsky apart from other largely nationalist Russian composers, including Rimsky-Korsakov and Borodin. But some Russians did not feel Tchaikovsky's music sufficiently represented native Russian music, while others dismissed Tchaikovsky's music as deficient because he did not strictly follow Western principles. The Sleeping Beauty ballet was written late in Tchaikovsky's life in 1890. It is his longest ballet, running over four hours in length. The plot roughly follows the storyline that we are acquainted with from Disney. But the original story is from the Brothers Grimm, so there are significant differences, including a cast of fairytale characters including Puss-n-Boots and Cinderella.







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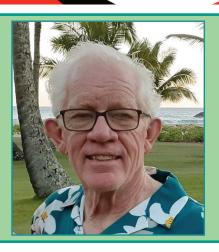
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Ken Kozacek

He loved the outdoors. musical performance, and our Savior.

Kevin & Cindy Kozacek









The Youth Concert "Seasons of Sound" will take place on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at 3PM, at North Canyon High School.

The youth concert is free and no tickets are required!

