



Spring Concert

Sunday, May 4, 2025

Welcome!

Thank you for joining us for the Spring 2025 concert of the Foothills Philharmonic, Inc.

We are an accessible, non-competitive, and educational community orchestra which creates opportunities for mid-level players of all ages. We believe all people can benefit from making music and we welcome and develop those for whom the Phil may be their only musical outlet.

We strive to enhance understanding and acceptance within our relationships and community.

"Inclusion is not bringing people into what already exists; it is making a new space, a better space for everyone."

~George Dei, Professor in the Department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Social Justice Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

The Foothills Philharmonic is a nonprofit 501(c)3. We exist solely through the support of our members, and other benefactors of the arts – thank you!

Charlotte Raby, ED/Chair

Program

Robert Muczynski

Dovetail Overture
Conducted by Caleb Hathaway

Antonio Vivaldi

Concerto for Two Cellos
Soloists: Max Tagawa, Jude McGrath
Conducted by Toru Tagawa

~ 15 Minute Intermission ~

Sergei Prokofieff

Romeo and Juliet,
The Montagues and Capulets
Conducted by Rafael Reyes-Worman
with Desiree Blute, Harp

Hugo Alfven

Midsommarvaka
Conducted by Caleb Hathaway
with Desiree Blute, Harp

Johann Strauss

Die Fledermaus
Conducted by Rafael Reyes-Worman
with Desiree Blute, Harp

Program Notes.

Provided by Claude.ai

Muczynski: Dovetail Overture

Robert Muczynski's "Dovetail Overture" (Op. 28, 1962) is a concise, energetic American concert opener. It features crisp rhythms, neoclassical elements, and bold contrasts typical of Muczynski's style. At about 4 minutes in length, the piece demonstrates the composer's gift for succinct musical expression, combining modern harmonies with traditional forms.

Vivaldi: Concerto for Two Cellos

Antonio Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Cellos in G minor (RV 531) showcases the Baroque master's virtuosic writing for the instrument. The work features intertwining cello soloists engaged in musical dialogue against a string orchestra backdrop. The outer movements are spirited and dramatic, while the middle Largo offers a more introspective, lyrical conversation between the cellos.

Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet (First Movement)

Sergei Prokofiev's ballet "Romeo and Juliet" (1935-36) translates Shakespeare's tragic love story into vivid musical tableaux. The first movement, "Montagues and Capulets" (often called "Dance of the Knights"), portrays the feuding families with ominous, powerful rhythms and stark orchestration. The movement's imposing opening theme evokes the weight of aristocratic power and rigid social structures that ultimately doom the young lovers.

Alfvén: Midsommarvaka (Swedish Rhapsody No. 1)

Hugo Alfvén's "Midsommarvaka" (Midsummer Vigil, 1903) celebrates Swedish folk traditions with colorful orchestration. This rhapsodic tone poem evokes the joyous atmosphere of midsummer festivities through vibrant Swedish folk melodies and dances. Alfvén's masterful orchestration captures both the exuberance of rural celebrations and moments of Nordic pastoral beauty.

Strauss: Die Fledermaus Overture

Johann Strauss II's overture to "Die Fledermaus" (The Bat, 1874) distills the operetta's sparkling wit and Viennese charm into a concert favorite. This effervescent piece weaves together the work's most memorable melodies, including waltzes and polkas, creating a perfect introduction to the comedy of mistaken identities and revenge that follows. The overture exemplifies the elegance and *joie de vivre* of Vienna's Golden Age.



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Our Conductors



Rafael Reyes-Worman

Musical Director and Conductor

Rafael Reyes-Worman is a Tucson native who began his music career in TUSD's Opening Minds through the Arts (OMA) program. He earned a BA in Music degree from the UofA in December 2020. As a violinist, he studied with local teachers Dennis Bourret, Anna Gandler, and Lauren Roth. He joined Tucson Junior Strings as a student and now serves them as a violin coach. Reyes-Worman has conducted under mentors Dr. Alexander Tentser, László Veres, and Charles Bontrager. He is the first and current music director/conductor of the Tucson Mandolin Orchestra, and has guest-conducted with the Pima Community College Orchestra, the Foothills Philharmonic, the Tucson Flute Club, and the Civic Orchestra of Tucson.



Caleb Hathaway
Associate Conductor

Caleb Hathaway's passion is for exploring the intersections of music, science, and philosophy. A graduate of California State University, Sacramento, under the mentorship of Laurel Zucker, he is currently Head of Sound for Arizona Opera, Assistant to the Director for the InterHarmony International Music Festival, and a Sound Designer for Old Tucson Entertainment. His artistic pursuits span performing, conducting, and interdisciplinary collaborations.

His performances and collaborations include working in Jazz, Persian Folk Music, Reggae, R&B, Gospel, Hip-Hop, & Classical music from the Baroque to the Post-Modern Era.

He studied conducting with Enrique Hank Feldman, Keitaro Harada, Dr. Robert Halseth, Leo Elyar, Eric Lederhandler, Guy Braunstein, and Jan Miłosz Zarzycki. Caleb's primary musical mentors are Laurel Zucker, Robert Dick, Steven Sacco, and Jean-Louis Kashy.



Toru Tagawa

Guest Conductor

Toru Tagawa, from Hiroshima, Japan, began playing violin at age 6, and joined the Kurashiki Junior Philharmonic Orchestra at age 9. He received his BA in violin performance from the University of Tulsa, MA in music from Florida State University, and a ME from the UofA. Tagawa has been the music conductor of the Tucson Repertory Orchestra (TRO) from 2011 and the Sierra Vista Symphony from 2016. In 2015 and 2019, the TRO toured Japan, performing in Hiroshima, Okayama, Osaka and Aichi prefectures. He has been the orchestra director at Canyon del Oro HS since 2008 and in 2017 directed the school orchestra at Carnegie Hall. Tagawa was a finalist for the UA online Amazing Teacher of the Year in 2020-2021. He guest-conducted in AMEA HS Regional Orchestras, CODA All State Orchestra, the Tucson Pops Orchestra, and participated in conducting workshops across the country. He conducted the Foothills Philharmonic from 2022-2024. Toru served as president of the American String Teachers Association of Arizona from 2018-2020 and is a member of the Conductor's Guild.

Soloists:



Max Tagawa, Cello

Max started playing the cello at age 4, and he studies with Mary Beth Tyndall, former member of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra. Max received first place in the 2024 Civic Orchestra of Tucson's Young Artists' Competition Junior Division. He made his solo debut

with the Sierra Vista Symphony Orchestra in June, 2024 performing the first movement of Haydn Cello Concerto in C major. He is a member of the Flying Chickens, a cello quartet group made up with 4 middle school cello students of Mary Beth Tyndall

Jude McGrath, Cello

is an 8th grader at Doolen Middle School. He studies cello under Mary Beth Tyndall. His favorite pieces to play are Haydn's cello concerto in C major and Hungarian Rhapsody by Popper. For the past four years, Jude has been a member of the Flying Chickens cello ensemble.



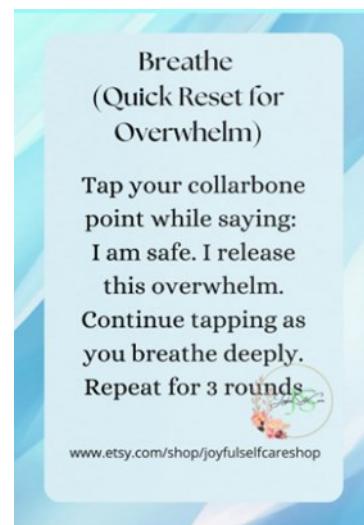
Guest Musician Desiree Blute



Desiree Blute is a 17 year old harpist studying under Christine Vivona. She is currently in her Junior year at The Gregory School in Tucson, Arizona.

In addition to playing in her school orchestra, Desiree has been a member of the Tucson Philharmonia Youth Orchestra, and has performed with the Catalina Foothills High School band, the Green Valley Concert Band, the Arizona Symphonic Winds, the South Central Regional Honor Orchestra, the Arizona All-State Orchestra, the Civic Orchestra of Tucson, and the Foothills Philharmonic. Desiree is also a state and national competitive distance swimmer.

For more information and videos of her solo performances you can visit her website at desireebluteharp.com.



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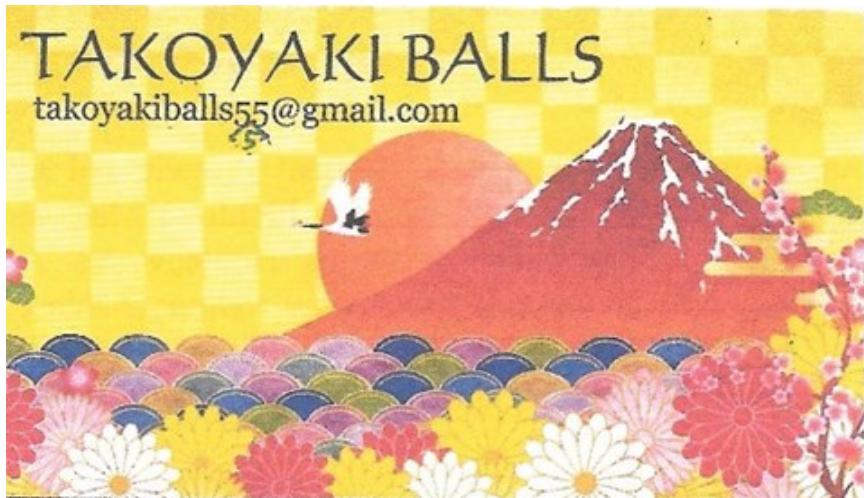


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Antonio Heredia, Music Director of Catalina Magnet High School, for his consistent support at rehearsals and concerts., and Catalina Magnet High School, for the use of their percussion equipment.

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Foothills Philharmonic Musicians

Violin I

Jeff Ladderud*
Crystel Ballesteros
Garrett Decker
Karin Fiore
Lisa Marie McCusker

Violin II

Cooper Bradford
Christina Chantell
Shari Hofstadter
Frances Veres
Linda Zello
Johnathon Burt

Viola

Rebecca Bommersbach
Glen Daw
Jonathan Holmes
Jason Makansi

Cello

Lin Bell
Lisbeth Haaheim
Debbie Hellmann
Robin Lang
Veronika Zinsmaier

Double Bass

Tom Tompkins
Matthew Bley
Joseph Burt
Bob Holloway

Trumpet

Jacob Culver
Charles Young

Trombone/

Bass Trombone

David Ricci
Ken Shearer

Tuba

Chris Wiegand
Charlotte Raby

Percussion

Connor Gardlund

Oboe/English Horn

Janet Bostwick
Elaine Sosnowski

Clarinet/Bass Clarinet

Cedric Deklerk
Al Miller
Stephen Salajko

Horn

Diana Altemara

*Concertmaster



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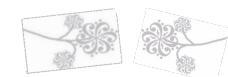


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