

The Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia presents

SONOVA

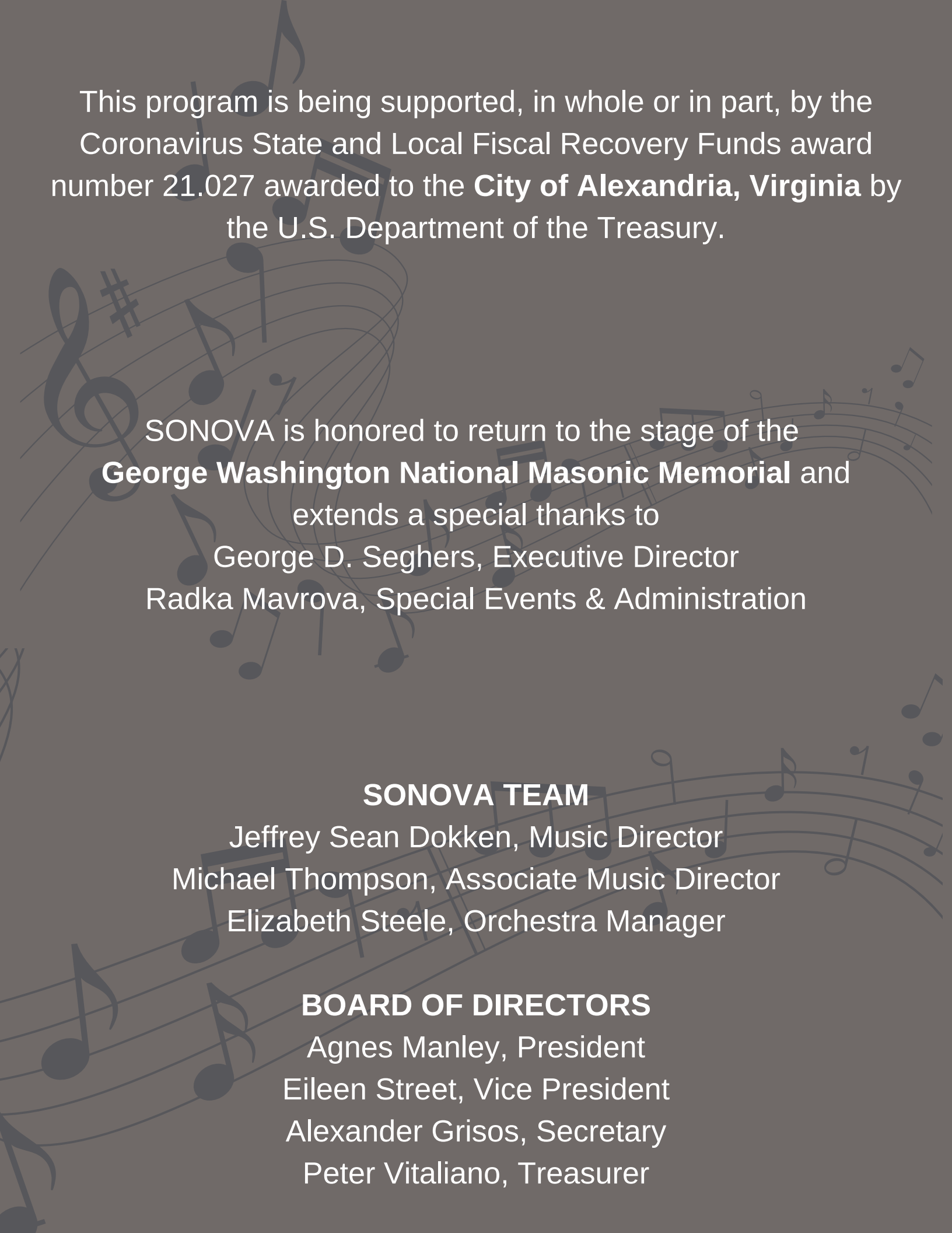
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA *of* NORTHERN VIRGINIA



OLD FRIENDS: CELEBRATING COLLABORATION THROUGH THE YEARS

Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 7:30pm
George Washington National Masonic Memorial Theater
Alexandria, VA



The background of the entire page is a dark grey color with a pattern of white musical notes and staff lines. The notes are scattered across the page, with some appearing to be on a staff. The staff lines are curved and sweep across the page from the bottom left towards the top right. The notes include various symbols such as treble clefs, sharp signs, and eighth notes.

This program is being supported, in whole or in part, by the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds award number 21.027 awarded to the **City of Alexandria, Virginia** by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

SONOVA is honored to return to the stage of the **George Washington National Masonic Memorial** and extends a special thanks to

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Michael Thompson, Associate Music Director
Elizabeth Steele, Orchestra Manager

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Please take a couple of minutes to answer the following questions about your attendance at this performance, event, exhibit, venue, or facility. This survey is being conducted by the City of Alexandria Office of the Arts to measure the economic and social impact of arts and culture on the City of Alexandria. It will only take 2-3 minutes to participate.

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<https://surveys.americansforthearts.org/s3/va-cityofalexandria>

Quick - before you scroll down - please complete the survey! Your participation supports SONOVA and arts in Alexandria, VA. Thank you!

--SONOVA Team

OLD FRIENDS: CELEBRATING COLLABORATION THROUGH THE YEARS

Fanfare for the Common Man

Aaron Copland
(1900–1990)

Three Pieces from Schindler's List

Jorge Saade, violin

John Williams
(b. 1932)

I. Theme from "Schindler's List"

II. Jewish Town (Krakow Ghetto - Winter '41)

III. Remembrances

"È amore un ladroncello" from *Così fan tutte*

Lori Şen, mezzo-soprano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756–1791)

"Alleluja" from *Exultate, jubilate*

Laura Fuentes, soprano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756–1791)

"Empty Chairs at Empty Tables" from *Les Misérables*

Alan Naylor, tenor

Claude-Michel Schönberg
(b. 1944)
Arranged by Jeffrey Dokken

"If I Loved You" from *Carousel*

Alan Naylor and Kelly Curtin

Richard Rodgers
(1933–2021)

Intermission

O Come Emmanuel/God Rest Ye Merry
Gentlemen

Jackson Caesar, tenor

Arranged by Adrien Re

Ave Maria Trilogy

Jackson Caesar, tenor

Arranged by Brian Falkowski

"Flower Duet" from *Lakmé*

Laura Fuentes and Lori Şen

Léo Delibes (1836–1891)

Rhapsody in Blue

Juan Carlos Escudero, piano

George Gershwin (1898–1937)

ORCHESTRA

First Violin

Tanya Whisnant

Concertmaster

Kristie Budihardjo

Savannah Kari

Marisa Liles

Julia Maas

Adriel Pond

Chris Rudyj

Serena Sela

Sarah Taylor

Emma Wen

Second Violin

Jeanne Faubell

Principal

Jiyoung Chung

Zuri Davis

Emily Gruber

Bryna Helfer

Abhita Moorthy

Veera Parko

Vanessa Smith

Viola

Jennifer Dehkordi

Acting Principal

Ken Barnett

Eugene Dyson

Cello

Kathy Augustine

Co-Principal

Hwa Yoo

Co-Principal

John Janega

Agnes Manley

Eileen Street

Bass

Kate Easton

Simon Semann

Flute

Martine Micozzi

Principal

Hailey Nowacek

JennaMarie Warfield

Piccolo

JennaMarie Warfield

Oboe

Rachael Bredfeld

Principal

Jeff Kahan

English Horn

Jeff Kahan

Principal

Clarinet

Deborah Albert

Principal

Kate Meeley

Nancy Sulfridge

Bass Clarinet

Peter Vitaliano

Principal

Bassoon

Whitney Miller

Principal

Joan Fragaszy

Troyano

Contrabassoon

Eric Dircksen

French Horn

Deanne de Lima

Principal

Carolyn Hughes McCabe

Marjorie Marque

Jennifer Strang

Trumpet

Michael Thompson

Principal

Alexander Grisos

Jeff Menzin

Trombone

Ian Giles

Principal

Kyle Peck

Patty Zweibel

Tuba

Blake Helander

Principal

Timpani

David Constantine

Principal

Percussion

Megan Funkhouser

Shawn Mitchell

Lydia Sorenson

Piano

Maribeth Gowen

Principal

The Gathering of *Old Friends*

Program Notes from the Maestro

SONOVA has been so fortunate over the past decade to partner with innumerable world class soloists, and tonight we are thrilled to welcome several of them back to our beautiful home theater. Two of our "Old Friends," Laura and Jackson, performed with us at our first ever concert where we presented Mozart's Masonic music. As an homage to that concert, Laura will once again sing some Mozart for us this evening. Jackson Caesar is an innovative and unique performer who frequently presents his own arrangements of well known works, and I'm thrilled to get to conduct two such works with him this evening.

SONOVA has developed a truly special relationship with the beautiful country of Ecuador, and tonight two of our favorite guest artists from this jewel of South America will be joining us once again. Juan Carlos Escudero will reprise his magnificent rendition of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, and Jorge Saade will be giving the SONOVA debut of the exquisitely beautiful Three Pieces from Schindler's List, by John Williams.

In 2018, SONOVA performed the Mozart Requiem with guest conductor Andrea Vela. One of the highlights of the evening was our alto soloist, Lori Sen. Lori hails from Turkey, and is quite the polymath: In addition to her doctoral degree in music, she also holds degrees in education and physics! We are so honored to have Lori joining us once again, and on a personal note, I am thrilled to have her and Laura join forces to perform one of my favorite pieces, the Flower Duet from Lakme by Delibes.

Helen Hayes Award winning actor and singer Alan Naylor first performed with SONOVA in our production of Les Misérables, where he wowed audiences with his portrayal of Marius. Tonight, he will again sing for us Empty Chairs at Empty Tables as well as a show stopping rendition of If I Loved You.

One of the great joys of my job is getting to collaborate with amazing artists. I am so lucky to get to make music with all of the incredible performers on tonight's program, and even more fortunate to call them all my friends. Thank you all for joining us tonight, and for helping us welcome back so many of our Old Friends!

Jeffrey Sean Dokken



As featured in the “Best Of” issue of Virginia Living Magazine, Maestro Jeffrey Sean Dokken is one of today’s most exciting and vibrant Music Directors and Conductors. Over the past decade, Dokken has performed throughout the United States in some of America’s greatest venues, including The Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Strathmore Concert Hall, The Grand Opera House, Constitution Hall and many more. Internationally, he’s performed in innumerable world renowned venues throughout Europe and South America. Maestro Dokken has had the distinct honor of conducting at the White House in Washington D.C. on several occasions.

Dokken is the Music Director and Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia, and the Artistic Director and Conductor of The Rome Symphony Orchestra in Rome, Georgia. Additionally, Maestro Dokken is the Music Director for the NFL's Washington Commanders. Dokken has an active career as a guest conductor, and amongst many other engagements throughout the United States and abroad, has had the honor of conducting the National Symphonies of Brazil and Ecuador, and conducting the World Premiere of the Philip Glass Flute Concerto in Florence, Italy.

After earning his degree in voice from the University of Redlands, Dokken pursued graduate degrees at California Lutheran University and Shenandoah Conservatory. A multi-instrumentalist as well as a vocalist, Dokken is a piano, brass and percussion specialist, with an emphasis on low brass.

He has composed for, conducted and performed on a number of recordings, including recent recordings of flute and orchestra music for Universal Music Group, and on “Premiered at the Opera House,” a recording with the Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia and the Metropolitan Chorus. Additionally, Maestro Dokken recorded a CD of American music with renowned violinist Jorge Saade and the Guayaquil symphony orchestra. A lover of all kinds of Rock music, Dokken frequently lectures on the intersection of popular and classical music, and features the juxtaposition of genres in much of his programming. Dokken maintains a thriving Arts Consulting Business, with an emphasis on helping composers and artists bring their works to life.

A Note of Gratitude and Farewell



In 2010, when I was hired by Arlington County to start an orchestra through the department of adult education, I never could have imagined what it would become. I never could have guessed that we would so quickly outgrow the government structure under which we were founded. Nor dreamed of our rapid and continuous professionalization. I couldn't have known that over the next nearly 13 years we would perform with numerous world renowned guest artists. That we would produce award winning recordings. That we would entertain, educate, and excite thousands of audience members. That we would become an integral part of the cultural fabric of our community. But all of that and more has happened, and founding and leading this wonderful organization has been one of the greatest honors of my life.

Each day with SONOVA has been an exciting adventure, and as we begin our 2022/2023 season, the time has come for me to move onto my next exciting adventure. This season will be my last with SONOVA. I look forward to continuing my role as Music Director and Conductor of the Rome Symphony Orchestra, expanding my guest conducting and musical consulting, and to running the Music Department for the NFL's Washington Commanders.

My interactions with you, dear audience members, have been some of the most fulfilling of my life. Your engagement, your support, and your excitement has meant the world to the orchestra and me, and I will miss you all. Thank you for all you have meant to SONOVA, and, truly, all you have meant to me. Please continue to support this wonderful orchestra as it moves into its next chapter. Like you, I can't wait to see all of the amazing things that are to come. **I urge you (yes, YOU!) to consider participating in the search committee for a new Music Director** - we are looking to include one or two audience members on the search committee, along with representatives from the board and orchestra. **Please email orchestramanager@sonovamusic.org for more information about this opportunity to serve SONOVA.**

With deep gratitude and affection,

Maestro Jeffrey Dokken

Jorge Saade



Jorge Saade-Scaff, has been described as Ecuador's most outstanding violinist. Mark Holston, music critic for the "AMERICAS" magazine, wrote: "...one of the best young classical musicians of the Americas...his reputation as Ecuador's violin virtuoso is reinforced by this haunting, richly rewarding selection". A Gold Medal graduate from the Antonio Neumane National Conservatory of Music in Ecuador and Cum Laude graduate from the University of Miami. He obtained his Master's degree from The Catholic University of American in Washington DC (M.M. 2003). In 1995, he studied with violin virtuoso Ruggiero Ricci at the Mozarteum Institute in Salzburg, Austria. He has performed concerts in 45 countries in the Americas, Asia, Africa, Europa and the Middle East, in such famous halls as the Royal Festival Hall in London, the Carnegie Hall in New York, among others and has performed as a guest soloist with over 40 orchestras around the world.

Mr. Saade has been the recipient of numerous awards including "Grand Officer" of the National Merit Order of Ecuador, the highest decoration given by the Ecuadorian Government. In 2018 the Association of Entertainment Critics (ACE) of New York awarded him with the ACE AWARD for his acclaimed recital at Carnegie Hall. Mr. Saade served as President of the Board of the Guayaquil Symphony Orchestra, Guayaquil Cultural Director from the Ministry of Culture and Heritage and Cultural and Press Attaché of the Ecuadorian Embassy and Cultural Representative of Ecuador to the Organization of the American States in Washington DC. He is Currently the Honorary Consul of Belgium and Professor of Violin, Viola and Chamber Music at the Universidad de las Artes UArtes, in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Lori Şen

Turkish mezzo-soprano and Fulbright alumna Lori Şen is known for her versatility in many vocal genres, including opera, art song, musical theatre, and jazz, as well as for her teaching and research interests in vocal literature, voice pedagogy, and voice science. Lori regularly collaborates with musicians and composers across a variety of genres, and has performed in Turkey, Europe, and the United States. Most recently, she premiered the role of Lady Diana in a new musical show in the United States named Queen of the People's Hearts that celebrates the life of Diana, the Princess of Wales.

A leading expert of the Sephardic art song genre, Lori is the first ever to catalogue this repertoire that comprises Western classical settings and arrangements of the traditional Sephardic folk literature. She is also the first to create a Ladino diction guide exclusively for singers who would like to sing Sephardic songs in their original language. Since 2018, she has introduced this genre and her research to audiences through her solo recitals and lectures at various conferences, festivals, and organizations in the United States, and the Barcelona Festival of Song in Spain. Lori currently teaches as a Lecturer at the University of Maryland School of Music and an Adjunct Voice Faculty at the Peabody Preparatory of the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. She also has an active performing and teaching schedule in the United States and abroad, and is honored to serve as an ambassador for the Barcelona Festival of Song.





Laura Fuentes

Laura Fuentes is a Baltimore-area soprano and opera librettist. Past credits include: SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA: Faure and Leavitt Requiems (soloist), Tatiana's Letter Scene (Eugene Onegin), SOA Goes Broadway (soloist). IN SERIES: Don Giovanni (Zerlina), Gianni Schicchi (Lauretta), Clemenza di Tito (Servilia), Love Potion #1 (Gianetta), Carmen (Frasquita). WASHINGTON SAVOYARDS: HMS Pinafore (Josephine), The Zoo (Laetitia). VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA: The Grand Duke (Lisa), Desirée (Desirée), Ruddigore (Rose Maybud), The Gypsy Baron (Arsena). SIGNATURE THEATRE: Les Misérables (swing/ensemble), Anyone Can Whistle in concert (soprano soloist), Tamar and the River workshop (the River). TOBY'S DINNER THEATRE: Phantom of the Opera (Christine).

OTHER MUSICAL THEATRE: The Secret Garden (Lily), Sweeney Todd (Johanna), Pirates of Penzance (Mabel). International credits include: INTERNATIONAL GILBERT AND SULLIVAN FESTIVAL (UK): Iolanthe (Phyllis), Patience (ensemble), The Mikado (ensemble). Laura was formerly staff soprano soloist and section leader at St. John's Norwood Parish in Chevy Chase, Maryland. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the College of William and Mary, a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from Towson University, and a Master of Arts in Communication from Johns Hopkins University. By day, she is Senior Director of Foundation Relations and Corporate Philanthropy for UCLA.

Alan Naylor

Alan Naylor is a dynamic and eclectic Helen Hayes Award winning performer based in Washington DC. He has premiered numerous new plays, musicals, and operas across the United States while also concertizing with symphonies, chamber groups, and in solo cabarets. He last appeared with SONOVA as Marius in Les Misérables, and has been seen throughout DC at venues such as the Kennedy Center, Washington National Opera, Signature Theatre, Olney Theatre, Studio Theater, Creative Cauldron, Rep Stage, and Theatre Alliance. In addition to his stage performing, Alan also co-founded and performed over 60+ shows with the virtual cabaret group "Night at Newcastle" which can be found on facebook and youtube. When not playing the piano, guitar, organ, ukelele, accordion... Alan is highly sought after concert piano technician and rebuilder.

www.alan-naylor.com





Jackson Caesar

Originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Caesar has made his mark in the world as an American singer, songwriter, recording artist, arranger, producer, lecturer, educator, documentarian, and author. As a vocal performer, he is praised for his distinguished stage presence, extended lyrical vocal range, fine diction, phrasing, and song interpretation. Furthermore, he performs in four languages and genres appealing to crowds of various ethnic backgrounds.

Caesar's professional music career began in the spring of 2009 in Washington, DC. He is fortunate to have had a career constructed on "Word of Mouth." Often, he is called upon to sing for weddings, funerals, private parties, churches, recitals, concerts, and other special events, including performances with SONOVA. Caesar has a proven track record of captivating his audiences with his talent and skills at each event.

Caesar's academic and professional studies are from the University of the District of Columbia, Shenandoah University, and private studios. Caesar has held many leadership roles as a Sunday school teacher, undergrad president of the Spanish club, graduate school SNATS treasurer (Students National Association of Teachers of Singing), music director, summer music camp accompanist, hired church tenor soloist, and long-term substitute teacher.

Words and phrases that best describe his talent are: (G.R.I.P.) Graceful, Refreshing, Inspiring, and Powerful. Caesar credits himself as a Pop Inspirational Singer. "Music to touch, move, and inspire."
- B. Jackson Caesar

Brian Falkowski

Brian Falkowski is a versatile multi-instrumentalist and composer who performs with a wide variety of groups at many top venues throughout the DC metropolitan area. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Music where he studied saxophone, flute, and clarinet with Chris Vadala and Dale Underwood. His musicianship can be heard on 33 albums by various artists, including his 2011 debut album *Transitions*, the Zeitgeist Media progressive music documentary *Romantic Warriors*, and Tosin Aribisala's 2018 album *Africa Rising*, which received a Grammy nomination for "Best World Music Recording" and named winner of the 2020 Emergent Seed competition in the Instrumental category.



Kelly Curtin



Kelly Curtin has been lauded for her “crystal-clear soprano” (Opera News) and the “lovely fullness” of her voice (New York Classical Review). She has made her niche in previous seasons as the Queen of the Night, performing the role at Shreveport Opera, Bel Cantanti Opera, and In Series Opera. Most recently she made her role debut as Marie in *La Fille du Régiment* at St. Petersburg Opera in Florida. Favorite recent performances have included Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, and Despina in *Così fan tutte* at St. Petersburg Opera and Tisbe in Hasse’s *Piramo e Tisbe* with Little Opera Theatre New York. Other roles performed: Olympia (*Les Contes d’Hoffmann*) with St. Petersburg Opera, Mabel (*The Pirates of Penzance*) with the Ohio Light Opera and Young Victorian Theatre Company, Josephine (*HMS Pinafore*) at Opéra Louisiane, Eurydice (*Orphée aux Enfers*), Galatea (*My Beautiful Galatea*), Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel* (film), and *Le Feu/Le Rossignol* (*L’enfant et les Sortilèges*) with Bel Cantanti Opera, Adele (*Die Fledermaus*), First Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*), Valencienne (*Merry Widow*), Frasquita (*Carmen*), Papagena (*Die Zauberflöte*), and Rose (*Street Scene*). More information available at www.kellycurtin.com.

Juan Carlos Escudero

Ecuadorian pianist Juan Carlos Escudero is considered one of Latin America’s leading pianists. He has performed in all five continents, with many renowned orchestras and in some of the most prestigious concert halls of the World, including the Merkin Concert Hall in New York, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington DC, the National Theater of China, the National Center for the Arts in Mexico City, the National Theater of Qatar, among others. In 2017, his debut concert at Carnegie Hall earned him the recognition of “Extraordinary Pianist” by the Association of Latin Entertainment Critics of New York City.



He is also a Lawyer with a master’s degree in Arts Pedagogy and holds an Honoris Causa doctorate from the IMELE University of Mexico. Founder and owner of “Sonata Music Academy”, the biggest music school in Ecuador, he is also Associate Professor at Espíritu Santo University of Guayaquil and currently holds the position of Managing Director of Guayaquil’s Philharmonic Orchestra, where he regularly performs as its permanent soloist.



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Irina Tikhonova

Cellist

Music Studio

Royal Oak, MI

Glory to Ukraine

Glory to the Heroes!

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SONOVA is hiring a part time marketing and development coordinator to take SONOVA's publicity and fundraising to new heights, and to plan our spring gala. Please view <https://www.sonovamusic.org/jobs.html> for more details!

Save the dates for the rest of SONOVA's 11th Season

Brassy Jazzy Christmas

Saturday, December 10, 2022 at 7:30pm

George Washington National Masonic Memorial Temple Theater

Tickets in advance: \$20 Adult / \$15 Senior / \$10 Student / 10&Under Free

Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade

SONOVA's 11th Anniversary Gala

Saturday, March 18, 2023 / Gala: 6:30pm / Concert: 7:30pm

George Washington National Masonic Memorial Temple Grand Hall and Theater

Tickets (incl. food and drink) in advance: \$35 Adult / \$25 Senior / \$20 Student / 10&Under Free

Beethoven, Brews, and BBQ

Featuring Beethoven's Iconic Fifth Symphony

Saturday, May 6, 2023 / Food and drink available for purchase: 5:15pm / Concert: 6:00pm

Venue to be announced

Tickets in advance: \$25 Adult / \$20 Senior / \$15 Student / 10&Under Free

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