

2026-27

Season

The Ohio Valley Symphony

37  
YEARS

1989-2026

2026-2027 SEASON



## 5-Concert Subscription

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| America's Birthday  | September 12, 2026 |
| Happy Halloween     | October 31, 2026   |
| The Christmas Show  | December 5, 2026   |
| Bugler's Holiday    | March 13, 2027     |
| Gershwin's Greatest | April 17, 2027     |



## THE OHIO VALLEY SYMPHONY

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2026-27

Season

# The Ohio Valley Symphony

## 2026-2027 SEASON



### AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY

### HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Maalik Glover  
violin



Grace Park  
violin

Peter Stafford Wilson  
conductor

François López-Ferrer  
conductor

### THE CHRISTMAS SHOW

### 5-CONCERT SEASON SUBSCRIPTION

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plus Maestro for a Moment Fundraiser

Steven Huang  
conductor



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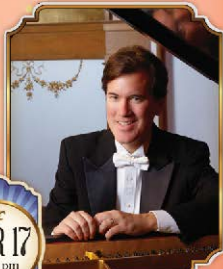
### BUGLER'S HOLIDAY

### GERSHWIN'S GREATEST



Dave Zeng  
trumpet

Scott E. Woodard  
conductor



Michael Chertock  
conductor & pianist

conductor & pianist

# A message from our founder

**Lora Lynn Snow**  
Executive Director



The **2026-27 Ohio Valley Symphony Season** is almost upon us. Mark your calendars now and get your season tickets so you can experience the magic of music at every single concert.

We are celebrating *America's 250th Birthday* on **September 12** with a season opener of all-American music ranging from Leonard Bernstein to Aaron Copland and George Gershwin led by **Maestro Peter Stafford Wilson**. Our soloist, **Maalik Glover**, is performing the *Concerto for Violin* by African-American composer Florence Price whose magnificent early 20th century musical scores were found just a few years ago in an old trunk in an abandoned house about to be demolished!

Internationally noted conductor **François López-Ferrer** will be back on the Ariel Opera House stage as he leads the OVS through a *Happy Halloween* concert on **October 31**. Who knew Bela Bartok wrote a quirky piece titled *Dances of Transylvania*? Violinist **Grace Park** is featured on Ravel's *Tzigane* and Sarasate's fiendishly difficult *Zigeunerweisen*. Brahms' glorious *Symphony No. 1* finishes out the second half. What costume will you wear?

Maestro **Steven Huang's** annual *Christmas Show* on **December 5** is a perennial favorite of audiences young and old with carols and songs both new and familiar. Tickets sell out fast so be sure to get yours soon. December is also our annual **Maestro for a Moment** competition when community members vie for the chance to conduct the OVS in *Sleigh Ride*. Every dollar is a vote for your favorite candidate and helps support The Ohio Valley Symphony with your tax deductible donation.

On March 13 things get a bit brassy for the *Bugler's Holiday* concert when the OVS will be joined by **Dave Zeng** performing Haydn's *Trumpet Concerto*. Maestro **Scott Woodard** takes us to Ireland with Hamilton Harty's *Irish Symphony* for a bit-of-the-green.

For *Gershwin's Greatest* the stunning **Michael Chertock** is back showing us just how good he really is by conducting AND performing George Gershwin's *Concerto in F* on **April 17**. Rounding out the year of celebrating America's greatest, the OVS will also feature Gershwin's perennial favorite *An American in Paris* and the music of jazz great Duke Ellington.

Invite your friends, family and colleagues to join you for **The Ohio Valley Symphony 2026-27 concert season** to hear the best kind of music – live on the Ariel Opera House stage!

*Every concert ticket includes a 6:45 p.m. Pre-concert Chat on the 3rd floor with the conductor and soloist of the evening, as well as a Post Concert Reception for you to meet the artists.*



# The Ohio Valley Symphony

## AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY



**Peter Stafford Wilson**  
conductor



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**Peter Stafford Wilson** is Music Director of Ohio's Springfield Symphony Orchestra. holds the post of Music Director of the Westerville Symphony, and was named Principal Conductor of Tulsa Ballet. With the SSO he has brought international attention to programs and a new multi-media, multi discipline production of Gustav Holst's The Planets. Mr. Wilson was Assistant and Associate Conductor of The Columbus Symphony Orchestra for 28 seasons. He has had enormous community reaction and has been recognized as "Best Music Director" and "Best in the 'Bus 2015" for his work in Columbus. He also served as Music Director of the Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestra, which he has regularly led in local and regional concerts.

Mr. Wilson studied at the University of Cincinnati's College- Conservatory of Music, the Aspen Music School, Eastern Music Festival (on whose faculty he subsequently served), Pierre Monteux School, Boris Goldovsky Summer Opera Institute, and Rome's Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia. He has worked with Canton Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and The Cleveland Orchestra and has guest conducted numerous orchestras across the country and world. No stranger to the lyric theater, Mr. Wilson has held the positions of Principal Conductor of South Carolina's Opera Charleston, Music Director of the Ohio Light Opera and conducted many operatic performances.

Mr. Wilson and his wife Barbara Karam Wilson reside in Westerville, Ohio. When not conducting, he enjoys traveling, golf and reading. He is also a wine enthusiast and an avid gourmet cook.

# Repertoire

**On the Town: 3 Dance Episodes**  
**Concerto for Violin No. 2**  
**Letter From Home**  
**Catfish Row: Symphonic Suite**

**Leonard Bernstein**  
**Florence Price**  
**Aaron Copland**  
**George Gershwin**

**Pre-concert Chat 6:45 pm ~ Post concert Reception**

**Maalik Glover**, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, is an active orchestral musician and private teacher. He was appointed to the Columbus Symphony violin section in 2024 after completing one season at the New World Symphony. He has received recognition at competitions such as winning Omega Psi Phi's 2015 Talent Hunt as well as the 2021 CCM Violin Competition.

Maalik has studied the violin since the age of 11. His first significant accomplishment was his acceptance into the Talent Development Program, an initiative launched by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra that targets gifted African-American and Latino music students to further develop their future careers as accomplished classical musicians. This has perpetuated his unyielding advocacy of promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in classical music. Since then, he has held multiple private studios including his own with the Columbus Symphony Academy.

During his graduate studies, Maalik held a two-year fellowship with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. He is a three-time fellowship recipient of the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra and a two-time fellowship recipient of Spoleto Festival USA where he served as concertmaster.

In 2019, Maalik graduated summa cum laude from Columbus State University's Schwob School of Music. He later obtained his Master's at University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music in 2022 upon completion of the CSO/CCM Diversity Fellowship. In his spare time, Maalik loves exploring, traveling to new cities, as well as composing film and video game music.

Maalik has performed with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra in Ohio, and Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra in New York.



**Maalik Glover**  
violin

*The Ohio Valley Symphony*

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**



**François López-Ferrer**  
conductor



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Spanish-American conductor **François López-Ferrer** has carved an impressive path in the world of classical music, distinguished by his dynamic artistry and compelling performances. Recipient of the prestigious 2024 Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award, his international career has been marked by recent debuts with esteemed orchestras worldwide, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, LA Phil at the Hollywood Bowl, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Orquesta Nacional de España, Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia, Orquesta Sinfónica Radio Televisión Española, Verbier Festival Orchestra, Ensemble intercontemporain, and several others.

López-Ferrer's journey began as Associate Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (CSO) and its May Festival. In 2022, he led the CSO in the U.S. premiere of Mark Simpson's Violin Concerto, featuring Nicola Benedetti. He was a 2021-22 Dudamel Fellow with the LA Phil and was a featured conductor in the Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview with the Louisiana Philharmonic. Earlier in his career, he served as Associate Conductor of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile as well as Resident Conductor of the Opéra de Paris Académie.

Winner of the inaugural 2015 Neeme Järvi Prize at the Menuhin Gstaad Festival and a former member of the Deutsche Dirigentenforum, his educational background includes a master's degree in Orchestral Conducting from the Haute École de Musique de Lausanne and a bachelor's in composition from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Born in Switzerland and raised in the United States, François López-Ferrer combines Cuban and Spanish heritage.

# Repertoire

**Dances of Transylvania**

**Tzigane, Rapsodie de Concert**

**Zigeunerweisen, op. 20 (Gypsy Airs)**

**Symphony No. 1, op. 68, C minor**

**Béla Bartók**

**Maurice Ravel**

**Pablo de Sarasate**

**Johannes Brahms**

**Pre-concert Chat 6:45 pm ~ Post concert Reception**

Violinist **Grace Park** is celebrated for her artistry, passion, and virtuosity, and is recognized as both a compelling soloist and a devoted chamber musician.

She has appeared with the Colorado Music Festival, the Bard Music Festival, the New York Youth Symphony, and the Prague Philharmonia at the Rudolfinum's Dvořák Hall. She has also given recital debuts at the Krannert Center, Beethoven Minnesota Festival, and Carnegie Hall.

Her notable international and U.S. debuts include performances at Seoul Arts Center with Les Musiciens du Louvre, the Sarasota Orchestra, and the Orlando Philharmonic. Her chamber music collaborations include regular appearances with the Seattle Chamber Music Society, Camerata Pacifica and Savannah Music Festival.

Ms. Park's debut solo album, recorded with the Prague Philharmonia and music director Emmanuel Villaume, features concertos and solo works by Mozart and Dvořák and was released in 2025.

A devoted educator, Ms. Park is an alumna of Carnegie Hall's Ensemble Connect and has given masterclasses and coached at institutions including the Conservatorio de Música de Cartagena, Mannes School of Music, University of North Carolina, University of Mississippi, and others. She currently serves as Adjunct Professor of Violin at the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University alongside a visiting residency at North Dakota State University.

A Los Angeles, California native, Ms. Park began studying violin at the age of five and trained at the Colburn School of Music before continuing her studies at the Colburn Conservatory and New England Conservatory, where she earned her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees. She resides in NY City.

Ms. Park performs on a 1717 Giuseppe Filius Andrea Guarneri violin, generously on loan from an anonymous sponsor.



**Grace Park**  
violin

# The Ohio Valley Symphony

## THE CHRISTMAS SHOW



**Steven Huang**  
conductor



*plus* Maestro for a Moment  
FUNdraiser!



**Steven Huang** is thrilled to return to Southeastern Ohio to the podium of The Ohio Valley Symphony. He has conducted orchestras and operas across the country and throughout the world.

At the age of twenty-one Mr. Huang served as Music Director of the Bach Society Orchestra of Harvard University, where he received his undergraduate degree. While at Harvard, he also directed the Lowell House Opera (the oldest continuously running opera company in New England). He most recently concluded a sixteen-year appointment as Associate Professor and Director of Orchestras at Ohio University where he brought the program to new achievements, including earning competitive accolades and awards from Ohio Music Educators Association and Columbus Roundtable Awards, through over 200 performances, including symphonic concerts, opera, musical theater, and pops.

Widely respected as a music educator and conducting pedagogue, Mr. Huang is the founder and director of International Conducting Masterclasses, Inc., which has trained scores of conductors over the last two decades. He is currently working on a book about conducting.

Mr. Huang has collaborated with orchestras around the world, including California, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Massachusetts, West



*(Continued on next page)*

# Repertoire

12 Days of Christmas

Christmas Jazz Suite

I Will Wait For You

Nutcracker Mini Jazz Suite Tchaikovsky/arr. Jeff Tyzik

Charlie Brown Christmas

Charleston Christmas

Sleigh Ride

arr. Matt Catingub

Bill Holcombe

Michel Legrand

Vince Guaraldi

arr. James Stephenson

Leroy Anderson

*And More!*

**Pre-concert Chat 6:45 pm ~ Post concert Reception**

Virginia, Ohio, Haiti, Moldova, and Romania. He has held the position of Music of the University of Chicago Chamber Director Orchestra, the Central Illinois Youth Symphony, the Gilbert and Sullivan Players of Chicago, and the Bradley University Orchestra. He has served as guest conductor with multiple appearances with Brasov Philharmonic (ROMANIA) and the National Philharmonic of Moldova.

In America, he has guest conducted professional ensembles such as the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, the Lake Shore Symphony (IL), and the Four Seasons Symphony (CA). Mr. Huang debuted with The Ohio Valley Symphony at the 2018 Christmas Show.



## Who will it be?

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Maestro for a Moment  
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*The Ohio Valley Symphony*

## BUGLER'S HOLIDAY



**Scott E. Woodard**  
conductor



**Ohio Arts**  
COUNCIL 

**Dr. Scott E. Woodard** was born in Huntington, WV and is proud to be a life-long West Virginian. He is the Music Director of the Butler Philharmonic Orchestra in Hamilton, Ohio, the Founding Music Director of the West Virginia State Philharmonic Orchestra of Charleston, WV, the Principal Guest Conductor of the Rimini Chamber Orchestra in Rimini, Italy, and the former Cover Conductor of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. His primary teachers were Dr. Leonid Korchmar of the St. Petersburg State Conservatory of Music and the Mariinsky Theatre and Dr. Oleg Proskuryna. Scott is the recipient of First Prizes at the International Conductor's Workshop Competition (Macon, GA) and the International Academy of Advanced Conducting (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation).

A product of the public schools in Cabell County, Scott picked up the trumpet in the sixth-grade band. He is a proud Son of Marshall, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees. During those MU years, Scott began his study of orchestral conducting under the tutelage of Dr. Paul Balshaw. In 2014, he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Boston University, where his dissertation explored the importance of the Leningrad School of conducting and its founder Ilya Musin.

Scott lives in Scott Depot with his wife Nafi, a family physician, and their son, Gabriel, a trumpet player just like his dad, and a new baby daughter, Gabriella! His hobbies include playing horrible golf, and trying to figure out how to work on his vintage 1970 Volkswagen Beetle.

# Repertoire

A Comedy Overture Op. 15  
 Trumpet Concerto, E<sub>b</sub> major  
 An Irish Symphony

Hamilton Harty  
 Franz Joseph Haydn  
 Hamilton Harty

Pre-concert Chat 6:45 pm ~ Post concert Reception

**Dave Zeng** actively performs in the Cincinnati, Dayton, and Columbus areas. He is principal trumpet of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra in Ohio and the Blue Ash Montgomery Symphony Orchestra. Additionally, Dave has performed with many orchestras across the Midwest including the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, the Cincinnati Ballet Orchestra, ProMusica Chamber Orchestra in Columbus, Ohio, The Bach Society of Dayton, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, The Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Dave has been a finalist at the National Trumpet Competition on multiple occasions.



**Dave Zeng**  
trumpet

In addition to performing, Dave is the Manager of Personnel and Orchestra Operations for the Springfield Symphony Orchestra. Through his company, Dave Zeng Productions, Dave also specializes in professional audio/video production for performing artists.

## Concert Sponsorship

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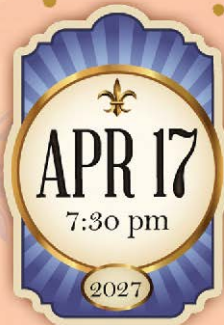


The Ohio Valley Symphony

# GERSHWIN'S GREATEST



Michael Chertock  
conductor . . .



Ohio Arts  
COUNCIL 

Conductor and pianist **Michael Chertock** has fashioned a successful career as an orchestral soloist, collaborating with conductors such as James Conlon, Jaime Laredo, and Keith Lockhart.

His orchestral appearances include solo performances with, among others, The Philadelphia Orchestra, l'Orchestre Symphonique du Montreal, the Toronto Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, the Naples Philharmonic, and the Dayton Philharmonic. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1999 with the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, performing Duke Ellington's *New World A'Comin'*.

In 2005, Michael performed the world premiere of *Jeux Deux*, a work by Todd Machover commissioned by the Boston Pops Orchestra expressly for him. He recorded the piece in Denmark.

Michael first performed publicly at the age of 11 and by age 17, he performed the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3 with Andrew Litton. He has garnered numerous awards at major competitions, among them the top prize in the 1989 Joanna Hodges Int'l Piano Competition (Brahms Division) and the grand prize in the 1993 St. Charles International Piano Competition.

Michael released three CDs of his original arrangements entitled *Cinematic Piano*, *Telarc: Palace of the Winds*, *Christmas at the Movies* and *Love At the Movies*, which have been praised for their lush, original arrangements and exquisite technical facility.

Michael was soloist for The Ohio Valley Symphony's musical journey of the greatest hits of the 1920's performing a brand new orchestral arrangement

# Repertoire

Sounds of Duke Ellington  
 An American in Paris  
 Piano Concerto in F major

Duke Ellington  
 George Gershwin  
 George Gershwin

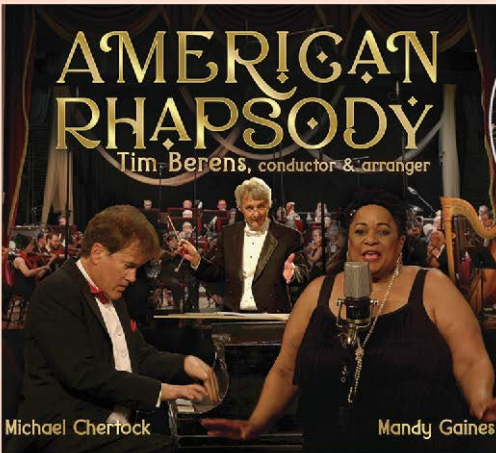
Pre-concert Chat 6:45 pm ~ Post concert Reception

of *Rhapsody in Blue* just in time for the 100th anniversary of Gershwin's masterpiece.

Michael is the conductor of the Blue Ash-Montgomery Symphony, located in suburban Cincinnati, Ohio. When not on tour he also serves as principal keyboardist with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. In June of 2004 Mr. Chertock was appointed Assistant Professor of piano at the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music, where he received his Master's Degree as a student of Frank Weinstock.



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2026-27

Season

# The Ohio Valley Symphony

**37**  
**YEARS**

1989-2026



**T**he Ohio Valley Symphony is the only professional orchestra in the Ohio River Valley region. Now beginning its 37th season, the OVS is the resident ensemble of the Ariel-Ann Carson Dater Performing Arts Centre in downtown Gallipolis, Ohio. The orchestra was created as a result of the vision of Lora Lynn Snow, a

Gallipolis resident and professional oboist.

Since its first performance on April 1, 1989, The Ohio Valley Symphony has never wavered from its guiding principles: to bring live, professional, orchestral music to tri-state audiences; to provide performers an atmosphere of positive reinforcement; and to instill a love of music in children through education and exposure to great music.

The OVS offers an annual concert subscription series with concerts in the fall and spring wrapped around The Christmas Show, always the first Saturday in December.

*The OVS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Federal ID #31-1273779.*

## ARIEL OPERA HOUSE

*Home of The Ohio Valley Symphony*

Established 1895



## 5-CONCERT SUBSCRIPTION

Adult \$130 Senior \$120

Student \$65 Family \$375

Tickets \$15 to \$36

Pre-concert Chat 6:45 PM  
3rd Floor Chamber Theatre

Post-concert Reception  
Meet the Musicians  
2nd Floor Banquet Hall

# The Ohio Valley Symphony

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Meet the Musicians  
2nd floor Banquet Hall

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### AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY



### HAPPY HALLOWEEN



### THE CHRISTMAS SHOW



### BUGLER'S HOLIDAY



### GERSHWIN'S GREATEST



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