



QUAD CITY SYMPHONY YOUTH ENSEMBLES

# FALL CONCERT

**SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER 16,  
2025  
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DANCE

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# WELCOME

*from the* **MUSIC DIRECTOR**

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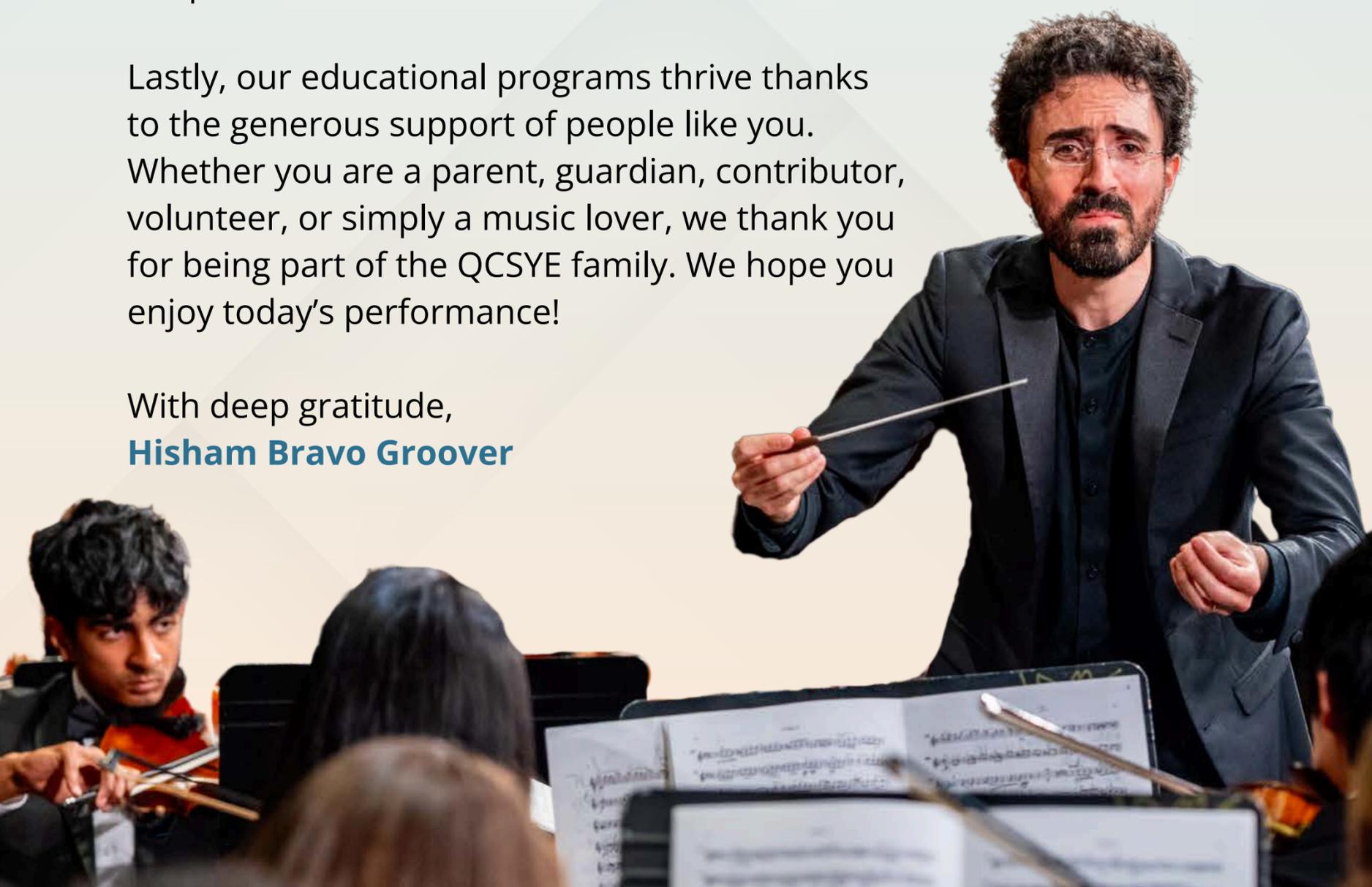
*Dear Families and Friends of the QCSYE,*

I am thrilled to welcome you to the 2025-2026 season, featuring our region's most passionate and enthusiastic young musicians! We begin the year with so much to celebrate--Prelude Strings has reached record enrollment, with 55 students playing in an advanced string ensemble for the very first time; Mr. Zack Morton has joined our artistic team, leading Concert Orchestra into its next exciting chapter; and the Youth Symphony Orchestra is preparing for an international performance tour to Spain and Portugal in June 2026.

As you've come to expect, our concerts showcase the incredible talent and dedication of our orchestras. As you sit back and enjoy this season's performances, I hope you'll take a moment to reflect on the immense time and effort these students have invested. Their willingness to be vulnerable and collaborate with one another is no easy task. Moreover, their commitment to practicing at home--so they arrive at each rehearsal having made meaningful progress--is a testament to their discipline and passion for music. Each note they play is backed by countless hours of work, and every moment shared on stage reflects their pursuit of growth. We are proud to support these young musicians as they continue to challenge themselves in the pursuit of musical excellence.

Lastly, our educational programs thrive thanks to the generous support of people like you. Whether you are a parent, guardian, contributor, volunteer, or simply a music lover, we thank you for being part of the QCSYE family. We hope you enjoy today's performance!

With deep gratitude,  
**Hisham Bravo Groover**





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Hisham Bravo Groover  
*Director of Orchestral  
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**309-794-7233**

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QUAD CITY SYMPHONY YOUTH ENSEMBLES  
**FALL CONCERT**

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025, 3:00 PM  
ADLER THEATRE

**PRELUDE STRINGS**

**ELIZABETH LUNDINE**, *conductor*

<b>WILLIAM HOFELDT</b>	Toccatina
<b>LAUREN BERNOFSKY</b>	Double Trouble
<b>SOON HEE NEWBOLD</b>	Gypsy Tale
<b>JEREMY WOOLSTENHULME</b>	English Sea Chanty

**CONCERT ORCHESTRA**

**ZACK MORTON**, *conductor*

**ANTHONY HERNANDEZ**, *wind specialist*

<b>MICHAEL STORY</b>	Evangeline: Two Cajun Folk Songs I. Tout Un Beau Soir En Me Promenant II. Danse de Mardi Gras
<b>ROSSANO GALANTE</b>	Nostalgia
<b>CAROL BRITTEN CHAMBERS</b>	Byzantine Dances

**YOUTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**

**HISHAM BRAVO GROOVER**, *conductor*

<b>MODEST MUSSORGSKY</b> ARR. DAVID STONE	The Great Gate of Kiev
<b>PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY</b> ARR. FREDERICK MÜLLER	Introduction and Finale from Romeo and Juliet
<b>ANTONIN DVORAK</b> ARR. MERLE J. ISSAC	Slavonic Dance No. 8

**INTERMISSION**

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# YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**HISHAM BRAVO GROOVER**, *conductor*

**MANUEL DE FALLA**

El Amor Brujo  
VII. Ritual Fire Dance  
X. Pantomime

**AARON COPLAND**

Billy the Kid  
I. Prairie Night  
II. Celebration Dance

**JOHANNES BRAHMS**

Tragic Overture

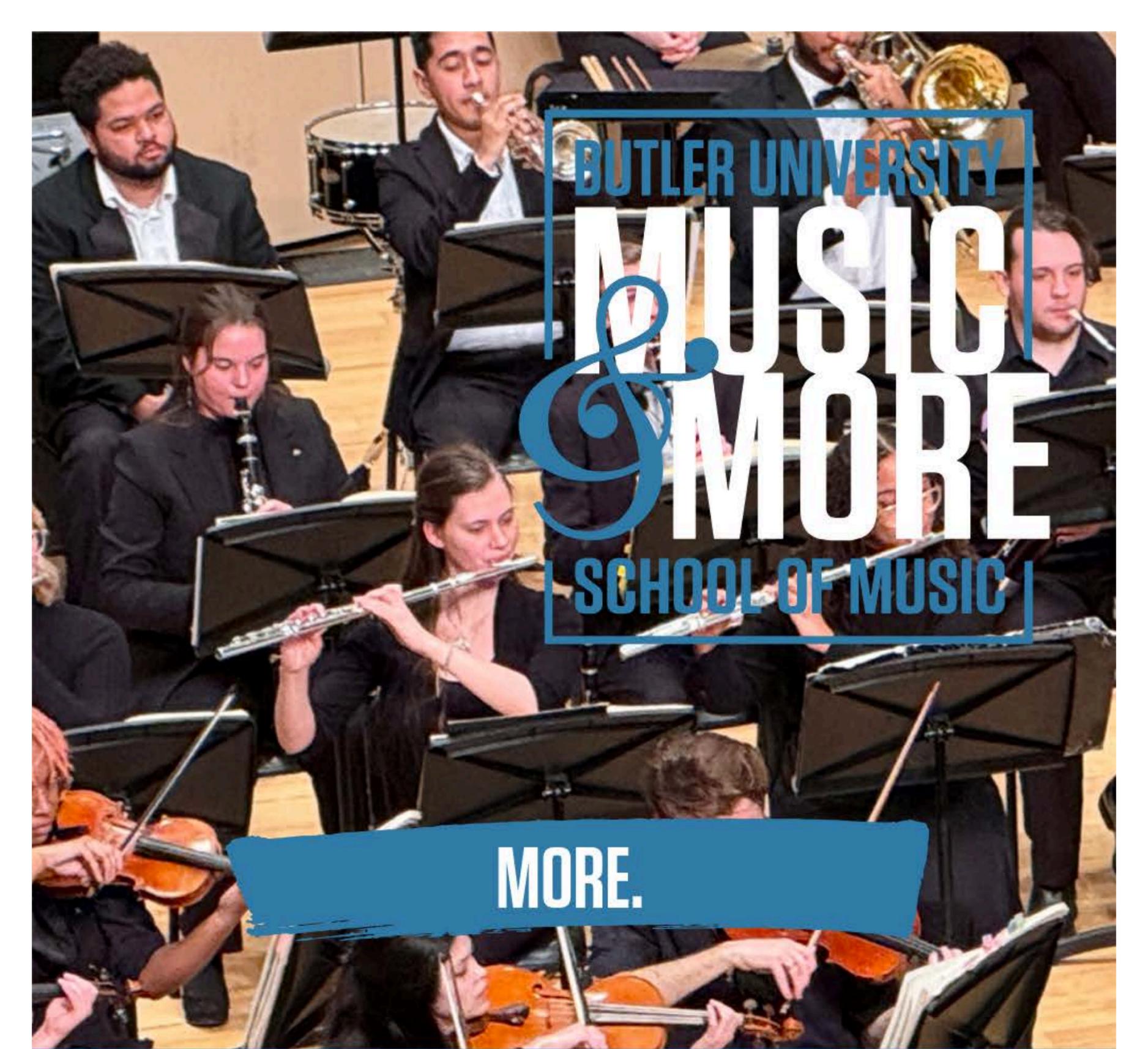
*financial aid and support by  
The Henry J Trefz Estate, and the Marsha Pedersen  
and Margaret Skinner Endowed Funds*

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## About the Quad City Symphony Youth Ensembles

The Quad City Symphony Youth Ensembles (QCSYE) consists of four school-year orchestras for musicians of all ability levels, ages 7 to 18. The program provides a rigorous and inspiring learning environment founded on musical excellence for string, woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians. Students develop valuable musical, social, and leadership skills which set them up for success in school and beyond. Financial aid is available so everyone can participate regardless of ability to pay.

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### **Scholarships for majors and non-majors!**

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Auditions: January & February

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# PRELUDE STRINGS

---

## **VIOLIN**

Lillian Barton  
Brooke Billiet  
Lily Blank  
Meira Carlson  
Sophia Dockery  
Kallie Duncan  
Avery Fuglseth  
Addison Geistkemper  
Sean Gould  
Logan Hammes  
Isaiah Harris  
Ganza Jesse  
Audriana Kannenberg  
Purvik Karanam  
Sasha Kemp  
Aahana Kumar  
Subhadra Kunte  
Aliya Lavicka  
Haley McCarville  
Evelyn Nelson  
Samantha Nguyen  
Vincent Park  
Jasmine Rexroth  
Naela Speight  
Meara Taylor  
Christian Thompson  
Lauren Tran  
Pandora Williamson  
Brianna Baluyut\*  
Shalini Chandupatla\*  
Kimberly Jackson\*  
Bethany Priaulx\*  
Jonathan Rice\*

## **VIOLA**

Jemma Chandler  
Adelia Hoppe  
Addie Hoste  
Emmy Jackson  
Sophie Johnson  
Lucy Macario  
Alise Pins  
Kaia Smith  
Miaoxian Zhou

## **CELLO**

Clementine Alexander  
Eleanor Boerema  
Ethan DeKeyzer  
Piper Glembine  
Violet Lemke  
Shianne Lohse  
Olivia Moa  
Charlotte Pelham  
Vihaan Rastogi  
Bradley Stein  
Lagatha Villa  
Autumn Wynn  
Caleb Kindred\*  
Milla Wiechert\*

## **BASS**

Macky Burns  
David Cox  
Evelyn Plumb  
Lydia Shamrell\*

*\*denotes Prelude Strings Mentor*

# CONCERT ORCHESTRA

---

## **FLUTE**

Vihaan Aluri  
Nyali Bernier  
Emery Duncan  
Anastasia McFarland  
Olivia Smith

## **OBOE**

Emily Anderson  
Rebecca Ashitey  
Ruby Budde  
Isabelle Zabransky

## **CLARINET**

Olivia Howard  
Adalynne Johnston  
Georgina Kelley  
Olivia Painter

## **BASSOON**

Harrison Pancrazio  
Rowan Schutte

## **HORN**

Carson Nunn

## **TRUMPET**

Zen Bishop  
Oliver Lund

## **TROMBONE**

Dawsyn Ceurvorst  
Gwendolyn Zabransky

## **TUBA**

Tanner McShane  
Simon Smith

## **PERCUSSION**

Chahana Katreddy  
Jacob Tobey

## **VIOLIN**

Grayson Barr  
Sofia Campos-Sandoval  
MacKenzie Caughey  
Shansa Deason  
Sahana Dinakaran  
Cecillia Garcia  
Macy Hankner  
Oskar Hernandez  
Agrima Kumar  
Balarama Kunte  
Magdalena Leveridge  
Sebastian Martinez  
Mylah Menes  
Olivia Papik  
Parker Renaud  
Vera Smith  
Rion Terry  
Isaac Ward  
Hailey Wilson  
Yixian Zhou

## **VIOLA**

Ben Carter  
Ariana Ernst  
Josiah Hoste  
Kaolyn Mumme  
Clara Neumeyer  
Holden Ryan

## **CELLO**

Lydia Haben  
Henry Lappie  
Anthony Macario  
Le Bao Anh Nguyen  
Ethan O'Brian  
Lola Ragona  
Claire Scranton  
Amelia Velez  
Iris Wang

## **BASS**

Oakly Mack

# YOUTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

---

## **FLUTE**

Colette Enes  
Elias Gomez  
Ainsley Pondell  
Mariska Rubemeyer

## **OBOE**

Wisdom Dogbe  
Russell Firsching  
Jackson Weeks

## **CLARINET**

Paisley Arnold  
Eva Bancks

## **BASSOON**

Ryan Coleman  
Priya Kubalsky

## **HORN**

Lydia Arnell-Liu  
Robyn Carbonneau  
Lucas Fuelling  
Caleb Peterson

## **TRUMPET**

Azaliah Garcia  
Jude Reyes

## **TROMBONE**

John Bancks  
Maggie Dochterman

## **PERCUSSION**

Cael Ceurvorst  
Shal Shen

## **VIOLIN I**

Shraddha Balaji  
Eugene Chan  
Birdie Engelkemier  
Adrian Gillette  
Howie Gisi  
Karina Grande  
Xavier Guldenzopf  
Jessica Jangid  
Merrell Mars  
Gabriel Rohde  
Finn Samuelson  
Joseph Tavernier  
Payton Terronez  
Malcolm Uhde\*

## **VIOLIN II**

Liliana Aguilera Perez  
Grace Bergeson  
Genevieve Boom  
Rukmini Chandupatla  
Gwendolyn Dobmann  
Amelia Duncan  
Danica Hanson  
Ella Jackson  
Eva Kauther  
Minju Kim  
Kaylee McCreery  
Olivia Robinson

## **VIOLA**

Lily Elledge  
Joy Kim  
Thela Olson

## **CELLO**

Ellie Bradshaw  
Jonathan Carter  
August Dagostino  
Emily Elisondo  
Rosalie Galindo  
Aleighia Lopez  
Bada Oh  
Banseok Oh  
Elizabeth Pessman  
Lydia Petefish  
Samantha Potter

## **BASS**

Hannah Highberger  
Chloe Reiter

*\*denotes mentored by  
QCSO Concertmaster,  
Naha Greenholtz*

# YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

---

## FLUTE

Adalyn Anderson  
Zolimar Garcia  
Crystal Hayford  
Sani Lim  
Lily Rantanen  
Miranda Simison

## OBOE

Tivya Bernier  
Anabella Kelley  
Chiara Paul  
Ayame Stroh

## CLARINET

Oliver Harbke  
Madilyn Ketelsen  
Thela Olson

## BASSOON

Jacob Bice  
David Hayford  
Chloe Martin

## HORN

Linnea Arnell-Liu  
Jonathan Freadhoff

## TRUMPET

Matthew Fedele  
Katie Kanzaki  
Ethan Peterson

## TROMBONE

Jacob Berry  
Pacey Kane

## TUBA

Nick Rhodes  
Cy Sammons

## PERCUSSION

Aliyah Folwer  
Bryce Gillespie

## PIANO

Jonathan Rice

## VIOLIN I

Kaushik Balaji  
Brianna Baluyut  
Marissa Bradford  
Nathan Chen\*  
Johann Deutmeyer  
Mira Gibbons  
Kimberly Jackson  
Sadie Morales  
Claire Zaruba

## VIOLIN II

Hannah Bancks  
Eve Bentkowski  
Mady Beyer  
Elise Brock  
Janset Celik  
Shalini Chandupatla  
Luke Ellis  
Noah Hlas  
Amrutya Kudigram  
Sebastian Macario  
Haven O'Brian  
Alana Owen  
Bethany Priaulx  
Jonathan Rice  
Ryan Squires

## VIOLA

Avalon Anderson  
Alexander Cox  
Ethan Ignatius  
Juha Kim  
Hani Lim  
Evan Lino Montes  
Natalie McBride

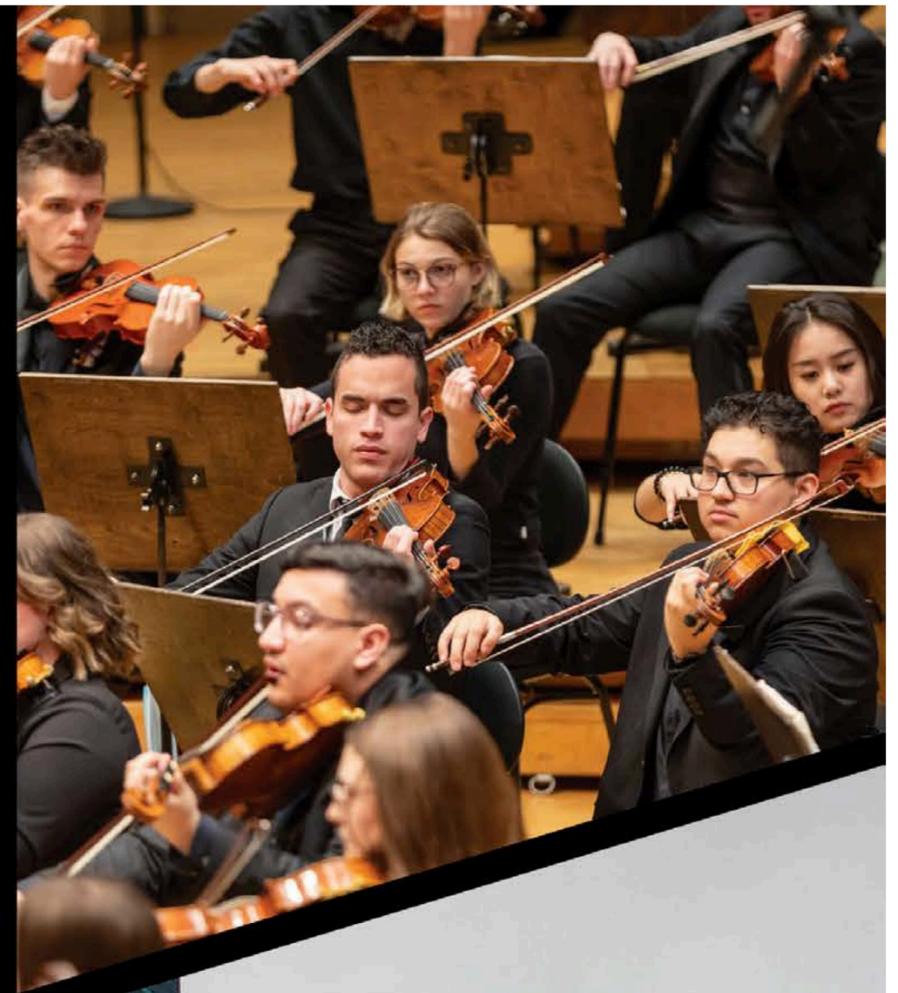
## CELLO

Kaija Anderson  
Jason Beukenhorst  
Keira Cromwell  
Benjamin Gillette  
Caleb Kindred  
Stephen Schwartz  
Molly Smith  
Katharine Stolley  
Titus Stout  
Aj Tobey  
Milla Wiechert

## BASS

Stella Lundh  
Lydia Shamrell

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# QCSYE CONCERT CLUB

---

The QCSYE Concert Club is a group of YPO/YSO members who attend QCSO Masterworks and Up Close concerts together throughout the season.

Kaushik Balaji

Shraddha Balaji

Brianna Baluyut

Eva Bancks

Hannah Bancks

John Bancks

Mady Beyer

Genevieve Boom

Elise Brock

Rukmini Chandupatla

Shalini Chandupatla

Lily Elledge

Luke Ellis

Azaliah Garcia

Zolimar Garcia

Oliver Harbke

Crystal Hayford

David Hayford

Katie Kanzaki

Eva Kauther

Priya Kubalsky

Sadie Morales

Haven O'Brian

Chiara Paul

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Davenport North High School  
Davenport West High School  
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Edward White Elementary  
Eisenhower Elementary  
Geneseo High School  
Geneseo Middle School  
Glenview Middle School  
Grant Wood Elementary  
Harding Middle School  
Harrison Elementary School  
Herbert Hoover Elementary  
Homeschool  
Hopewell Elementary  
Iowa City High School  
Iowa City West High School  
John Deere Middle School  
Laurel Springs Academy  
Mark Twain Elementary

McKinley Elementary  
Moline High School  
Morning Star Academy  
Muscatine High School  
North Scott High School  
North Scott Junior High  
Orion High School  
Paul Norton Elementary  
Pleasant Valley High School  
Pleasant Valley Junior High  
Pleasant View Elementary  
Riverdale Heights Elementary  
Rivermont Collegiate  
Rock Island High School  
Rockridge High School  
Saint Joan of Arc  
Schole Quad Cities  
Solon High School  
Sterling High School  
Sudlow Middle School  
Susan Clark Junior High  
Trinity Lutheran  
United Township High School  
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Washington Junior High  
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Williams Middle School  
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# CONDUCTOR BIOS

---



## Hisham Bravo Groover

Hisham Bravo Groover is serving his second season as Assistant Conductor of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Quad City Symphony Youth Ensembles. He is also Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Studies at Augustana College.

Before moving to the Quad Cities, Hisham lived in Minnesota where he served as Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonic Conductor of the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS), Music Director and Conductor of the Buffalo Community Orchestra, and Assistant Conductor of the University of Minnesota Symphony Orchestra and Opera Theatre. Additional experiences include roles as Associate Conductor of the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra (CO), Assistant Conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic (CO), Assistant Conductor of the Lamont Symphony Orchestra and Opera Theatre (CO), and Conductor of the University of Iowa Chamber Orchestra (IA).

Hisham displays impressive versatility in his concerts, equally at ease with pops and educational programs as he is with masterworks. He has also conducted and assisted in numerous opera productions, including Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*, Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, and Strauss Jr.'s *Die Fledermaus*. Thoughtful in his programming, Hisham aims to create concerts that resonate with modern audiences. In 2024, he conducted a program that integrated the music of Hildegard von Bingen, Steve Reich, and Charles Ives with Mozart's *Requiem*.

Recently, Hisham has competed in two international conducting competitions. In 2023, he was invited to the 1st International Ferenc Fricsay Conducting Competition in Szeged, Hungary. In 2022, he was a semi-finalist in the Princess Astrid International Music Competition in Trondheim, Norway. Hisham is also a violinist and has studied with several pedagogues, including Michel Boris Zaitzeff, Ching-Yi Lin, and Mark Rush. As a conductor, he has had the privilege to study with Leonid Grin, Kevin Noe, William LaRue Jones, and his principal mentor, Mark Russell Smith.



## Zack Morton

Mr. Morton is Director of Instrumental Music at Moline High School and has held the position since 2013. A graduate of the University of Iowa, Mr. Morton has an undergraduate degree in Trombone Performance and Music Education. From 2006-2007, he accepted a position abroad as Bass Trombonist with the Hofer Symphoniker in Hof, Germany. After performing for a year in Hof, and two months touring with the Berlin-based Philharmonie Der Nationen, he returned to the University of Iowa to finish his degree in music education. While in Iowa City, Mr. Morton was assistant conductor of the New Horizons Senior Band and brass choir for two years. After returning to the Quad Cities, Mr. Morton became active as a Bass Trombone performer, performing with the Quad City Symphony Orchestra, the South-East Iowa Symphony Orchestra, and the Quad City Brass Quintet. His tenure at Moline High School includes expanding the musical offerings of the instrumental program, including adding a third concert band, a second orchestra, and a chamber orchestra.



## Elizabeth Lundine

Elizabeth Lundine is an orchestra director in the Davenport Community School District. She is currently the Associate Director of Orchestras at North High School, where she primarily directs the 9th Grade Orchestra. She also directs the 4th, 5th, and 6th Grade Orchestras at Harrison Elementary School. Outside of orchestra, Elizabeth is a co-head coach for the Boys and Girls Cross Country team at North High School. Elizabeth is originally from the Chicago suburbs and moved to the Quad Cities to attend Augustana College, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education. At Augustana, she studied primarily with Dr. Susan Stone and Dr. Daniel Culver. Since graduating, she has performed with several orchestras, string quartets, and pit orchestras in the Quad Cities. In her free time, Elizabeth enjoys running marathons, racing local 5k's/10k's, and cheering on the Augustana Cross Country/Track teams.



## Kim Busic

Kim Busic currently serves as the Violin/Viola Teaching Artist for the Quad City Symphony Orchestra, faculty member at St. Ambrose University, and section violinist for the Quad City Symphony Orchestra. She earned a Bachelor of Music from Butler University and a Masters of Music from Boston Conservatory at Berklee. She has studied with Larry Shapiro, Cornelius Chiu, and Bruce Molsky (old time fiddle) and has participated in masterclasses by Brooklyn Rider, Eroica Trio, Ralph Fielding, Katie Lansdale, and Gerhard Schulz. Additionally, she has studied viola under Richard Auldon Clark and cello under Dr. William Grubb. Kim previously served as Assistant Concertmaster of the Fox Valley Orchestra and has taught chamber music as a teacher assistant at Interlochen Arts Camp.



## Anthony Hernandez

Anthony Hernandez resides in Geneseo as a private lessons teacher, freelance teacher and low brass performer. He taught band at Geneseo Middle School and High School from 2006-2020. While at Geneseo schools, his responsibilities included teaching 6th grade beginning band, high school marching band, the concert band at Geneseo High School, pep band, pit orchestra for the musical, several chamber ensembles, madrigal brass coach, planned and organized high school band/choir tours, and hosted marching band and concert band contests and competitions. Mr. Hernandez holds a bachelor of music degree from Illinois State University where he was named a Presser Scholar, and he holds a masters degree in conducting from Sam Houston State University (The American Band College). Previously, he taught middle school band in the Calamus-Wheatland schools. Additionally, he has assisted the United Township High School marching band in East Moline, IL., as well as working with the Conquest drum corps brass.

While at Illinois State University as a euphonium performer, Mr. Hernandez competed nationally at the Falcone Tuba and Euphonium competition two times and once at the International Tuba Euphonium Conference. As a euphonium soloist, he can be heard on the I.S.U. Maslanka Symphony No. 5 world premiere album published by Albany Records. During his spare time, Anthony can be found hiking, biking, and caring for his guinea pigs, Buttercup and Cocoa.

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QCYSO performing in the Church of Sts Simon and Jude in Prague, while on tour to Germany and the Czech Republic, 2023.



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Mindy Zumdom

Giovanna Davila

# QUAD CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## ARTISTIC STAFF

---

***Music Director & Conductor,***

Mark Russell Smith

***Youth Concert Orchestra Conductor,***

Zack Morton

***Youth Ensembles Wind Specialist,***

Anthony Hernandez

***Assistant Conductor &***

***Youth Ensembles Music Director***

Hisham Bravo Groover

***Youth Prelude Strings Conductor***

Elizabeth Lundine

***Violin/Viola Teaching Artist***

Kim Busic

# QUAD CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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Stephen Mohr

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***Director of Education & Community***

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***Orchestra Personnel Manager,***

Marc Zyla

***Orchestra Librarian,***

Matt Kowalczyk

***Patron Services Associate,***

Cody Williams

***Youth Ensembles Coordinator &***

***Development Associate,***

Kevin Sells

***Youth Ensembles Rehearsal***

***Assistant,*** Adele Shirkey

***Music Copyist,*** Linda Baustian

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QUAD CITY SYMPHONY YOUTH ENSEMBLES

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