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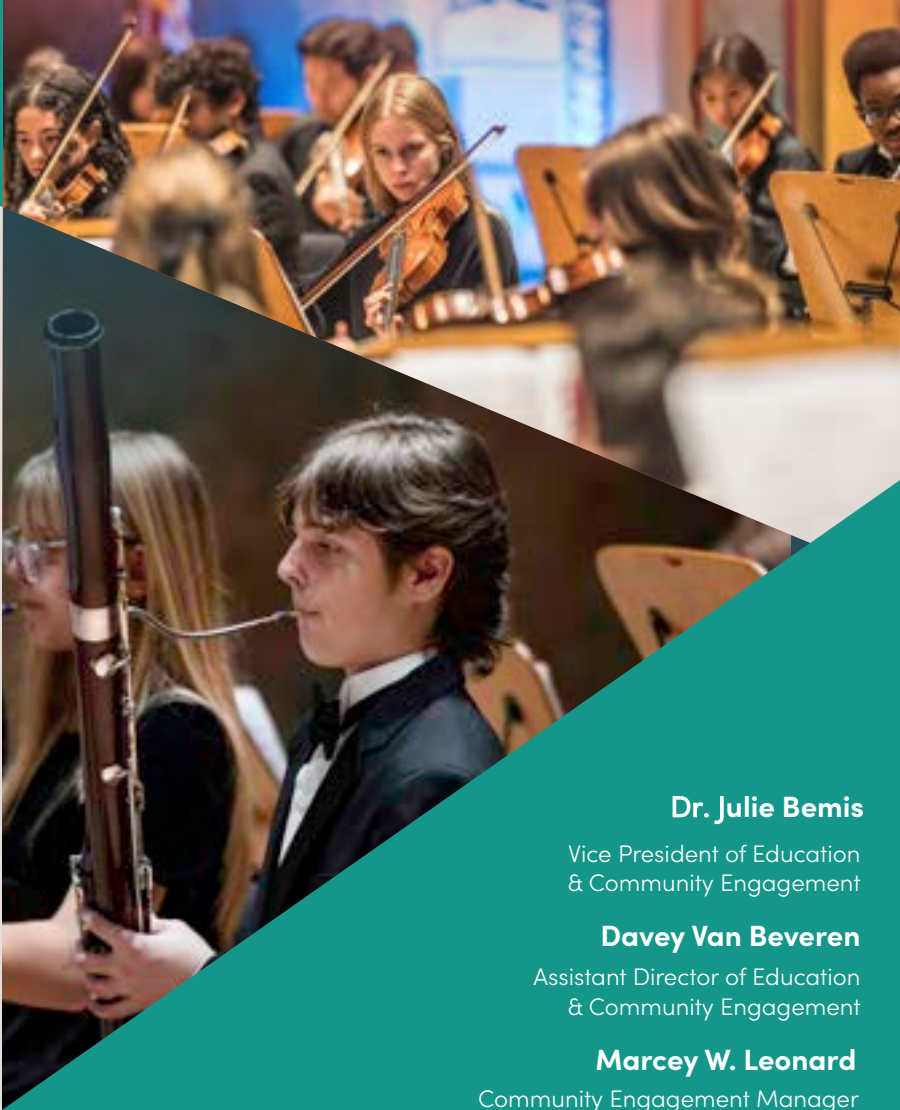
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To make a gift to the Richmond Symphony please visit [RichmondSymphony.com/Give](https://RichmondSymphony.com/Give).



RICHMOND  
SYMPHONY  
SCHOOL OF MUSIC



25  
26  
SEASON

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# RICHMOND SYMPHONY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The Richmond Symphony School of Music is the hub of our education and community engagement work, connecting people of all ages to meaningful music experiences. From youth ensembles and school partnerships to adult learning and community events, RSSoM reflects our commitment to access, inclusion, artistic excellence, and changing lives through the power of music.

## Symphony Series Companion Course

Led by Dr. Julie Bemis, Vice President of Education & Community Engagement this course is a deep dive into the music of the 2025-2026 Symphony Series concerts. Each class is unique and will focus on the repertoire and will feature a special guest with a critical role in the performance. Example guests will include Music Director Valentina Peleggi, guest artists and composers. Through recordings, images, biographies, backstage stories, fun facts and discussion we will listen and engage more deeply with the music and the artists who bring it to life. Each class is one hour and is free of charge. [To learn more, please visit \*\*www.richmondsymphony.com/symphonyathome\*\* to register.](#)

## Future Music Educators Symposium

This 8-week online program, offered in the spring semester, is designed to provide a meaningful experience for students who show exceptional promise and passion for a future in music education. High school juniors and seniors are selected through teacher nominations and participate in a series of workshops and classes where their own hands-on teaching encounters are supported virtually by invited guest speakers, clinicians and mentors. [To learn more, please email Marcey W. Leonard at \*\*mleonard@richmondsymphony.com\*\*](#)

## Financial Assistance

We are committed to making music education accessible to all students. Scholarships and financial assistance are available. [To learn more, please visit \*\*richmondsymphonysom.com/scholarships-financial-aid/\*\*](#)

## Hopkins-Eggleston Discovery Concerts

Held during the school day, the Hopkins-Eggleston Discovery Concerts engage young minds through exciting full orchestra performances that correlate with Virginia Standards of Learning.

- Fall 2025: October 29 & 30 (grades 3-8) - "The Science of Sound" in partnership with the Science Museum of Virginia
- Spring 2025: February 18 & 19 (grades PreK-3) - "Carnival of the Animals" Hopkins-Eggleston



Discovery Concerts are open to public, private, and home school groups. [To learn more, please contact Anita Williams at \*\*education@richmondsymphony.com\*\*](#)

## Richmond Symphony Education Ensembles

Chamber ensembles of the Richmond Symphony perform concerts for thousands of school children annually in Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover counties and Richmond Public Schools, as well as private schools and homeschool groups. Performances for all ages are upbeat and informal, bringing music to life.

## Additional Educational Opportunities

[To learn more about our current offerings and get involved, email: \*\*education@richmondsymphony.com\*\*](#)

## Young Composers Seminar

Presented in collaboration with VCUarts Music, this unique seminar for local high school students was led in the 2024-25 season by Composer in Residence Damien Geter and culminated in a showcase of student compositions performed by Richmond Symphony musicians. This course will not be held in the 2025-26 season, but plans to resume in Fall 2026.

[To learn more, please email \*\*education@richmondsymphony.com\*\*.](#)



# YOUTH ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

The Richmond Symphony's flagship educational program, founded in 1962, consists of five youth ensembles providing beginning to advanced musical training. Students participate in weekly rehearsals, coaching and masterclasses by Richmond Symphony musicians, solo and chamber music performances, mentoring, and other musical and social activities. The Youth Orchestra Program is open to students in elementary through high school. [To learn more, please visit \*\*www.richmondsymphony.com\*\* for audition materials and more information!](#)

## Richmond Symphony Youth Orchestra (RSYO)

- Hae Lee, Conductor
- Advanced full orchestra
- Entrance by audition
- 3 concerts per season, including 1 Side by Side performance Richmond Symphony

## Camerata Strings

- Melissa Jones, Conductor
- Intermediate strings orchestra — Entrance by audition
- 2 concerts per season

## Percussion Ensemble

- Dr. Justin Alexander, Director
- Entrance by audition
- 3 concerts per season

## Honors Program

Led by Dana McComb, the Honors Program is a merit program for Richmond Symphony Youth Orchestra (RSYO) members, offering intimate chamber ensemble training, additional performances out in the community, and specialized clinics by guest lecturers. [To learn more, please email \*\*education@richmondsymphony.com\*\*](#)

## Youth Concert Orchestra

- Dr. Sandy Goldie, Conductor— Intermediate full orchestra— Entrance by audition
- 2 concerts per season

## String Sinfonietta

- Matt Wilson, Conductor
- Beginner strings orchestra
- No audition required
- 2 concerts per season

[Applications accepted Fall & Spring](#)

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