

THE SANTA BARBARA SYMPHONY YOUTH ENSEMBLES PERFORM FREE CONCERTS ON MAY 4 AND MAY 5

Over 100 3rd - 12th-grade musicians collaborate with two local choirs including Music Academy of the West Sing! Children's Chorus and Westmont College Choir

SANTA BARBARA, CA, UNITED STATES, April 9, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- In a spring celebration rich with blooming talent and the spirit of collaboration, the Santa Barbara Symphony Youth Ensembles will perform two free May concerts for the Santa Barbara community.



The first performance on Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church features the Camerata Ensemble and Philharmonia Orchestra, directed by Marisa McLeod. The Music Academy of the West Sing! Children's Chorus will join the Philharmonia Orchestra on I Dream a World by André Thomas, orchestrated by Robert Elhai (poem by Langston Hughes).

“

The Santa Barbara Symphony's multi-level Youth Ensembles program creates unique and valuable learning opportunities for young musicians to develop their leadership skills and connect with music,”

Kathryn R Martin, President & CEO of The Santa Barbara Symphony

The second concert features the Santa Barbara Youth Symphony on Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 4 p.m. at the Lobero Theatre. Directed by Dr. Daniel Gee, the Youth Symphony will collaborate with the Westmont College Choir to perform select movements from Mendelssohn's oratorio Elijah. Youth Symphony violinist and concerto competition winner Jane Kim is the featured soloist and will perform

Bériot's Scène de ballet with the orchestra. Both performances are free and open to the public. Tickets are not required.

“As the only youth orchestra program in the region connected to a professional symphony and a

college, the Santa Barbara Symphony's multi-level Youth Ensembles program creates unique and valuable learning opportunities for young musicians to develop their leadership skills and connect with music and with each other," said Kathryn R Martin, President & CEO of The Santa Barbara Symphony.

"It is through community collaborations that Santa Barbara's youth benefit, and we are pleased to welcome both the Music Academy Sing! Children's Chorus and the Westmont College Choir. Working together with peers is a rare treat for our student musicians - and an inspiration to our community," Martin added.

"Sing! is thrilled to kick off spring with a Santa Barbara Symphony Youth Ensembles collaboration," said Erin McKibben, Music Academy of the West Sing! Program Director. "As part of the Music Academy's mission, we bring youth voices from many cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds together to create something larger than themselves, fostering a lifelong love for listening to and making music," she added.

About the Music Academy of the West Sing! Children's Chorus

Sing! is the Music Academy of the West's free, after-school children's choral program available to Santa Barbara County students grades 1 to 9. The program currently numbers nearly 300 participants from over 40 area schools. Sing! performance opportunities include concerts and collaborations with world-renowned artists and performing arts organizations, including the London Symphony Orchestra, CAMA, State Street Ballet, Santa Barbara's Old Spanish Days, mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, and in the Music Academy's Summer Festival opera productions of Puccini's *La bohème*, Ravel's *L'enfant et les Sortilèges*, and Bizet's *Carmen*. Sing! is generously supported by lead sponsors Mercedes Millington and John C. Mithun, and Montecito Bank and Trust. For more information, visit musicacademy.org/sing.

About the Westmont College Choir

The Westmont College Choir has served as the flagship ensemble of the campus since its founding in 1937. Directed by Dr. Daniel Gee, the ensemble studies and performs a wide range of literature including the classic repertoire of the past five centuries, along with spirituals, folk-song arrangements and music of other cultures. Many choir members are working toward a first degree in music and will go on to study and perform at the highest levels, while others study music in addition to pursuing degrees in science or humanities. The College Choir has maintained a robust and successful international touring schedule including performances in Lithuania, Russia, Costa Rica, the United Kingdom, and Japan.

About The Santa Barbara Symphony Youth Ensembles Program

More than 100 student musicians in grades 3rd through 12th learn to collaborate, lead, and progress on their instruments through The Symphony's Youth Ensembles program. Students and families report increased academic engagement, improved social skills, and a newfound sense of accomplishment. They receive weekly rehearsals and three opportunities to perform together publicly. As part of their curriculum, students also attend performances by The Santa Barbara

Symphony. The Symphony's Camerata Ensemble, led by conductor Marisa McLeod, is composed of musicians who are early in their musical training. It introduces students to the basics of ensemble playing, following a conductor, and listening across a musical group while playing. The Philharmonia Orchestra, also led by conductor Marisa McLeod, is the second of three levels in the Symphony's Youth Ensembles' hierarchy and is designed to hone the technical skills and student musicianship required for the advanced challenges of the Youth Symphony.

The Santa Barbara Youth Symphony brings together gifted young musicians from Santa Barbara and Ventura counties to perform works across the orchestral repertoire. Directed by conductor Dr. Daniel Gee, this advanced ensemble is the culminating step in the Santa Barbara Symphony's Youth Ensembles program and instills the discipline and commitment that budding young professionals need for the next step in their careers, whether in music or another field.

Applications for the upcoming 2024-2025 Santa Barbara Symphony Youth Ensembles season are now being accepted for all three levels, and the priority deadline is June 2, 2024. One year of experience playing an instrument and the ability to read music is required. Auditions will begin on June 15-16. For more information, go to <https://thesymphony.org/education/youth-ensembles-audition-information/>.

About the Santa Barbara Symphony

Now in its 71st year, The Santa Barbara Symphony delivers artistic excellence, outstanding music education stewardship and programming, and community collaboration – all through symphonic music. Under the artistic leadership of Maestro Nir Kabaretti as Music & Artistic Director since 2006, The Symphony is one of the region's premier cultural institutions. Through his charismatic leadership, this globally admired conductor and Santa Barbara resident invigorates audiences and musicians alike through his passion, creativity, and vast experience.

With steadfast dedication to their mission and deep ties to the community, Board Chair Janet Garufis and President & CEO Kathryn R Martin joined Nir Kabaretti in making a five-year commitment to serve in their roles. As the only music education program tied to a professional symphony orchestra in the region, The Symphony serves thousands of students annually throughout Santa Barbara County. For more information, visit TheSymphony.org.

Carline Jorgensen

+1 310-867-4988

[email us here](#)

The Santa Barbara Symphony

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/702397950>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2024 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.