

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA *of* NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Ethan Lolley Artistic Director



 **SONOVA**

Fourteenth Season
2025–2026



Program Notes

Music and art have long been intertwined.

In 1874, Modest Mussorgsky attended a memorial exhibition honoring his close friend, renowned painter and architect Viktor Hartmann. Inspired by Hartmann's creative depictions of dancing chicks, ancient catacombs, folkloric witches, and monumental gates, Mussorgsky wove together colorful tales with iconic melodies to create a musical masterpiece known as *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

Through art and music, we can convey far beyond words. With color and with melody, we can bring legends and stories to life. With brushstrokes and with bow strokes, we can travel to new places and revel in their beauty. We can celebrate our home, or we can remember and cherish the people we hold dear.

152 years later, art and music intertwine once again - this time, a lot closer to home. Now, the MUSIC inspires the ART. In a city with an illustrious history stretching back before the country's founding, local artists throughout Alexandria (and beyond) found inspiration from music and created masterpieces of their own. Today, 52 pieces of art will be available for auction, and the music that inspired them performed by your Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia.

Finally in true SONOVA fashion, make sure you stop by the lobby and add your artistic touch to our incredible mural as our audience artists! Now, without further ado, welcome... to *Pictures at an Alexandria Exhibition*.

Maestro Ethan Lolley

Support SONOVA

Platinum

\$1,000 OR MORE

- Invitation to dress rehearsals
- Four season tickets
- Program recognition
- SONOVA t-shirt
- VIP seating for four

Gold

\$500 TO \$999

- Two season tickets
- Program recognition
- VIP seating for two

Silver

\$100 TO \$499

- Two tickets to a performance of your choice
- Program recognition

Bronze

UP TO \$99

- Program recognition



Acknowledgments

SONOVA would like to recognize its sponsors this season:

Joe Luquire	Rachel Simon
Mary R. Hof	Myranda Moye
Kathryn and	Eileen Friedmann
Kenneth Weeman	Carol Guensburg
Catalina Goodman	Deborah Rosse
Mary R. Hof	Lorrie Clark-Hannan
Kathryn and Ken Weeman	Patricia Rodriguez
Deb Sorkin	Marilyn Blatnikoff
Jane Lee Ring	Joe Keum
Peggy Brockmann	Terry Dinan
Debbie Brown-deLone	Paula Miller
Bill and Peggy Menzin	Andrea Brown
Susan Yonts-Shepard	Michelle Meehan
Susan Murphy	Karen Santoro
Lynn Gilbertson	Gwen Steward
Dana Mendel	Daniel Wang
Sam Taylor Jr	Ana Tkabladze
Kristie Budihardjo	Kristi Perry
Theresa Sorota	Marco Cruz Otero
Valerie Poullette	Gaynelle Bowden-Diaz
Sarah Taylor	Agnes Manley
Pauline Coderre	Ethan Lolley
Eileen Street	Della Lickteig
Mariluz Sela	Rosemary Walker
Judith Holdsworth	Regina Miante
Nancy Lopez	Ann Herzinger
Jeanne Faubell	Virginia Yohn
Jeffrey Miller Menzin	Janet Irwin
Blerim Kaba	Pamela Scruggs
Iilir Kaba	Meletta Ellis
Durim Kaba	Brenda T. Maas
William DeLone	Tresa Proffitt
Serena Sela	Linda Davis
Nicole Gardner	Barbara Vivona
Robin Moye	Richard Hughes
Shannon Moye	Livia Spinale
Larry C Schauburger	Betsy Gates

Community Advisory Council

SONOVA is proud to recognize the dedicated members of our Community Advisory Council, whose expertise and passion for the arts help shape the future of our orchestra.

Their involvement ensures that we continue to thrive, innovate, and reach new audiences.

2025-2026

Community Advisory Council Members

Joe Luquire.....	<i>Development</i>
Debbie Brown-DeLone.....	<i>Development</i>
	<i>Marketing/Communications</i>
Catalina Goodman.....	<i>Development</i>
	<i>Fundraising</i>
Peggy Brockmann.....	<i>Marketing/Communications</i>
Rick Fragaszy.....	<i>Grant Writing</i>
Dorothy Fragaszy.....	<i>Grant Writing</i>

We are immensely grateful to these committee members for their leadership and dedication. Their efforts play a vital role in helping SONOVA fulfill its mission of bringing the joy of symphonic music to everyone.

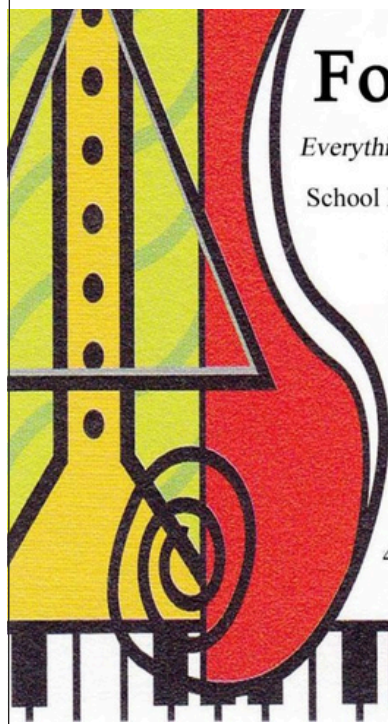
100
PROOF



CUPCAKES

21031 Barcroft Way
Sterling, VA 20164
(703) 665-9306

Contact us to place an order today!



Foxes Music Co.

Everything for the Musician, Student, and Teacher

School Band and String Rentals - Area's Lowest Rates

Guitars, Amps & Keyboards

Area's Largest Sheet Music Department

Private Music Instruction - Experienced Faculty

703-533-7393

www.foxesmusic.com

416 S. Washington St. * Falls Church, VA 22046





Declutter. Downsize. Discover.

In-Home Consultations
Project Coordination
Packing, Unpacking, Resettling
Moving & Shipping
Storage Solutions
Home Organization
Timeline Development
Floor Plans
Paper Sorting & Incineration
Auction Coordination & Services
Donation Coordination Cleanouts
Kindness
Love
Support

ARARITY®

ararityservices.com

703-372-1543

823 S Washington St
Alexandria, VA 22314



SPECIAL THANKS

Kenneth and Kathryn Weeman

Del Ray Artisans

*Symphony Orchestra League
of Alexandria*

Ararity Auctions

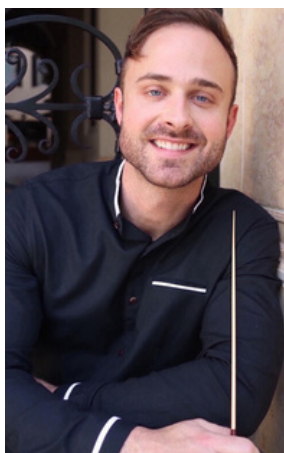
Julia Deyo Okraseed Gibb

*All participating artists in the online
auction and lobby marketplace*



SONOVA is supported, in part, by the Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA), which receives support from the Virginia General Assembly.

Artistic Director



Ethan Lolley, an Alabama native, is an accomplished conductor, clinician, and music director. He holds his graduate degree in music education with a conducting emphasis in instrumental and choral conducting from Auburn University. He has led music ensembles as a collegiate and Drum Corps International drum major, youth and symphony orchestra conductor, and music director for children’s theatre, adult mainstage regional theatrical productions, and as a professional opera conductor. Ethan also serves as a Florida public schools music and conducting clinician, providing professional development in conducting and ensemble performance for new music teachers, as well as adjudicating bands, orchestras, and choirs for state performance assessment. In 2015, he founded Drum Major Innovations, an educational institution that offers conducting clinics, camps, and competitions for aspiring drum majors and student conductors. He currently serves as an instructor for the Macy’s Great American Marching Band, a select ensemble of the country’s top high school musicians who perform in the annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Ethan has performed professionally with Universal Orlando Resort, Disney Cruise Line, and The Walt Disney World Resort as an Actors’ Equity vocalist. He is currently a principal performer for Walt Disney World’s longest running show on property, The Hoop Dee Doo Musical Revue. He was formally the music director of the CFCArts Young Artists Orchestra in Orlando, Florida, as well as an associate conductor for the CFCArts Symphony Orchestra, the nation’s largest community orchestra with over 240 musicians.

Currently Ethan serves as Director of Orchestral Activities at The University of North Alabama as well as music director for The Shoals Symphony, the first orchestra he performed in as a musician. At his heart, Ethan is a creative.

Associate Music Director

Michael Thompson, a native Oregonian, is the Associate Music Director and Co-Principal Trumpet of the Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia (SONOVA), the Associate Music Director of the National Football League's Washington Commanders Marching Band (WCMB), and the Associate Principal Trumpet of the American Contemporary Classical Orchestra.

With SONOVA, Michael frequently directs rehearsals and brass, string, and percussion sectionals, has conducted numerous Holiday Concerts (2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2025), and leads SONOVA's brass quintet. With WCMB, he leads musical rehearsals and conducts the band on the field and in the stands during Commanders home games. He also creates custom arrangements and orchestrations for SONOVA, WCMB, and other ensembles across the country.

Michael's work as a conductor and ensemble leader reflects a long-standing foundation of musical leadership. He studied trumpet performance and music at the University of Oregon, where he served as Musical Director of the elite, nationally-performing Green Garter Band and as trumpet section leader of the Oregon Symphonic Band and the Oregon Athletic Bands. He is a recipient of the John Philip Sousa and Louis Armstrong awards, received the Oregon Marching Band Director's Choice Award (2004), and was named Outstanding Band Member (2005 and 2006).



The Orchestra

First Violin

Kristie Budihardjo

Concertmaster

Tanya Whisnant

Assistant Principal

Oliver Hees

Veronica Jackson

Joseph Keum

Lynn Rovelli

Serena Sela

Sarah Taylor

Second Violin

Julia Maas

Principal

Kate Bongard

Assistant Principal

Jiyoung Chung

Janani Iyengar

Molly Jackson

Rachel Kaper

Tresa Proffitt

Mark Yohn

Viola

Alison Treglia

Acting Principal

Ryan Gates

Ava Krishnan

Cynthia Liccese-Torres

Mara Schimmel

Cello

Miller Susens

Acting Principal

Agnes Manley

Liz Peirce

Eileen Street

Bass

Simon Semaan

David Sindt

Flute

Martine Micozzi

Principal

Hailey Nowacek

Assistant Principal

Lauren Kochy

Piccolo

Lauren Kochy

Principal

Hailey Nowacek

Oboe

Rachael Bredefeld

Principal

Bryn Elliott

Ken Watson

English Horn

Bryn Elliott

Clarinet

Kristi Perry

Principal

Rose Mascarenhas

Thomas Kazior

Bass Clarinet

Thomas Kazior

Principal

Bassoon

Joan Fragaszy Troyano

Principal

Karen Bell

Contrabassoon

Aaron Hahn

French Horn

Patrick Walker

Principal

Libby Doughty

Adrienne DeGeorge

Deanne de Lima

Dave McCullough

Trumpet

Jeff Menzin

Co-Principal

Michael Thompson

Co-Principal

Chris Andersen

Trombone

Ian Giles

Travis Low

Zachary Sellers

Tuba

Jason Bongard

Principal

Timpani

David Churchwell

Percussion

Kaitlin Gimm

Will Egger

Shawn Mitchell

Carson Pomeroy

Nelly Solares

Keyboard

Alejandro Galdo

Matthew Bunn

Alexandria City High School Titan Virtuosi

First Violin

Lev Dienstfrey

Aiden Hunter

Sara Negusse

Samuel Thulson

Second Violin

Dayanna Benitez

Chloe Bixler

Benjamin Thulson

Viola

Saron Daniel

Alex Pearce

Kumibea Sarkodee-Addo

Cello

Kye Dementi

Luniva Desar

Alan van der Sluis

Page Vogel

Bass

Ryan Weber

Cooper Zissma



14

Pictures at an Alexandria Exhibition

Saturday, May 30, 2026 | Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center
Ethan Lolley, Artistic Director

Billy the Kid Suite

Aaron Copland

- V. Gun Battle
- VI. Celebration (After Billy's Capture)
- VII. Billy's Death
- VIII. The Open Prairie Again

"Montagues and Capulets" (*The Prince Gives His Order and Dance of the Knights*), Mvt. 1*

Sergei Prokofiev

from Suite No. 2 from *Romeo and Juliet*

Piano Concerto in G major

Maurice Ravel

- I. Allegramente
- II. Adagio assai
- III. Presto

Soloist Charles Roberts

Intermission

"Mardi Gras", Mvt. 4

Ferde Grofé

from *Mississippi Suite (A Tone Journey)*

"Sunset", Mvt. 4**

Ferde Grofé

from *Grand Canyon Suite*

Pictures at an Exhibition

Modest Mussorgsky
orch. Maurice Ravel

- IX. The Hut on Hen's Legs (Baba Yaga)
- X. The Bogatyr Gates (In the Capital in Kiev)

*Conducted by Conducting Fellow Marco Cruz

**Conducted by Associate Conductor Michael Thompson

About the Symphony



SONOVA began in 2011 as a small, government-funded orchestra in Arlington County, Virginia, founded by Jeffrey Sean Dokken and a group of committed musicians, some of whom continue to play in the orchestra today. Under the baton of Maestro Ethan Lolley, SONOVA is dedicated to sharing the joy of live symphonic music through immersive, story-driven performances that modernize the concert experience and welcome audiences of all ages.

Our home theater is the beautiful George Washington Masonic National Memorial Theater. Over the years, SONOVA has been invited to perform throughout the Mid-Atlantic region with arts organizations as wide ranging as renaissance choirs, tap dance companies, symphonic choirs, Broadway artists, and various community arts organizations. Additionally, SONOVA has performed at such venues as Arlington's Spectrum Theater, the Grand Opera House in Wilmington, Delaware, the historic Church of the Reformation in Washington, D.C., the White House, Colonial Williamsburg's historic Bruton Parish, the Atlas Performing Arts Center, and the Ernst Community Cultural Center.

SONOVA routinely performs with world-class guest artists, conductors, and musicians. SONOVA has been joined onstage by world-renowned soloists and conductors Jorge Saade-Scaff, Sofya Gulyak, Juan Carlos Escudero, and Jacqueline Fontaine-Isaac.

SONOVA also places special importance on collaborations and both American and world premieres. Since its inception, SONOVA has given premieres of works by Brian Wilbur Grundstrom, Peter Rauch, Paul Leavitt, Michael Ream, William Burdett, Jeremy Smith, Simon Royer and Jonathan Kolm.



2025 – 2026 Season

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>President</i>	Sarah Taylor
<i>Vice President</i>	Patrick Walker
<i>Secretary</i>	Kate Bongard
<i>Treasurer</i>	Kristie Budihardjo
<i>At-Large Members</i>	David Churchwell
	Cynthia Liccese-Torres
	Martine Micozzi
	Lynn Rovelli

The Board would like to thank you for supporting SONOVA. We would also like to thank the Alexandria City Public Schools, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Northern Virginia Community College, Bishop Ireton High School, and the City of Alexandria.

SONOVA is grateful to the time and talents of the volunteers that support the orchestra, including the Alexandria City High School orchestra program and our concert-day volunteers.



2025–2026 Season

SONOVA Staff

Artistic Director Ethan Lolley

Associate Music Director Michael Thompson

Executive Director Serena Sela

Production Manager Jessica Hendricks

Front of House Coordinator Andreas Sengebusch

Conducting Fellow Marco Cruz

Artistic Fellow Ellie Carpenter