

- ***Celebration*** — conducted and hosted by Kwamé Ryan (NY Phil debut), and with cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason as soloist — caps off the season's celebration of the YPCs' centennial by exploring how composers throughout history have used madcap sounds and humor to comment on important issues of their day; May 4, 2024.

Each Young People's Concert is preceded by **YPC Overtures** — in which children can try out orchestral instruments and families can listen to music by VYCs and engage in crafting and interactive workshops in the Kenneth C. Griffin Sidewalk Studio, on the Leon and Norma Hess Grand Promenade, and on Hearst Tier 1 — beginning at 1:00 p.m. on the day of the concert.

The NY Phil complements the performances with the following:

- **Young People's Concerts for Schools**, in which the NY Phil and educators guide students from grades 3–12 on an exploration of Musorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*; January 17–19, 2024.
- ***NY Phil Young People's Concerts @ 100: Inspiring Generations of Music Lovers***, an archival exhibit currently on display in the Bruno Walter Gallery in David Geffen Hall.

History of YPCs

While the New York Philharmonic presented “Family Matinees” as early as the 1890s, which were renamed Young People's Concerts in 1914, the Orchestra traces the true beginning to January 26, 1924, when Ernest Schelling inaugurated an annual concert series that combined Philharmonic performances with conversation and multimedia displays curated for children. The series achieved national attention when Leonard Bernstein conducted the first televised YPC on January 18, 1958, which reached more than 2.5 million households across the United States. Over the decades the series has evolved to incorporate video elements, as well as actors and often dancers, and today features works by participants in the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program, which empowers children to express themselves by creating their own original works.

Since the program's inception the NY Phil has presented over 600 YPCs in New York City and around the world. In Manhattan alone, more than 1.4 million people have attended the Young People's Concerts. Other past conductors of YPCs have included Leopold Stokowski, Aaron Copland, Tania León, Bobby McFerrin, and Helen Quach, as well as former Music Directors Zubin Mehta, Kurt Masur, and Alan Gilbert. In addition to featuring prominent guests, such as George Gershwin, Burl Ives, LeVar Burton, and Yo-Yo Ma, the series has also been a launching pad for up-and-coming artists, such as André Watts (who appeared on a YPC at age 16), Gil Shaham (age 14), Sarah Chang (age 9), Michael Rabin (age 15), and future NY Phil violinists Marilyn Dubow (age 11) and Hae-Young Ham (age 17).

Biographies

[Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser](#), [Jamie Bernstein](#), [Doug Fitch](#), [Justin Jay Hines](#), [Jerry Hou](#), [Sheku Kanneh-Mason](#), [Fiona Khuong-Huu](#), [Kwamé Ryan](#), [Thomas Wilkins](#), [New York Philharmonic](#)

Tickets

Tickets to New York Philharmonic performances may be purchased online at nyphil.org or by calling **(212) 875-5656**, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets may also be purchased at the **Welcome Center at David Geffen Hall**. The Welcome Center opens at 10:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and at noon on Sunday. On performance evenings, the Welcome Center closes one-half hour after performance time; other evenings it closes at 6:00 p.m.

For press tickets, contact Lanore Carr at (212) 875-5714 or carrl@nyphil.org.

Event Listing

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: *TIME CAPSULE*

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Saturday, November 18, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

YPC Overtures at 1:00 p.m.

Thomas Wilkins, conductor / host
Jamie Bernstein, special guest
Doug Fitch, director / designer
Fiona Khuong-Huu*, violin

Young People's Concert: *Time Capsule*

The YPCs' centennial is marked with an exploration of past programs led by beloved conductors, including Leonard Bernstein, who popularized the series.

ROSSINI
Fe. MENDELSSOHN
ELGAR
Bunmi AFARIOGUN

Jessie MONTGOMERY
CHARLAP / LEIGH
BERNSTEIN

Finale from *William Tell* Overture
Selection from the Violin Concerto
Selections from *The Wand of Youth* Suite No. 1
Feel Jazz, Be Jazz, With Layers (Very Young
Composer–World Premiere)
Selection from *Records from a Vanishing City*
I Won't Grow Up, from *Peter Pan*
Overture to *Candide*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: *FANTASY AND IMAGINATION*

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Saturday, January 20, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

YPC Overtures at 1:00 p.m.

Jerry Hou, conductor
Justin Jay Hines, host
Doug Fitch, director / designer
Materials for the Arts, creative partner

Young People's Concert: *Fantasy and Imagination*

A celebration of the Young People's Concerts' centennial that explores how music, art, stories, and movement can elevate the importance of fantasy and imagination.

MUSORGSKY / Orch. Ravel
Very Young Composers

Pictures at an Exhibition
New works (World Premieres)

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: *COMPOSING INCLUSION*

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

YPC Overtures at 1:00 p.m.

Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser*, conductor / host
Doug Fitch, director / designer
The Juilliard School Pre-College Orchestra
The Juilliard School Preparatory Division
American Composers Forum

Young People's Concert: *Composing Inclusion*

Featuring students from the Juilliard Preparatory Division, a celebration of the creativity of young musicians with newly commissioned works for professional and youth orchestras. Created in partnership with the Juilliard Preparatory Division and American Composers Forum.

Andrés SOTO

New work (World Premiere,
New York Philharmonic Co-Commission
with The Juilliard School Preparatory
Division and American Composers Forum)

Nicolás Lell BENAVIDES

New work (World Premiere,
New York Philharmonic Co-Commission
with The Juilliard School Preparatory
Division and American Composers Forum)

William DAWSON

Selections from *Negro Folk Symphony*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: *CELEBRATION*

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Saturday, May 4, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

YPC Overtures at 1:00 p.m.

Young People's Concert: *Celebration*

The concert marks the centennial of the YPCs with music by composers who have used madcap sounds, humor, and surprises to comment on important issues of their day.

Kwamé Ryan*, conductor / host

Doug Fitch, director / designer

Sheku Kanneh-Mason, cello

**New York Philharmonic debut*

ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Support for Young People's Concerts for Schools is provided by **Nike.**

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