

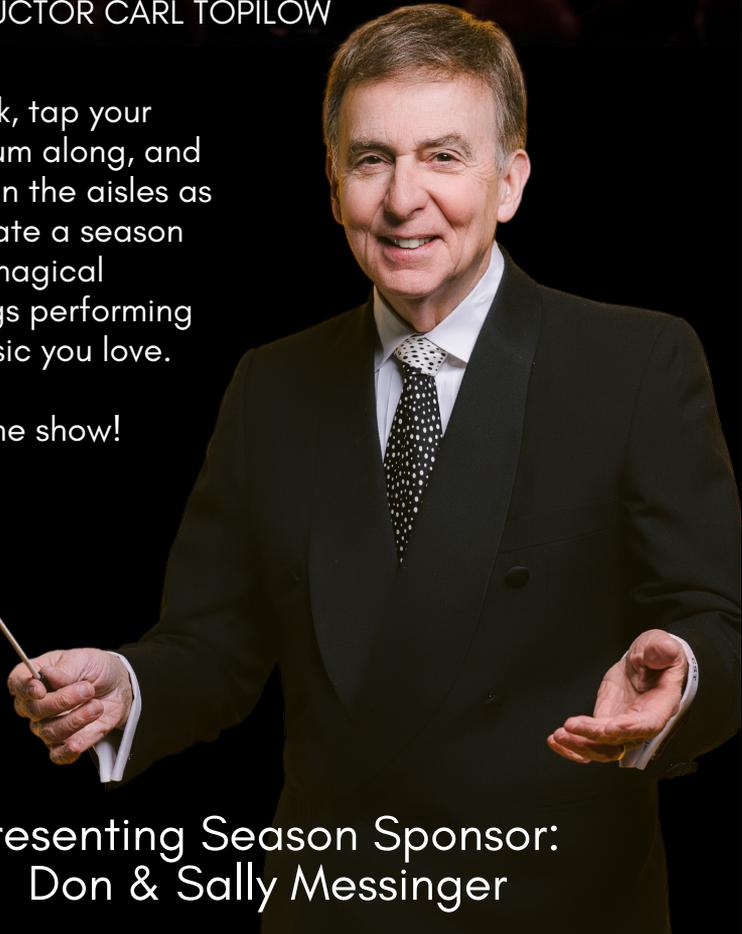


24 Cleveland Pops 25 Concert Season

CONDUCTOR CARL TOPILOW

Sit back, tap your
toes, hum along, and
dance in the aisles as
we create a season
full of magical
evenings performing
the music you love.

Enjoy the show!



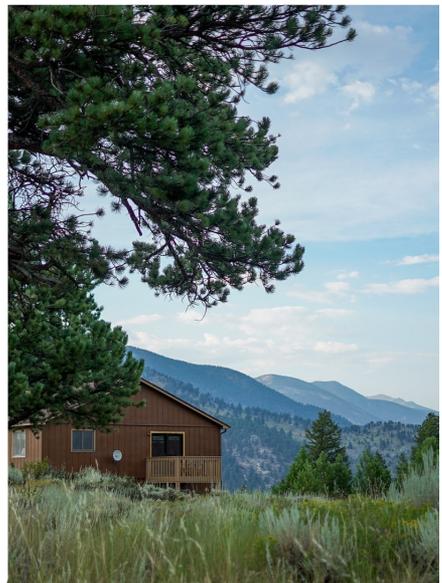
Presenting Season Sponsor:
Don & Sally Messinger



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THANK YOU TO ANNETTE AND KEN HALLOCK

for their sponsorship
of the Cleveland
Pops Ensemble's
successful residency
this past August at
the YMCA of the
Rockies' *Arts at
Altitude* festival in
Estes Park, Colorado.





A Message from James M. Stone

Chairman of the Board:
September 2019-Present

Welcome patrons, subscribers, concertgoers and guests to the wonderful 28th year of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra! We are delighted that you can join us., For our 2024-25 season Maestro Carl Topilow has again put together a great series of performances for you of Pops, Broadway, popular, holiday and light classical music.

The Pops you see today is a varied virtuoso orchestra. We perform regularly at Severance Music Center, Playhouse Square, and throughout our region. The arts scene in Cleveland is amazingly vibrant- with an outstanding arts and fine arts scene. Cleveland is one of the best arts and cultural cities in the US, and the Pops is a beloved part of the music scene here, We are proud to be an ever more important part of it.

We feature an outstanding group of professional musicians performing under our Conductor and Music Director, Carl Topilow. Many of our musicians have played with us for years, and we feature the best in guest artists. In addition, we support future musicians through our Gordon and Jean L. Pettit Memorial Scholarship Competition for students, The Orchestra teams up The Music Settlement to form the Cleveland Pops Youth Orchestra. That ensemble gives talented young performers the chance to play pops music under professional conducting. Even more, The Pops operates its Actual Music program in our area schools, under the leadership of Pops President Shirley Morgenstern. We are pleased to be a part of engaging the next generation in popular symphonic music.

Our success is due to our Conductor, the musicianship of our performers, and our terrific programming, It is also thanks to the support of the Greater Cleveland community. Our audience, including subscribers and individual ticket purchasers, are our life blood. However, ticket sales provide only a portion of our budget. As an independent, 501(c) (3) organization, the Cleveland Pops Orchestra is dependent on the generosity of individuals, corporations, government funding of the arts, and foundations. We appreciate all who support the Pops, including our excellent Board of Directors, our sponsors, many donors, and our benefit honorees and patrons. We are also indebted to the Ohio Arts Council, the Cleveland and Kulas and other foundations, and Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, to name just a few.

Thanks for keeping the Pops vibrant in the past, now and for decades to come.

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1267 WEST 9TH STREET STE. 500
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113

Congratulates the Cleveland Pops Orchestra on a very wonderful 2024-2025 musical season!

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Shirley Morgenstern, *President and CEO*

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Carl Topilow

*Music Director & Conductor
Cleveland Pops Orchestra*

Thank you for being a supporter of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra! We are looking forward to another fabulous season of the music that you love.

Whether you enjoy the music of Broadway, Hollywood, Sinatra, Motown, or Rock, we have something for everyone. Our lively and interactive programs are sure to entertain and inspire.

Our thanks go to our patrons, donors, orchestra members, board, and staff for their contribution to the success of our orchestra. Performing in beautiful Severance Music Center and for our holiday concert at the Connor Palace Theater in Playhouse Square brings out the best in our performers, and we are anxiously awaiting the start of our season.

The excitement of live performance is what propels our musicians and guest artists to connect in a way that recordings can never do. Our programs are joyful and uplifting, and evenings with the Pops have a way of reverberating with our audience and orchestra.

In addition to our series concerts, this season our orchestra will be performing for Playhouse Square's Strictly Gershwin, the Cleveland Ballet, and Pink Floyd.

So, sit back, tap your toes, hum, along, and dance in the aisles as we create the magical evenings that we so enjoy creating.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Topilow".



Shirley Morgenstern

President & CEO
Cleveland Pops Orchestra

Welcome to our 2024-2025 season!

We are thrilled to be able to bring you the music you love to lift your spirits, make you smile, enjoy memories of past musical experiences and make new ones.

As we embark on this musical journey, now in its 28th year, we would like to thank our orchestra members, patrons, donors, board of directors and staff for their support in making this all happen.

Maestro Carl Topilow has planned a wonderful season of programs with variety and fun, from Broadway to Hollywood, Sinatra, Motown, and Rock and Roll!

This past season saw the Pops, thanks to you, enjoy a dramatic rebound from Covid with increased ticket sales and renewed interest in our orchestra. Due to the many seasons of sold-out Holiday concerts, we have partnered with Playhouse Square to add, on December 1st at the Connor Palace Theater, a 7:00 PM evening performance in addition to our traditional 2:00 PM show. Each performance will include all the things you love to get into the spirit of the Holiday season! Our orchestra will be joined by the Cleveland Pops Chorus, our "Dancing Santas", guest vocalists, adoptable puppies and kittens from many Cleveland animal shelters and, of course, Santa Claus himself.

Another significant venture was the Pops' August residency at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park Colorado for the inaugural "Arts at Altitude" festival. Ten of our fabulous musicians, including Maestro Topilow performing as clarinetist and saxophonist, were joined by extraordinary vocalists Natalie Green and Connor Bogart O'Brien. Our musicians performed in a variety of roles, in concerts featuring jazz, rock, and Broadway, pop-up performances, a jam session, informative discussions, and sessions with children participating in Actual Music, our music education program.

Please feel free to email or call me about your experience at the Pops. Your ideas are always welcome!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shirley Morgenstern". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot above the 'i' in "Morgenstern".

Foundations, Government and Other Organizations

The Cleveland Pops Orchestra is grateful to the following funders who have made the 2024-2025 season possible:

\$50,000 & Above

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture
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A JOLLY HOLIDAY WITH THE POPS

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Ohio Real Title



THE ENVELOPE PLEASE...

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MEET THE
MAESTRO:

CARL TOPILOW



Founding conductor of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, Carl Topilow's eclectic programs have been acclaimed by audiences and critics alike. He enjoys a dual career as both conductor and clarinetist, often finding an occasion to perform a selection with the Pops on one of his brightly colored clarinets.

Carl is also conductor of the Firelands Symphony Orchestra, based in Sandusky, Ohio. After 42 years as conductor of the National Repertory Orchestra, a summer festival in Breckenridge, CO, he is continuing an active role with the orchestra as Conductor Laureate. He was named Faculty Emeritus after 37 years as Conductor and Director of the Orchestral Program at the Cleveland Institute of Music and has served as principal pops conductor of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra and Mansfield Symphony Orchestra.

Topilow has performed as guest conductor with 133 different orchestras in 37 states and 12 foreign countries. He continues his role as educator with his work as clinician and teacher for conductors.

Topilow's wife Shirley is President and CEO of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra. Their daughter Emily is a marketing associate with the Cleveland Clinic, and their daughter Jenny is a violinist with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra.

Carl's new book, *The Orchestral Conductor's Career Handbook*, published by Rowman and Littlefield, is now available through CarlTopilow.com and Rowman.com

Gordon & Jean L. Petitt Annual Music Scholarship Competition

Each year, talented young performers from Northeast Ohio compete to receive performance opportunities with The Cleveland Pops Orchestra, and resources to help them continue their musical education. The competition is open to young instrumentalists, vocalists and dancers.

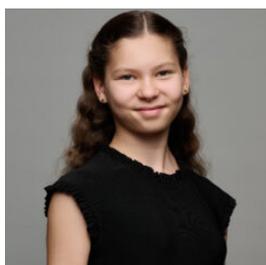
For information or to contribute to this scholarship, visit:
ClevelandPops.com/Education-Outreach/Scholarship

Past Winners:

2023 Co-Winner
Eivissa Sorolla,
violin



2023 Co-Winner
Sabrina Kerze,
piano



2022:

Alexandra Newman, vocalist
Lindsey Ross, vocalist

2021:

Daniel Colaner, piano
Moshi Tang, violin
Calista Zajac, vocalist

2019:

Julia Schilz, violin

2018:

Elizabeth Huang, violin
Alex Zhu, violin

2017:

Kate Klika, vocalist
Céline Bethoux, violin

2016:

Phoenix Avalon, violin
J.R. Heckman, vocalist

2015:

Hannah Kulawiak, vocalist
Sean Yongjoo Lim, violin

2014:

Jieming Tang, violin

2013:

Lewis Zou, piano
Maria Beltavski, violin

2012:

Jiana Peng, piano

2011:

Kaley Ann Voorhees, vocalist
Sophia Madorsky, vocalist

2010:

James Thompson, violin

2009:

Alexis Floyd, vocalist

2008:

Sarah Arnold, violin

2007:

Chad Hoopes, violin
Meredith Kochan, vocalist

2006:

Caroline Goulding, violin

2005:

Jerry Lang, II, piano

2004:

Annie Marie Sivertson,
vocalist

2003:

Yihao Wu, piano

2002:

Shantelle Jackson, dancer
Antonio Brown, dancer
Lisa Moore, vocalist
Riley Richard, saxophone

2001:

Robbie Spackey,
saxophone
Gina DiBello, violin
Kelly Pekar, vocalist

2000:

Nicholas DiEugenio, violin



Russ
Grindon
CPA

Proud to support the Cleveland Pops Orchestra.

We look forward to another outstanding season with Carl
Topilow and the Cleveland Pops.

440-717-0633
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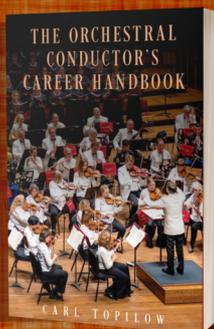
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THE ORCHESTRAL CONDUCTOR'S CAREER HANDBOOK

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profession, especially when it comes to
finding your career path. With examples
from his own life as well as general
observations, this is a must-read for
conductors in waiting."

— Leonard Slatkin, internationally
acclaimed conductor

We look forward to another outstanding season of
The Cleveland Pops Orchestra
Penny and Michael Shemo

Proud to Support Carl Topilow and the
Cleveland Pops Orchestra
Nancy Glick & Randy Solomon

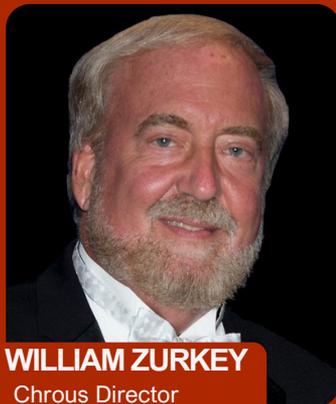
Cleveland Pops Chorus



The Cleveland Pops Orchestra Chorus' debut performance took place at Severance on Friday, November 2, 2012. Donald Rosenberg, Cleveland Plain Dealer critic, in attendance at the debut concert, wrote, "The chorus will appear regularly with the orchestra, and for this Pops audiences can be truly grateful." Created to partner with Carl Topilow and the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, the chorus has been a wonderful addition to orchestra's Broadway, Holiday, Hollywood, and Armed Forces concerts. In addition to its concerts with the Pops Orchestra, the chorus has also performed with the Cleveland Winds, the Cleveland Philharmonic, the West Shore Chorale, and with Andrea Bocelli and the Pops Orchestra at Rocket Mortgage Field House. This diverse group of individuals from all over the Cleveland area has one commonality; they all love to sing and share the joy of singing with others.

William G. Zurkey is beginning his eleventh season as the director of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra Chorus. In addition to his work with the Pops Chorus, he is an Adjunct Professor of Music Education at Cleveland State University School of Music.

A past president of the Ohio Choral Directors Association, Mr. Zurkey was inducted into the 2018 National High School Hall of Fame and was named Bowling Green State University 2013 College of Musical Arts Distinguished Graduate and the 2013 Regional Mr. Holland's Opus Award. The Avon Lake High School Chorale, under his direction, performed at nine OMEA state conventions and district and regional conventions of MKMEA, and ACDA. Mr. Zurkey has also directed choirs at the Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music Outreach Program and as an adjunct Faculty of Music Education at the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music.



WILLIAM ZURKEY
Chorus Director



RICHARD COLE - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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Holiday Concert 2024



It Isn't Christmas Until...

Start the season with this concert filled with all your holiday favorites and a few surprises!

Dates: December 14 & 15, 2024
Maltz Performing Arts Center

Spring Concert 2025

Beatlemania

Twist and Shout to a concert of classic Beatles hits!

Dates: March 15 & 16, 2025
Maltz Performing Arts Center



Summer Concert 2025



Reigning Men

Celebrating the hit songs made famous by the best of music's legendary gay icons!

Dates: June 14 & 15, 2025
Mimi Ohio Theatre

To order tickets or for more information please visit [NCMChorus.org](https://www.ncmchorus.org), contact tickets@ncmchorus.org or call **216.556.0590**



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Jackson Lewis is honored to support the Cleveland Pops Orchestra in its mission to perform the highest quality symphonic pops music, enhancing the richness and vibrancy of Northeast Ohio living.



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CASSIDY THEATRE

2025 Theatre Season

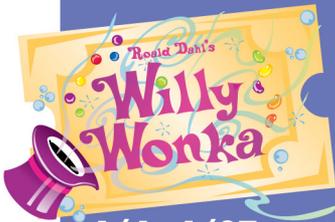
hairspray

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

2/7 - 2/23

Disney
FREAKY FRIDAY

8/8 - 8/24 A NEW MUSICAL!



4/4 - 4/27



10/10 - 10/26

**THE FULL
MONTY**

6/6 - 6/22



12/5 - 12/21

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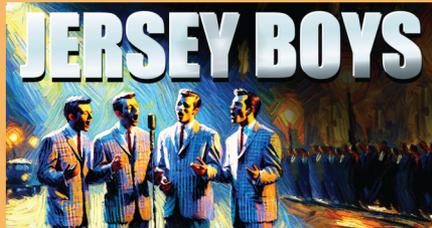
THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music by RICHARD ROGERS Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
Book by HOWARD LINDSAY & RUSSELL CROUSE
NOVEMBER 15 - DECEMBER 15, 2024

Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express

Adapted for the stage by KEN LUDWIG
JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 8, 2025

JERSEY BOYS



Book by MARSHAL BRICKMAN & RICK ELICE
Music by BOB GAUDIO Lyrics by BOB CREWE
MARCH 14 - APRIL 6, 2025

CLUE



Adapted from the screenplay by JONATHAN LYNN Written by
SANDY RUSTIN with material by HUNTER FOSTER & ERIC PRICE
MAY 30 - JUNE 14, 2025

FREAKY LBDIA

Book by BRIDGET CARPENTER
Music by TOM KITT Lyrics by BRIAN YORKEY
JULY 25 - AUGUST 16, 2025



Chagrin Valley Little Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization



— THE POPS IN THE COMMUNITY —

ENTERTAIN. ENRICH. EDUCATE.

The Cleveland Pops Orchestra offers a broad range of experiences from concerts and community events to educational programs and a scholarship opportunity.

- ENTERTAIN -

- Through our concert series at Severance Music Center, our highly anticipated annual family holiday show at Connor Palace, and our community engagement events, The Cleveland Pops attracts a wide and diverse audience.
 - **62,000+** individuals entertained each year
 - **15-18** concerts & community events



- ENRICH -

- The Cleveland Pops programs and performances throughout the region promote a love and understanding of music that make a lasting impression on the minds and hearts of thousands.



- EDUCATE -

- The Pops creates music learning experiences for children from their pre-school stage through high school.

- **ACTUAL MUSIC**

A program designed to engage children in the world of music & dance. The program provides education, participation, listening & visual stimulation for the students.



- **GORDON & JEAN L. PETITT SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION**

Open to vocalists, dancers and instrumentalists up to the age of 18, with prizes including a cash reward and the opportunity to perform on stage at Severance Music Center with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra.

- **THE CLEVELAND POPS YOUTH ORCHESTRA**

Established in collaboration with The Music Settlement, this program was created to nurture & train young musicians. The program promotes critical thinking, self-confidence & leadership skills through music.



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THE GLASS MENAGERIE
 By Tennessee Williams
 Directed by Thomas Q. Fulton
 Starring Derrriu Ring as
 Amanda Wingfield
STUDIO THEATER

OCTOBER 4 TO NOVEMBER 3, 2024
 Produced with special arrangement with
 Concord Theatricals.



UNDER A BASEBALL SKY
 By Jose Cruz Gonzalez
 Directed by Eric Schmiedl
STUDIO THEATER
APRIL 4 TO MAY 4, 2025
 Please note there is no show

on Sunday, April 20, 2025, Easter Sunday.
 Presented with special rights by Susan
 Schulman Agency.



**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING
 TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT**
 Lyrics by Tim Rice
 Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
 Directed by Scott Spence
 Music Director Larry Goodpaster

Choreography by Lauren Marousek
SENNEY THEATER
DECEMBER 6, 2024 TO JANUARY 5, 2025
 with special curtains: **THURSDAYS** December 12
 at 7:30 pm, December 19 at
 7:30 pm, 2024 and January 2, 2025. Saturday
 December 7 is 2:30 pm **ONLY**, Saturday December
 14 is 2:30 pm **ONLY**, Saturday December 21 is
 2:30 pm **ONLY**, Saturday December 28, 2024 is
 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm, and Saturday January 4,
 2025 is 2:30 pm **ONLY**. Presented by arrangement
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 Useful Group. www.concordtheatricals.com



THE ROBBER BRIDEGROOM
 Music by Robert Waldman
 Book and Lyrics by Alfred Uhry
 Directed by Scott Spence
 Music Direction Larry Goodpaster
 Choreography by Lauren Marousek

STUDIO THEATER
MAY 30 TO JUNE 29, 2025
 with **THURSDAY** June 12, June 19, and
 June 26, 2025.
 Produced with special arrangements with MTI
 Musical Theatre International.



WAITRESS THE MUSICAL
 Directed by Victoria Bussert
 Music Direction Matthew Webb
 Choreography Lauren Marousek
 Featuring music and
 lyrics by Sara Bareilles

Book by Jessie Nelson
SENNEY THEATER
FEBRUARY 14 TO MARCH 9, 2025
 with **THURSDAY** February 20 at 7:30 pm.,
 February 27 at 7:30 pm, March 6, 2025 at
 7:30 pm. / February 16 & 23 at 2:30 pm and
 March 2 & 9 at 2:30 pm. Baldwin Wallace Music
 Theatre Program Collaboration. Produced with
 special arrangement with MTI Musical Theatre
 International.



A CHORUS LINE
 Music by Marvin Hamlisch
 Lyrics by Edward Kleban
 Book by James Kirkwood Jr.
 and Nicholas Dante
 Directed and

Choreographed by Christopher Chase Carter
SENNEY THEATER
JULY 11 TO AUGUST 10, 2025
THURSDAYS July 24 at 7:30 pm, July 31 at
 7:30 pm, and August 7, 2025 at 7:30 pm.



PURCHASE TICKETS HERE

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UNDER THE DIRECTION OF CARL TOPILOW

THE CLEVELAND POPS YOUTH ORCHESTRA



The renowned Cleveland Pops Orchestra, in collaboration with The Music Settlement, has established The Cleveland Pops Youth Orchestra to nurture and train young musicians to reach their full potential while promoting critical thinking, self-confidence, and leadership skills through music.



Auditions are ongoing! For more information, visit:
https://bit.ly/Pops_YouthOrchestra





A legacy that brings symphonic pops music for generations to come.

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Pops Legacy Society members are securing the future of The Cleveland Pops Orchestra

We are honored by the generosity of our Legacy Society members who, through their estate plans will continue to support The Cleveland Pops Orchestra's mainstage productions and education and engagement efforts that touch people of all ages and backgrounds, past their own lifetimes.

We invite you to join this esteemed group of individuals who have demonstrated their deep commitment to ensuring our region continues to be a place where people want to live and work, that attracts and keeps top talent, businesses and investment.

For more information about creating your Cleveland Pops Orchestra Legacy, contact Loren Topnitz at 216-765-7677 or lorentopnitz@clevelandpops.com.



Please let us recognize your commitment. We are honored to acknowledge members of our Pops Legacy Society in our programs and as our honored guests at special events.

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Announcing the **24 Cleveland Pops 25 Concert Season**

Subscription concerts take place at Severance at 7:30 P.M.



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Broadway's Best
You choose, we play!



Saturday, February 1, 2025
Music of Motown
Celebrating 65 years of
Motown.



Friday, March 14, 2025
The Envelope Please...
Scores that won the
Oscar.



Friday, April 11, 2025
Cleveland Rocks
Rock 'n' Roll with the
Pops.



Friday, May 2, 2025
Simply Sinatra
The Golden Age of
Sinatra.



Saturday, May 31, 2025
Decades of Delight
Hits from the Great
American Songbook.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY CONCERT:
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024 | 2 P.M. & 7 P.M. | CONNOR PALACE THEATRE

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.....
SATURDAY, 1/25/25

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