

## SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Starkville/MSU Symphony Orchestra is under the direction of Dr. Daniel Steves and presents an eclectic array of traditional, contemporary, and emerging compositions each season.

## COMMUNITY CHORUS

The Community Chorus is directed by Peter Infanger and presents concerts each year featuring thematic choral arrangements, guest instrumentalists, and vocal soloists. It also performs at local festivals and events.

## EDUCATION INITIATIVES

### PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Since 1975, SMSA has presented this unique education initiative aimed at providing K-12 students an appreciation of symphonic music. The program includes a concert experience, curriculum for teachers, and the opportunity for 5th graders to learn to play an instrument and perform with the Orchestra. Over 3000 children from across the Golden Triangle attend Programs for Children concerts each year. In response to Covid-related school field trip restrictions in 2020, SMSA facilitated the creation of a virtual learning music curriculum that is available to music educators across the state.

### MSU STRING AWARDS

Each academic semester, the Starkville/MSU Symphony Association presents monetary awards to deserving collegiate string musicians to promote the development of the MSU Philharmonia student orchestra and to provide opportunities for outstanding students to experience appropriate professional practice.

### PARTNERSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL PIANO LAB

In partnership with the Starkville Oktibbeha School District, SMSA funded the implementation of a Piano Lab classroom at the SOSD / Mississippi State University Partnership Middle School. The Lab opened in August for the 2021-22 school year and enables weekly piano instruction for 6th graders, as well as a full semester piano class for 7th graders. Through this initiative, every 6-7th grader in Oktibbeha County has access to piano instruction regardless of their economic status.

IT TAKES A **COMMUNITY** TO  
**GROW**  
EXCEPTIONAL MUSIC EXPERIENCES.

Starkville/MSU Symphony Association (SMSA)  
is funded by members like YOU.

**JOIN TODAY:**

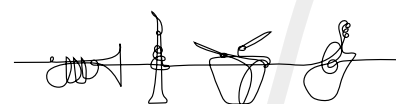
**ONLINE**  
[www.starkvillesymphony.org](http://www.starkvillesymphony.org)

**BY MAIL**  
P.O. BOX 6149  
MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS 39762

**THROUGH MSU FOUNDATION**  
Please designate  
"Starkville/MSU Symphony Fund (311117)"  
in your check memo line or on the Foundation website.

All contributions are tax deductible.

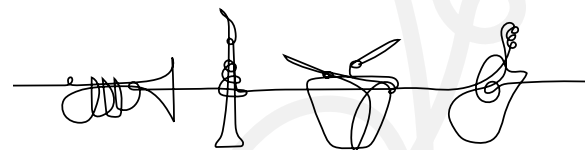
*The 2023-2024 Symphony Concert Season and Programs for Children are made possible in part through grants and partnerships with Mississippi State University, J.Q. Criss Foundation, Mississippi Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Renasant Bank, City of Starkville, Starkville Convention & Visitors Bureau, Greater Starkville Development Partnership, the Gildea Family Foundation, and Turner Wingo.*



STARKVILLE / MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY  
**SYMPHONY**

[www.starkvillesymphony.org](http://www.starkvillesymphony.org)

**55** **2023-2024**  
**CONCERT SEASON**



STARKVILLE / MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY  
**SYMPHONY**

CELEBRATING MORE THAN **50 YEARS**  
of COMMUNITY GROWN MUSIC



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**55** **2023-2024**  
**CONCERT SEASON**

Since 1969, the Starkville/MSU Symphony has provided the greater Starkville area and the Golden Triangle region with a true **community grown** experience of classical music. With the goal of introducing this vibrant genre to an audience reflecting the entire Starkville community, each Symphony season offers a combination of both ticketed and free concerts.

As a testament to the community's commitment to exceptional music, Starkville stands as one of the only cities of its size in the nation to support a continuing symphony orchestra for more than fifty years.

For the 2023-2024 season, Dr. Daniel Stevens, Mississippi State University Department of Music Head, joins the Starkville/MSU Symphony as Director of Music. Dr. Stevens is an award-winning performer and educator who has previously served as conductor of the South Kansas Symphony and the Shoals Symphony Orchestra.





## SYMPHONIC POEM

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**August 26, 2023**

Bettersworth Auditorium / Lee Hall  
Mississippi State University  
7:30 p.m.

We welcome new Music Director, Dr. Daniel Stevens, to the podium to kick off the 55th season of the Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra, with pieces that evoke the imagination of storytelling through music. Featured works include the Mendelssohn – Overture “The Hebrides (Fingal’s Cave)”, Op. 26 and the Mahler – Symphony No. 1 “Titan.”



## JAZZ AT RENASANT

SYMPHONY JAZZ COMBO

**September 29, 2023**

Renasant Plaza  
Downtown Starkville, MS  
7:30 p.m.

Join us downtown on an MSU game weekend for a free jazz concert sponsored by Renasant Bank. The symphony jazz combo will perform a family-friendly program of jazz standards and selections from the American songbook arranged in a variety of styles.



## JOHN PAUL WHITE

with the SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**October 27, 2023**

Dudy Noble Field  
Mississippi State University  
7:30 p.m.

Four-time Grammy Award winning artist, formerly half of The Civil Wars, John Paul White joins us for a unique crossover performance reimagining the Southern Rock, Americana, and Country hits that made him famous.

**\*Watch for details on how to purchase tickets.**

## COMMUNITY CHORUS CONCERTS

### 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONCERT

**November 12, 2023**

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
2:00 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate 50 years of singing with the Symphony's Community Chorus. We will share music from the past, present, and future. Cake will be served.

### ON BROADWAY!

**May 5, 2024**  
Downtown Starkville, MS  
4:30 p.m.

Join the chorus as we celebrate Broadway with an outdoor concert in downtown Starkville with something for the entire family.



## MORE THAN 50 YEARS of COMMUNITY GROWN MUSIC

## “SPARK OF JOY” FAMILY HOLIDAY CONCERT

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & COMMUNITY CHORUS

**December 2, 2023**

Bettersworth Auditorium / Lee Hall  
Mississippi State University  
7:30 p.m.

We ring in the holiday season with festive holiday favorites the entire family will enjoy. The Starkville Symphony Chorus joins Dr. Daniel Stevens and orchestra to perform carols of the season. This stress-free, family-atmosphere encourages all ages to attend.



## SERENADE FOR STRINGS

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: STRINGS SECTION

**January 20, 2024**

Bettersworth Auditorium / Lee Hall  
Mississippi State University  
7:30 p.m.

The strings sections of the Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra are featured with several standard classical masterworks, including the Britten – Simple Symphony, Elgar – Serenade for Strings, and the Tchaikovsky – Serenade for Strings. You will be sure to want to hear a unique piece by Polish composer, Wojciech Kilar, titled Orawa.

## SEA SYMPHONY

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, MSU CANTARE', COMMUNITY CHORUS, STARKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CHAMBER CHOIR

**March 23, 2024**

Bettersworth Auditorium / Lee Hall  
Mississippi State University  
7:30 p.m.

The annual choral masterworks program features the famous Brahms – Academic Festival Overture and the 2024 MSU Student Solo Competition Winner, before a sweeping performance of the Vaughan Williams – Symphony No. 1 “A Sea Symphony,” a majestic, sweeping composition that carries the listener on a journey set to Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass.



## WINGO POPS PRESENTS “CINEMA PARADISO”

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**April 13, 2024**

Bettersworth Auditorium / Lee Hall  
Mississippi State University  
7:30 p.m.

Travel back to movie classics of the silver screen, with 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s soundtrack hits such as Mancini – Moon River, Bernstein – The Magnificent Seven, Morricone – Cinema Paradiso, and the Rota – A Time for Us (from the 1968 version of Romeo and Juliet).

