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**FILL OUT OUR SURVEY!**

## About the Show

*Modesto Symphony Orchestra Association*

### **Barber & Brahms**

Friday, February 10, 2023, 7:30 pm

Saturday, February 11, 2023, 7:30 pm

Gallo Center for the Arts, Mary Stuart Rogers Theater

Andrew Grams, *conductor*

Simone Porter, *violin*

## Program

***Margaret Brouwer (b. 1940)***

***Remembrances (1996)***

***Samuel Barber (1910-1981)***

**Violin Concerto, op. 14 (1939)**

I. Allegro

II. Andante

III. Presto in moto perpetuo

Simone Porter, *violin*

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INTERMISSION

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## **Barber & Brahms**

An emotional journey of love &  
life



**Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)**

**Symphony No. 2 in D major, op. 73 (1877)**

- I. Allegro non troppo
- II. Adagio non troppo
- III. Allegretto grazioso (quasi andantino)
- IV. Allegro con spirito

**Roster**

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**Orchestra Roster**

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Andrew Grams, conductor

**Violin 1**

Ilana Blumberg, *concertmaster*  
Dagenais Smiley, *associate concertmaster*  
Zlata Grekov, *assistant concertmaster*  
Kirstan Hilton  
Valerie Tisdell  
Mark Neyshloss  
Milka Kraveva-Castro  
Michael Nicholson  
Katherine Allen  
Sarah Elert  
Sarah Biagini  
Lisa Merrill

**Violin 2**

Myriam Cotton-Rack, *principal*  
Aya Kiyonaga, *assistant principal*  
Juan Carlos Gutierrez  
Donald Grishaw  
Josephine Gray  
Donna Harrison  
Ray Reinebach  
Thomas Yee  
Marie Flexer  
Bogdana Mindov

**Viola**

Patricia Whaley, *principal*  
Marcel Gemperli, *assistant principal*

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Kathryn Juneau  
Pauline Moreira  
James Een  
Meg Titchener  
Anne Martin  
Jacob Hansen-Joseph

**Cello**

Mark Votapek, *principal*  
Dina Weinschelbaum, *assistant principal*  
Daniel Davies  
Hannah Harrington  
Tyler DeVigal  
Gabriel Beistline  
Byron Hogan  
Amy Brodo  
Eric Sheaffer

**Bass**

Raymond Vargas, *principal*  
Sukyung Chun, *assistant principal*  
Jared Prokop  
Zachary Iscoff  
Chris Yick  
Alexandria Kelley

**Flute**

Johanna Borenstein, *principal*  
Gail Edwards

**Oboe**

Gabe Young, *principal*  
Robert Walker  
Ben Brogadir, *english horn*

**Clarinet**

Rob Patterson, *principal*  
Rebecca Tobin

**Bassoon**

Layla Zamora, *principal*  
Jonathan Stehney



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### ***Horn***

Melia Badalian, *principal*  
Katie Dennis, Assistant Principal  
Nicky Roosevelt  
Adam Wolf  
William Harrington

### ***Trumpet***

Matthew Ebisuzaki, *principal*  
Bryce Schmidt  
Owen Miyoshi

### ***Trombone***

Dillon MacIntyre, *principal*  
Don Benham  
Jason Borris, *bass trombone*

### ***Tuba***

Jonathan Seiberlich, *principal*

### ***Timpani***

John Weeks, *principal*

### ***Percussion***

Joseph Runnels, *principal*  
Jonathan Lotta

### ***Harp***

Amy Zanrosso, *principal*

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Roster as of 2/7/2023

## **Artist Biographies**

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## Barber & Brahms

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**Andrew Grams**

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conductor

With a unique combination of intensity, enthusiasm and technical clarity, American conductor **Andrew Grams** has steadily built a reputation for his dynamic concerts, ability to connect with audiences, and long-term orchestra building. He's the winner of 2015 Conductor of the Year from the Illinois Council of Orchestras and has led orchestras throughout the United States including the Chicago Symphony, Detroit Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Dallas Symphony, and the Houston Symphony.

Andrew Grams became music director of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra after an international search in 2013 and recently concluded his tenure there after 8 seasons. His charismatic conducting and easy accessibility have made him a favorite of Elgin Symphony audiences.

A frequent traveler, Mr. Grams has worked extensively with orchestras abroad, including the symphony orchestras of Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver, the Orchestre National de France, Hong Kong Philharmonic, BBC Symphony Orchestra London, the symphony orchestras of Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra, and Het Residentie Orchestra in The Hague, Netherlands. He has led multiple performances of New York City Ballet's George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*® and the first performances of the new production of *The Nutcracker* for the Norwegian National Ballet in Oslo.

Also an educator, Mr. Grams has worked with orchestras at institutions such as the Curtis Institute of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music, Indiana University, Roosevelt University, the National Orchestral Institute at the University of Maryland, and the Amsterdam Conservatorium.

Born in Severn, Maryland, Mr. Grams began studying the violin when he was eight years old. In 1999 he received a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance from The Juilliard School, and in 2003 he received a conducting degree from the Curtis Institute of Music where he studied with Otto-Werner Mueller. He was

selected to spend the summer of 2003 studying with David Zinman, Murry Sidlin and Michael Stern at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen and returned to that program again in 2004. Mr. Grams served as Assistant Conductor of The Cleveland Orchestra from 2004-2007 where he worked under the guidance of Franz Welser-Möst, and has since returned for several engagements.

As an accomplished violinist, Mr. Grams was a member of the New York City Ballet Orchestra from 1998-2004, serving as acting associate principal second violin in 2002 and 2004. Additionally, he has performed with ensembles including the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Brooklyn Philharmonic, and the New Jersey Symphony.



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**Simone Porter**

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violin

Violinist **Simone Porter** has been recognized as an emerging artist of impassioned energy, interpretive integrity, and vibrant communication. In the past few years she has debuted with the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic; and with a number of renowned conductors, including Stéphane Denève,

Gustavo Dudamel, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Nicholas McGegan, Ludovic Morlot, and Donald Runnicles. Born in 1996, Simone made her professional solo debut at age 10 with the Seattle Symphony and her international debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London at age 13. In March 2015, Simone was named a recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant.

Recent highlights include Mendelssohn with New Jersey Symphony, Brahms with Pacific Symphony and an extensive tour throughout the US including concerts with the Santa Rosa, Amarillo, Pasadena, Fairfax and Midland Symphonies; the Rochester, Westchester, Orlando and Great Bay Philharmonics; the Sarasota Orchestra and the Northwest Sinfonietta. With the cessation of live concerts Simone continued to record streamed events with Seattle, Pittsburgh, Charlotte and Greater Bridgeport Symphonies. Beginning with



## Barber & Brahms

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the Aspen festival where she is a frequent guest, in July 2021 she resumed a full season of orchestral and recital concerts to include Denver, North Carolina, St. Louis, Grand Rapids, Quebec, Sarasota, Bakersfield, Princeton and Monterey Symphonies and recitals including Boston where the program includes the world premiere of a commission from composer Reena Esmail.

At the invitation of Esa-Pekka Salonen, Simone performed his work 'Lachen verlernt' ('Laughing Unlearned'), at the New York Philharmonic's "Foreign Bodies," a multi-sensory celebration of the work of the composer and conductor. In recent seasons, she has also appeared at the Edinburgh Festival performing Barber under the direction of Stéphane Denève, and at the Mostly Mozart Festival performing Mozart under Louis Langrée. She has also performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl with both Nicholas McGegan and Ludovic Morlot, and at Walt Disney Concert Hall with Gustavo Dudamel.

Internationally, Simone has performed with the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra with Gustavo Dudamel; the Orquestra Sinfônica Brasileira in Rio de Janeiro; the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica; the City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong; the Royal Northern Sinfonia; the Milton Keynes City Orchestra in the United Kingdom; and the Opera de Marseilles.

Simone made her Carnegie Zankel Hall debut on the Emmy Award-winning TV show From the Top: Live from Carnegie Hall followed in November 2016 by her debut in Stern Auditorium. In June 2016, her featured performance of music from Schindler's List with Maestro Gustavo Dudamel and members of the American Youth Symphony was broadcast nationally on the TNT Network as part of the American Film Institute's Lifetime Achievement Award: A Tribute to John Williams.

Raised in Seattle, Washington, Simone studied with Margaret Pressley as a recipient of the Dorothy Richard Starling Scholarship, and was then admitted into the studio of the renowned pedagogue Robert Lipsett, with whom she studied at the Colburn Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles. Summer studies have included many years at the Aspen Music Festival, Indiana University's Summer String Academy, and the Schlern International Music Festival in Italy.

Simone Porter performs on a 1740 Carlo Bergonzi violin made in Cremona Italy on generous loan from The Master's University, Santa Clarita, California.

## Program Notes

## Remembrances

Margaret Brouwer

## Margaret Brouwer

### *Remembrances*

**Composer:** born February 8, 1940, in Ann Arbor, Michigan

**Composed:** 1996

*written for the Roanoke Symphony, dedicated to Robert Stewart*

**Premiere:** Roanoke Symphony, Yong-Yan Hu, guest conductor, Roanoke, VA, March 18, 1996

**Duration:** 14 minutes

**Instrumentation:** 2 (2nd picc.) 2 EH 2 2(2nd cbsn.); 4331; timp., 2 perc., hp., strings

This tone poem is an elegy and a tribute to Robert Stewart who was a musician, composer, sailor and loved one. Beginning with an expression of grief and sorrow, the music evolves into a musical portrait, full of warm memories, love and admiration, and images of sailing. Typical of elegies and tone poems, such as "Death and Transfiguration" by Strauss, it ends in a spirit of consolation and hope.

### REVIEWS

*"...Next was RSO Composer- in-Residence Margaret Brouwer's lovely tone poem "Remembrances." This was Brouwer at her best: **lyrical, accessible, powerful and deeply moving**. I have heard a number of Brouwer's works in several venues, and "Remembrances" made the best impression by a long shot. If more contemporary composers would write like Brouwer in this vein, the uneasy armed truce between audiences and modern music would quickly come to an end....In the long second section there were numerous gorgeous solos for winds, including a ravishing line from solo oboe over timpani roll and pedal tones from the double basses. There was also a lovely soliloquy for clarinet. The mood alternated between gentle sorrow and striving affirmation. "Remembrances" ended on a rising three-note figure and the piece was quickly awarded enthusiastic applause, bravos and a standing ovation." - Seth Williamson, Roanoke Times, March 19, 1996*

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"The moving "Remembrances" is 'an elegy and a tribute' to a deceased loved one. Its 15-minute span allows it to move with unhurried sincerity from mourning to hard-won reassurance. With its consonant tonality, it is the most stereotypical "American" piece on this disc." - Raymond S Tuttle, *International Record Review*, June 2006

© Margaret Brouwer

Learn more from the composer:  
<https://www.margaretbrouwer.com/remembrances#:~:text=PROGRAM%20NOTES,admiration%2C%20>

## Violin Concerto, op. 14

Samuel Barber

Samuel Barber

*Violin Concerto, op. 14*

**Composer:** born March 9, 1910, West Chester, PA; died January 23, 1981, New York City

**Work composed:** 1939, rev. 1948

**World premiere:** Eugene Ormandy led the Philadelphia Orchestra, with violinist Albert Spalding, on February 7, 1941. The revised version was first performed by violinist Ruth Posselt, with Serge Koussevitzky leading the Boston Symphony Orchestra, on January 6, 1949.

**Instrumentation:** solo violin, 2 flutes (one doubling piccolo), 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 2 horns, 2 trumpets, timpani, snare drum, piano, and strings

**Estimated duration:** 25 minutes

Samuel Barber wrote the Violin Concerto, his first major commission, for Samuel Fels, the inventor of Fels Naptha soap, on behalf Fels' adopted son, violinist Iso Briselli. Barber began work on the concerto in Switzerland in the summer of 1939, but, due to what he described in a letter as "increasing war anxiety," Barber left Europe in August and returned home with the final movement still unfinished.

At the end of summer 1939, Barber sent the first two movements to Briselli for comment. Briselli was unimpressed, describing them as "too simple and not brilliant enough for a

## Barber & Brahms

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## Barber & Brahms

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concerto.” Taking these comments to heart, Barber resolved to write a final movement that would afford “ample opportunity to display the artist’s technical powers.” Briselli found fault with this movement as well, calling it “too lightweight” in comparison with the other movements. In a letter to Fels, Barber wrote, “[I am] sorry not to have given Iso what he had hoped for, but I could not destroy a movement in which I have complete confidence, out of artistic sincerity to myself. So we decided to abandon the project, with no hard feelings on either side.” Barber later approached violinist Albert Spalding, who immediately agreed to premiere the work. Because of all the controversy generated by the third movement, Barber gave the concerto a humorous nickname, the “*concerto del sapone*,” or a “soap concerto,” a reference both to Fels Naptha and the melodrama of soap operas.

Reviews praised the concerto as “an exceptional popular success” and Barber for writing a concerto “refreshingly free from arbitrary tricks and musical mannerisms ... straightforwardness and sincerity are among its most engaging qualities.” The late annotator Michael Steinberg called the opening of the first movement “magical,” and goes on to ask, “Does any other violin concerto begin with such immediacy and with so sweet and elegant a melody?” Few works, certainly few concertos, draw the listener in so quickly, and keep our attention focused so completely. The *Andante semplice* features a heartbreakingly beautiful oboe solo – classic Barber in its yearning – and the violinist answers it with an impassioned yet surprisingly intimate melody that suggests the violin musing aloud to itself.

The finale, a rondo theme and variations, is particularly impressive. In his program notes for the 1941 premiere, Barber wrote, with characteristic understatement, “The last movement, a perpetual motion, exploits the more brilliant and virtuoso characteristics of the violin.” But as biographer Barbara Heyman points out, “This is one of the few virtually nonstop concerto movements in the violin literature (the solo instrument plays for 110 measures without interruption).”

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## Symphony No. 2 in D major, op. 73

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Johannes Brahms

Johannes Brahms

## Symphony No.2 in D major, op. 73

**Composer:** born May 7, 1833, Hamburg; died April 3, 1897, Vienna

**Work composed:** During the summer and fall of 1877

**World premiere:** Hans Richter led the Vienna Philharmonic on December 30, 1877

**Instrumentation:** 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, timpani, and strings.

**Estimated duration:** 39 minutes



### Barber & Brahms

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Less than a year after the successful premiere of Johannes Brahms' first symphony, on November 4, 1876, the composer left Vienna to spend the summer at the lakeside town of Pörschach on Lake Wörth, in southern Austria. There, in the beauty and quiet of the countryside, Brahms completed his second symphony. Pörschach was to be a productive place for Brahms; over the course of three summers there he wrote several important works, including his Violin Concerto. In a letter to critic Eduard Hanslick, a lifelong Brahms supporter, Brahms wrote, "The melodies fly so thick here that you have to be careful not to step on one."

Unlike Brahms' first symphony, which took more than 20 years to complete, work on the second went smoothly, and Brahms finished it in just four months. Brahms felt so good about his progress that he joked with his publisher, "The new symphony is so melancholy that you won't stand it. I have never written anything so sad ... the score must appear with a black border." In a different letter, Brahms self-mockingly observed, "Whether I have a pretty symphony I don't know; I must ask clever people sometime."

As Brahms composed, he shared his work-in-progress with lifelong friend Clara Schumann. "Johannes came this evening and played me the first movement of his Second Symphony in D major, which greatly delighted me," Schumann noted in her diary in October 1877. "I find it in invention more significant than the first movement of the First Symphony ... I also heard a part of the last movement and am quite overjoyed with it. With this symphony he will have a more telling success with the public as well than he did with the First, much as musicians are captivated by the latter through its inspiration and wonderful working-out."

The Symphony No. 2 is often described as the cheerful alter ego to the solemn melancholy of the Symphony No. 1. Brahms uses the lilting notes of the Allegro non troppo as a common link throughout all four movements, where they are repeated, reversed and otherwise, in Schumann's words, "wonderfully worked-out." In the extended coda, Brahms introduces the trombones and tuba, casting a tiny shadow over the sunny mood. The Adagio's lyrical cello melody hints at the wistful melancholy that characterizes so much of Brahms' music. The Allegretto grazioso is remarkably gentle, and the infectious joy of the closing Allegro con spirito expands on the first movement's amiable mood, so much so that at the Vienna premiere, the audience demanded an encore.

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## Celebrating Support

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Mobile devices may be used to read program notes during the concert.

Program and artists subject to change. E&OE.



## Barber & Brahms

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A promotional poster for a concert. At the top left is the Modesto Symphony Orchestra logo. The main title is 'THE GREAT American SONGBOOK' in a stylized, neon-like font. Below the title is a photo of the orchestra performing. To the right is a portrait of a smiling man in a striped shirt. The background features musical notes and a microphone icon. Text at the bottom provides the date, time, and ticket information.

Friday  
**MARCH 17, 2023**  
7:30 PM  
Tickets start at \$19  
MODESTOSYMPHONY.ORG  
209.338.2100

A promotional poster for a concert. The background is a photo of a choir performing. The Modesto Symphony Orchestra logo is in the top left. The title 'MOZART REQUIEM' is written in large, gold, serif letters. Below the title, the date and time are listed in white text.

MOZART  
**REQUIEM**  
MAY 12 & 13  
7:30 PM  
GALLO CENTER FOR THE ARTS

## Administration & Board

## Artistic Team



**Ryan Murray**

Principal Pops Conductor

**Ryan Murray** is currently Principal Pops Conductor for the Modesto Symphony, Music Director of the Auburn Symphony and Artistic Director of the Music in the Mountains Summer Festival. He is also the Director of Symphony Orchestra & Opera at California State University, Sacramento, and the Conductor for the Sacramento Youth Symphony's premier orchestra. An award-winning opera conductor, Ryan spent his early career working as an assistant conductor and répétiteur, and serves as Music Director of Opera Modesto. He has served as an assistant conductor at the Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera, is the past Music Director of Fresno Grand Opera, and previously worked as a staff conductor for the Bay Area Summer Opera Theater Institute (BASOTI) and The Opera Academy of California in San Francisco. Effortlessly moving between genres, Ryan currently enjoys a wide range of performance genres & platforms, including traditional orchestral and operatic repertoire, pops performances, movies in concert, and a notable emphasis on contemporary American operatic works.

?Ryan was the winner of the Vienna Philharmonic's prestigious Ansbacher Fellowship for Young Conductors, and spent the summer in residence alongside the Vienna Philharmonic at the 2014 Salzburg Festival. Ryan was also awarded second place in the 2019 American Prize for Professional Orchestral Conducting for his work with the Modesto Symphony, and has garnered national recognition for his dynamic, compelling performances of contemporary opera as the winner of the 2017 American Prize in Opera Conducting for his highly lauded production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*. He was a 2016 semi-finalist for the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music for his production of Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking*.

A charismatic pops conductor, Ryan has worked with prominent artists such as Storm Large of Pink Martini, SuperDiamond and the phenomenal symphonic tribute to David Bowie. He was recently engaged to step-in at the last minute as assistant and cover conductor for Andrea Bocelli's *Believe Tour* with the



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## Barber & Brahms

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Sacramento Philharmonic where he conducted rehearsals to acclaim. He has led some of the top vocalists from Broadway and beyond, including Ben Crawford (Broadway's *The Phantom of the Opera*), Ashley Brown (Broadway's *Mary Poppins*), and Alli Mauzey (Glinda from *Wicked*), as well as some of today's top young jazz vocalists including Tony DeSare and James Tormé. With an enthusiasm for film scores, Ryan enjoys the unique challenges of conducting movies in concert and is a *Disney & ICM Approved Conductor*. Recent and upcoming performances include Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, Pixar Animation Studios' *Pixar in Concert*, *Star Wars: A New Hope* and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*.

Ryan holds degrees, *summa cum laude*, in Bassoon Performance and Voice Performance from California State University, Sacramento and also holds a master's degree, *with distinction*, in Music Business from the Berklee College of Music where he studied with industry professionals to develop tools for success in the modern music industry, including new technology, policy, law and finance. Driven by a lifelong passion for learning, Ryan has attended conducting masterclasses and seminars around the world. Ryan recently conducted the Romanian Chamber Orchestra in concert and was one of just eight conductors worldwide to be invited to the *Musiikin aika* Summer Festival Masterclass in Finland led by Musical America's 2017 Conductor of the Year & Principal Guest Conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Susanna Mälkki. He has previously attended the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music's Conductors Workshop; the contemporary music symposium led by Alan Gilbert featuring the New York Philharmonic; the Aurora Chamber Festival in Sweden, where he studied under Maestro Kurt Masur; the Lucerne Festival Academy's Conducting Masterclass in Switzerland; and the Eastman School of Music's Summer Conducting Institute. Widely praised for his tireless work ethic, natural poise, and impassioned, inspired performances, Ryan continues to connect deeply with orchestras and audiences alike, and has proven to be a formidable presence on the podium.?



**Daniel R. Afonso Jr.**

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Chorus Director

**Daniel R. Afonso Jr.** has served as conductor of the Modesto Symphony Orchestra Chorus since its foundation in 2001 and has prepared several choral works with the ensemble. He is also Coordinator of Vocal and Choral Studies at California State University, Stanislaus. Afonso received a B.M.E. degree from the Universidade do Rio de Janeiro (UNI -Rio), a M.M. degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and a D.M.A. degree in Choral Conducting and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa. Dr. Afonso is originally from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and has studied conducting with Carlos Alberto Figueiredo, Cees Rotteveel, Eph Ehly, and William Hatcher.

Dr. Afonso has performed with choral groups in Brazil, U.S., and Europe, and has previously taught music at the Conservatório Brasileiro de Música, Universidade do Rio de Janeiro (UNI-Rio), and Doane College, Nebraska. In 1988, he won the first prize and the best performance of Villa-Lobos work award at the Concurso Villa-Lobos de Canto Coral, a national choral competition sponsored by the Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro. Dr. Afonso is strongly committed to the performance of new music and has commissioned and premiered many new choral works in the last few years, including several of his own works as well as works by young composition students. He had his New York debut in 2012, conducting Mozart's Requiem with members of the MSO Chorus and students from CSU Stanislaus at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

He is also a composer, arranger, and editor of choral music and has choral works published by earthsongs, Colla Voce, and Alliance Music Publications. He served as composer-in-residence with the San Francisco Choral Artists during their 2014-2015 season and has also written works for the Los Angeles Children's Choir, the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, and other ensembles in the US and abroad. He has written innumerable arrangements for the Modesto Symphony Orchestra, including a new version of The Star-Spangled Banner for chorus and orchestra, recently premiered at the



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opening concert for the 2015-16 concert season. Dr. Afonso is widely recognized for his research and performance of Brazilian choral music and continues to frequently present workshops and lectures about the Latin American choral repertoire.

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## About the MSO

### History



**The Modesto Symphony Orchestra (MSO)** was founded in 1931 by Frank Mancini, Malin Langstroth, and Leonard Fristrom, who worked with local leaders to establish a musical and cultural focal point. In its early years, the MSO featured its members as soloists and performed concerts in churches, high schools, and colleges. As the orchestra matured, professional soloists and community choruses performed with the MSO. The 1970's through 1990's were a period of transition as the MSO



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became a fully professional orchestra in 1977. New innovations developed, such as pops concerts, the formation of the Modesto Symphony Youth Orchestra in 1976, and the first Picnic at the Pops in 1994. The 21st century marked further growth with the formation of the Modesto Symphony Orchestra Chorus in 2001, becoming a resident company of the Gallo Center for the Arts when their doors opened in 2007, and the creation of the Modesto Symphony Youth Chorus in 2017.

Each season, the MSO performs five classics concerts and three pops concerts at the Gallo Center for the Arts and produces two community favorites, Picnic at the Pops at the E. & J. Gallo Winery and the Holiday Candlelight Concert at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church. Through its education and outreach programs, the MSO is able to reach over 15,000 students each year by working closely with local schools and providing free or low-cost opportunities to experience classical music.

Today, the Modesto Symphony continues to strive to enrich and enhance the community by bringing music of the highest artistic caliber and fostering lifelong music education and appreciation. The 2021-22 season marks the Symphony's 91st season and will showcase our Music Director candidates.

## Mission & Values

### Vision

The Modesto Symphony Orchestra strives to enrich lives and enhance our community's vitality and quality of life through music.

### Mission

We shall pursue this vision by producing and presenting music of the highest artistic caliber and fostering lifelong music education and appreciation.

### Values

In pursuit of this vision the Modesto Symphony Orchestra Association shall be guided by these values.

### *Creativity*

Foster an environment conducive to innovation in the type, format and venue of musical performance and to the

administration and governance of MSO.

### ***Excellence***

Expect high levels of performance both on-stage and in MSO's administration and governance.

### ***Integrity***

Be honest and expect a foundation of strong moral principles behind all actions.

### ***Collaboration***

Look for opportunities to work with others on shared goals.

### ***Welcoming***

Strive to meet the needs and desires of all segments of the community through music performance and education.

## **Our 2022-2023 Season**

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### **| Our 2022-2023 Season Concerts**

#### **[Picnic at the Pops! The Music of Elton John](#)**

September 10, 2022

E. & J. Gallo Winery Grounds

#### **[Rhapsody in Blue](#)**

October 21 & 22, 2022

#### **[Rachmaninoff & Sibelius](#)**

November 11 & 12, 2022

#### **[Holiday Pops!](#)**

December 2 & 3, 2022

#### **[Holiday Candlelight Concert](#)**

December 20, 2022

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church

#### **[Barber & Brahms](#)**

February 10 & 11, 2023

#### **[The Great American Songbook](#)**

March 17, 2023



## **Barber & Brahms**

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## **Mozart Requiem**

May 12 & 13, 2023

## **Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back in Concert**

June 2 & 3, 2023

### **2022-2023 MSYO Concerts**

#### **MSYO Season Opening Concert**

November 12, 2022 at 2 pm

#### **MSYO Spring Concert**

February 11, 2023 at 2 pm

#### **MSYO Season Finale Concert**

May 13, 2023 at 2 pm

*All MSYO concerts will be in the Mary Stuart Rogers Theater at the Gallo Center for the Arts.*

## **Barber & Brahms**

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## **Celebrating Support**

### **Thank You**

The MSO acknowledges with gratitude the following donors and sponsors whose generosity allows the orchestra to reach new heights in music and education. With your continued support, we are making a difference together and enriching the lives of our community, one note at a time.

*For our full listing and more information about how you can give the gift of music to our community visit [www.modestosymphony.org/support](http://www.modestosymphony.org/support).*

### **Modesto Symphony Orchestra Annual Fund**

#### **Conductor's Circle**

#### **Conductor's Circle**

*The MSO acknowledges with gratitude the following donors for their generous support between January 1, 2022 through January 27, 2023. For more information about supporting the MSO, please contact the Development Associate, Joenna Llavore at (209) 523-4156 x 101.*



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### **Grand Tier**

\$25,000 +

Dianne Gagos  
Col. John & June Rogers

### **Diamond Baton**

\$15,000+

Wilmar & Judith Jensen  
Dr. Richard Kendrick

### **Platinum Baton**

\$10,000+

Kent & Ginger Johnson  
Robert A. Saunders

### **Gold Baton**

\$5,000+

Bill & Carolyn Ahlem  
James Beard  
Dr. Phillip & Margaret Beck  
Carole Boyett  
Anne & George Britton  
Justin & Monique Capp  
Judy & Mike Herrero  
Ronald Hoffmann  
Norma Foster Maddy  
Dr. Avi Nijjar  
Ruthann Olsen  
Jeff & Margaret Reed  
Bonnie Strauss  
David & Julie Vander Wall  
Dr. James & Alice Yip

### **Silver Baton**

\$2,500+

Els Blom  
Meredith Brandsma  
Sheila Carroll

John & Suzanne Casazza  
Toni Clark  
Dr. Richard & Nancy Fisher  
Maree Hawkins  
Ronald Hoffmann  
Charles & Kathleen Holmberg  
Dr. Brian & Siran Lenser  
Tony & Gail McBride  
Barbara Padmos  
Hanna & Dieter Renning  
Glenn & Sue Ellen Ritchey  
Daphne Ritchie  
Deni Royer  
Joe & Joan Shimmon  
Burt & Polly Vasche  
Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek  
Steve & Jennie Zeff

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### *Bronze Baton*

\$1,650+

Anonymous  
Suzanne Allen  
Dr. Robert Altman & Dr. Yvonne Brouard  
Eric & Carol Benson  
Katherine Boyd  
Jason & Laura Bream  
Virginia L. Carder  
Dr. Richard Dewar  
Robert & Martha Falzone  
Nancey Gagos  
Rob & Jennifer Hawks  
Doug & Susan Highiet  
Dennis & Kathy Hoskins  
Dr. James & Ingrid MacMillan  
Dr. R.J. Moriconi & Anthony Alonzo  
Rod & Freda Motto  
Ken & Debra Newburg  
Miriam Olsen  
Steve & Pam Pallios  
John & Patti Pfeffer  
Dr. Lyn Raible  
Carole Richard  
Donald & Donna Riley  
Joan Rutschow  
Tim & Susan Sanders  
Linda Sawdey  
Tom & Liz Seaver  
R.V. "Bud" & Patricia Stone  
Joseph & Ann Swain



Elizabeth Ustach  
Phyllis Walden  
John & Susan Wallace  
Mark & Laura Wharff  
Mark & Wendy Yelland

### **Musician's Club**

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#### ***Musicians Club***

The MSO acknowledges with gratitude the following donors for their generous support between January 1, 2022 through January 27, 2023. For more information about supporting the MSO, please contact the Development Associate, Joenna Llavore at (209) 523-4156 x 101.

#### ***Benefactor***

\$1,000+

Betty Beard  
John Degele  
Dr. Lit & Judy Fung  
Mitch & Leesa Gagos  
Ernest & Ryan Gallo  
Janelle Gray  
Judy Herrmann  
John & Dina Hackett  
Dr. Richard Holihan  
Duane & Deanna Hutton  
Garrad & Dallas Marsh  
Dick & Jeanine Monteith  
Katherine Olyphant-Wright  
Mary Partheymuller  
Janet Rogers & Bev LaBelle  
Phyllis M. Rose

#### ***Patron***

\$500+

George & Helen Badal  
Christine Beckstrom  
Pam Berg  
Carol Blomquist  
Nancy K. Brashear  
William & Edith Burchell  
Linda Carol  
Jim & Patty Duval



### **Barber & Brahms**

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## Barber & Brahms

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G. F. F. & R.  
Richard & Victoria Higginbotham  
Dr. Kriengsak & Dr. Sudjai Itsara  
Dr. Robert & Susan Levy  
Greg & Toni Litke  
Reuben & Teresa Peterson  
Jeff & Barbara Quinn  
Dr. Michael & Lisa Ringer  
Dr. James Robinson & Kathy Kohrman  
Bill & Dr. Niamh Seavy  
Dr. William & Yuko Swartz  
Nancy Taylor  
Dr. Mike & Kathleen Tekautz  
Phil Trompetter & Dawn Cunningham  
Beverly Winger

### *Sustainer*

\$250+

Margaret J. Barker  
Stephen & Nadine Bowlus  
Linda A. Chrabas  
Joseph Collins  
Gwendolyn Combs  
Dr. Walsh & Shirley Conmy  
Jim & Patty Duval  
William & Bonnie Fogarty  
Dr. Howard Goldor & Rhonda Kluender  
Melanie A. Hardy  
Douglas & Kathy Harms  
Dirk & Gladys Hoek  
Jerry & Diane Houghland  
Mary Ann & Mark Jensen  
Daniel Johnson  
Diane Keller  
Wayne & Elizabeth Kidwell  
Ron Klinkenborg  
Michael Krausnick  
Mary Leonard  
Brian & Leslie McCoy  
Dr. Robert & Katie McGrew  
Robert & Ann Miners  
Dr. Roland & Kate Nyegaard  
Tom & Peggy O'Donnell  
Robert & Ellen Opie  
Peter Pardee  
Mel Picanco  
Jennifer Pitts  
Jerald & Seena Rhine

Wendy Scott  
Yvonne & Ray Taylor  
Peter & Pam Warner  
Tom & Susie Wenstrup  
Richard & Claudia Williams  
Dr. Lynn & Susan Zwahlen

*Friend*

\$100+

Anonymous  
Yvonne Allen  
Carlos & Victoria Aquino  
Edward & Ann Arnold  
Patricia Cantley & Federico Balderas  
Carl & Marge Beckwith  
Gordon & Gayle Behrens  
Carol Ann Benak  
Carol Berberian & Philip Fincher  
Hugh & Christine Brereton  
Barbara Bruno  
Lee & Sandra Bucknell  
Michael & Barbara Cash  
Dr. Michael & Jeanine Clarke  
Carl & Carolyn Claybaugh  
Marcus Connelly  
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Phyllis Craft  
Lana Daily  
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Tisha DeHaven  
Michael & Paula DuBridge  
Daryl & Dee Dutter  
Ron & Janice Emerzian  
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C. Bonnie Feuer  
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Jo Fox  
Melanie Full  
Carole A. Garton  
Marianne C. Giddings  
Thomas Hampson & Henrietta Van Konyenburg  
Brent & Donna Harrison  
Jack Heinsius & Christine Olson  
Ronald W. Hillberg  
Neil & Sofia Hudson  
Daniel Johnson  
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David & Kathy Kalunian  
Dr. Candy Klaschus



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Michael Larson  
Stan & Adele Little  
Linda & Bill Low  
Janice Lucero  
Kim MacFarlane & Taz McCabe  
Dr. Randolph Madrid & Jennifer Nagaran  
Paolo & Janet Maffei  
Cortland & Joanne Meinhardt  
Dorothy Miller  
John & Virginia Miller  
Carl & Brenda Morris  
Carol Neyfeldt Benak  
Betty Nichols  
Richard & Patricia Norquist  
Jerold & Barbara Phillips  
Bill Pritchard  
Kathy Rasmussen  
Ginger Ratto  
Karin Reenstierna  
Richard & Syd Robenseifner  
Ronnie Robertson  
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Hugh & Willie Rose  
Ed & Mary Sai  
Robert Schenone  
Randy & Judge Sue Siefkin  
Jan Smith  
Dr. Todd & Susan Smith  
Ronald & Loween Stone  
Kathryn Taro  
Cher Tonge  
Paul Tremayne  
David Tucker & Linda Lagace  
Tricia Turner  
Dr. Bruce & Grace Valentine  
Dr. Tom & Grace Van Groningen  
Herman & Lynette Van Laar  
Gregory & Jeri Van Vooren  
Helen Vanderwall  
Chick & Lynda Venturini  
Gay Walker  
George Walker  
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Susan Wedegaertner  
Ken White & Robin Johnson  
Vernon & Mary Wickstrom  
Ken & Charlotte Williams  
Dr. Michael Wolterbeek & Carrie Munroe  
Mary Lou York

**MSYO Annual Fund**

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## ***Celebrating Support for the MSYO Annual Fund***

*The MSO acknowledges with gratitude the following donors for their generous support between January 1, 2022 and January 27, 2023. For more information about supporting the MSO, please contact the Development Associate, Joenna Llavore at (209) 523-4156 x 101.*

### **Benefactor**

Robert & Martha Falzone  
Dr. Richard Kendrick  
Rod & Freda Motto  
Alice Y. Renfroe  
Robert A. Saunders  
Ella Webb

### **Patron**

Dr. Phillip & Margaret Beck  
Amy Collier Carroll

### **Sustainer**

David Canton & Nancy Mayer  
Mark & Laura Wharff

### **Friend**

George & Helen Badal  
Christine Beckstrom  
Gordon & Gayle Behrens  
Pam Berg  
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Marcus Connelly  
Phyllis Craft  
Lana Daily  
Joan Dompe  
Thelma Ellison  
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Armando & Amber Flores  
Dianne Gagos



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Carole A. Garton  
Daniel Johnson  
Janice Lucero  
Gary & Patricia McDaniel  
Betty Nichols  
Daniel & Christina Ortiz  
Steve & Pam Pallios  
Mel & Dorothy Picanco  
Bill Pritchard  
Hugh & Willie Rose  
R.V. "Bud" & Patricia Stone  
Dave & Jan Sundy  
John & Susan Wallace  
Dr. Tom C. Watling

### Realized Planned Gifts

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The Modesto Symphony Orchestra is very grateful for the following planned gifts that came to us through the generosity of donors who made advance plans through their estate to remember us. These donors will be long remembered for the legacy they left by their gifts.

Estate of Jackie Foret

Estate of Jack & Ann Green, *Endowment Fund*

Estate of Jean Jepson

Estate of Luis Mayol

### Institutional Giving

#### Corporate Partners & Foundation Support

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#### Celebrating Our Partners in Music

*The MSO salutes our 2022-2023 Season Corporate Partners whose generosity allows the orchestra to reach new heights in music and education. With the continued support of the sponsors below we are making a difference together and enriching the lives of our community, one note at a time.*

#### E. & J. Gallo Winery & Family

John & June Rogers, *Guest Artist Sponsor*  
Beard Land and Investment Co.



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Boyett Petroleum  
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MUFJ Union Bank  
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Modesto Rotary Club Foundation  
Omega Nu

Media Partner: **iHeart Media**

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To view a full listing of our Corporate Season Partners please visit  
[www.modestosymphony.org/partners](http://www.modestosymphony.org/partners).

## Matching Gifts

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AT&T

E. & J. Gallo Winery

G3 Enterprises

United Health Group

## Memorial & Tribute Gifts

### Memorials

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The MSO is grateful for the generosity of the following donors who made tributes to loved ones, **between January 1, 2021 through January 27, 2023**.

#### **Ada Anderson**

Micah Forbes  
Cynthia Kanner

#### **Alicia Shephard Aywas**

Dianne Gagos  
Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek  
Carole Richard

#### **Teresa Lynn Beck**

Dr. Philip & Margaret Beck



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**Carol Berberian**

Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek

**Glenn Betz**

Richard Cushing  
Robert Saunders  
Peter & Ann Smith  
Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek  
Betty Ustach

**Brad Boyd**

Dr. Phillip & Margaret Beck  
Carole Boyett  
Dr. Richard & Nancy Fisher  
Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek

**Richard & Michael DuFour**

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Dr. Phillip & Margaret Beck  
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Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek  
Bob & Suzanne Robinson  
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Bob & Suzanne Robinson

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Ken & Debra Newburg  
Tom McDonald  
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Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek

**Lois Mayol**

Suzanne Allen  
Carole Boyett  
Sheila Carroll  
Luis and Margaret De Alcuaz  
Sandra De Alcuaz  
Norma Foster Maddy  
Dianne Gagos  
Robert and Kathleen Kaiser  
Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek  
Sally Owens

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Hugh and Willie Rose  
Deni Royer  
Elizabeth Ustach

**Wilma Porges**  
Dianne Gagos  
Robert Saunders  
Tony Vlcek and Caroline Nickel

**Nancy Watling**  
Tom Watling

**Mary Ann Whaley**  
Baird Whaley

**Jesse West**  
Carole Boyett  
George and Ann Britton  
Minnie Cappel  
Dianne Gagos  
Wilmar and Judy Jensen  
Caroline Nickel & Tony Vlcek

**Past MSO Chorus Members**

**Tobi Clark**  
**Ryan Cree**  
**Eleanor Currie**  
**Luana Fiorini**  
**Gordon Headrick**  
**Ed Howard**  
**Kathy Klein**  
**Roy Larson**  
**Grace Lieberman**  
**Heidi Lofgren**  
**Bill Nichols**  
**Nancy Rider**  
**Robert L. Rider**  
**Margaret Scheuber**  
**Elizabeth Sinclair**  
**Maryann Victorine**  
**Penny White**

MSO Chorus

**Tributes**

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The MSO is grateful for the generosity of the following donors who made tributes **between January 1, 2021 through January 27, 2023.**



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**Margaret Beck**

Kent & Ginger Johnson

**Dr. Phillip & Margaret Beck**

Carole Garton

Dianne Gagos

Bob & Suzanne Robinson

Elizabeth Ustach

**Dianne Gagos**

Mitch and Leesa Gagos

**George Gagos**

Mitch and Leesa Gagos

**Barbara Padmos**

John and Suzanne Casazza

**Dana Schaa**

Robert Saunders

**In Honor of Bob Saunders**

William and Claudia Saunders



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