



Happy Hour: Moonlight

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026 AT 6 PM

Helzberg Hall, Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts



KANSAS CITY
SYMPHONY

The 2026/27 season is generously sponsored by
Shirley and Barnett C. Helzberg, Jr.

PROGRAM

WILLIAM GRANT STILL *Danzas de Panama*

- I. Tamborito
- II. Mejorana y Socavon
- III. Punto
- IV. Cumbia y Congo

Rena Ishii, violin
Anne-Marie Brown, violin
Duke Lee, viola
Lawrence Figg, cello
Evan Halloin, double bass

LUIGI BOCCHERINI

Quintet No. 60 in C Major, G. 324,

"La musica notturna delle Strade di Madrid"

- I. Le campane dell'Ave Maria
- II. Il tamburo dei Soldati
- III. Minuetto dei Ciechi
- IV. Il rosario (Largo assai, allegro, largo come prima)
- V. Passacalle (Allegro vivo)
- VI. Il tamburo
- VII. Ritirata (Maestoso)

Rena Ishii, violin
Anne-Marie Brown, violin
Duke Lee, viola
Lawrence Figg, cello
Evan Halloin, double bass

CLAUDE DEBUSSY (arr. Evan Halloin)

Suite bergamasque

- I. Prélude
- II. Menuet
- III. Clair de lune
- IV. Passepied

Michael Gordon, flute
Matthew Lengas, oboe
Raymond Santos, clarinet
Thomas DeWitt, bassoon
Anne-Marie Brown, violin
Duke Lee, viola
Lawrence Figg, cello
Evan Halloin, double bass

CLAUDE DEBUSSY (arr. Evan Halloin)

Danse (Tarantelle styrienne), L. 69

Michael Gordon, flute
Matthew Lengas, oboe
Raymond Santos, clarinet
Thomas DeWitt, bassoon
Anne-Marie Brown, violin
Duke Lee, viola
Lawrence Figg, cello
Evan Halloin, double bass

Musician Bios



ANNE-MARIE BROWN

FIRST VIOLIN

Anne-Marie Brown is a member of the Kansas City Symphony first violin section. She performs extensively as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the Kansas City area. Anne-Marie is also co-principal second violin of the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra and concertmaster of the Starlight Theater Orchestra. In addition to performing, she is a dedicated teacher, serving on the faculty of the Heartland Chamber Music Festival and maintaining a private violin studio. Before moving to Kansas City, Anne-Marie was a member of the New World Symphony where she served as concertmaster and principal second violin under Michael Tilson Thomas. She also played in the Atlanta Symphony and served as principal second violin of the Chicago Civic Orchestra. Anne-Marie holds degrees from Northwestern University and Manhattan School of Music, where she was a student of Glenn Dicterow. She also has studied and performed at numerous music festivals, including the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, ENCORE School for Strings, Tanglewood and the Park City International Music Festival, among others. She has won many honors and awards, including the New World Symphony Concerto Competition, the Manhattan School of Music Concerto Competition, the Illinois Young Performers Competition, the Society of American Musicians Competition, and the Union League Civic and Arts Foundation Competition, plus the Anna Schauffler Lockwood Award for Strings, among others. Anne-Marie lives in downtown Kansas City with her fiancé, fellow KCS member Lawrence Figg, and her three adorable dogs, Peanut, Butter and Penelope.



RENA ISHII

SECOND VIOLIN

Rena Ishii joined the orchestra in 2011. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in violin performance from University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where she studied with Won-Bin Yim. She continued her studies with William Preucil at the Cleveland Institute of Music and received a professional studies certificate. In the Cleveland area, she became active as an orchestra player and was a member of the Canton Symphony, Akron Symphony and Cleveland Pops Orchestra. Rena has spent summers at Aspen Music Festival, Spoleto USA and the Tanglewood Music Center. Rena has a passion for teaching as well. She has been actively teaching privately and at schools. In her free time, she enjoys jogging, cooking and reading.

Musician Bios (cont.)



DUKE LEE

VIOLA

Duke Lee is a native of Houston, Texas. He attended the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the Juilliard School. He also was a fellow at the New World Symphony. Duke has been a member of the Kansas City Symphony since 2006.

Duke is married to Kansas City Symphony violinist Rena Ishii and they have three boys, Leon, Anton and Owen.



LAWRENCE FIGG

CELLO

Born in Dallas in 1963, Lawrence Figg began the cello in fourth-grade strings class and later was accepted into the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia at age 18. After graduating in 1985, he moved to France where he lived for five years in Paris. He was a member of the Orchestre

de Chambre d'Alexandre Stajic, performed a season with Pierre Boulez's Ensemble intercontemporain, was a regular recording artist for French radio and television and performed as soloist with several French orchestras. In 1986, he was a semifinalist at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. In 1991, he won a position as section cellist in the Orchestre National Bordeaux Aquitaine under the direction of Alain Lombard and was later appointed to the position of assistant principal and then principal cello until 1994. He has been a member of the Kansas City Symphony since 1999, and he has been described as a distinguished cellist with beautiful tone and passionate, singing musicianship by the Kansas City Star.



EVAN HALLOIN

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL DOUBLE BASS

Evan Halloin was appointed associate principal bass of the Kansas City Symphony in 2016 after having served as a member of the bass section since 2012. Prior to coming to Kansas City he was a member of the New World Symphony.

He earned a master's degree from Rice University and a bachelor's degree from the New England Conservatory. His primary teachers include Timothy Pitts and Donald Palma. Evan has performed as a substitute musician with the Chicago, Milwaukee and Houston symphony orchestras. He is originally from De Pere, Wisconsin.



MICHAEL GORDON

PRINCIPAL FLUTE,
MARYLOU AND JOHN DODDS TURNER CHAIR

Michael Gordon joined the Kansas City Symphony as principal flute in 2007. Since that time, he has worked actively throughout the region to promote the value of music in the community. In particular, he has collaborated with Arts in Prison to produce a series of chamber music concerts for inmates at Lansing Correctional Facility. He also serves as a board member for the Northeast Community Center that operates a tuition-free music education program for underprivileged children called Harmony Project KC. An active teacher and performer, Michael has given numerous masterclasses and recitals in Kansas City, as well as around Missouri and nearby Kansas. Before moving to Kansas City, he was a member of the New World Symphony where he also performed as a soloist in 2007. He has performed with several orchestras across the United States including the St. Louis Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra and the Oregon Symphony. He has performed as both an orchestral and chamber musician at numerous festivals including Tanglewood, the Aspen Music Festival, Arizona Music Fest, and most recently at Kansas City's own Summerfest. Michael is a native of Glocester, Rhode Island, and he spent his formative years studying flute with Marianne Gedigian (current professor of flute at the University of Texas at Austin), and playing in youth orchestra and chamber music at the New England Conservatory. In 2004, he earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Rice University where he studied with Leone Buyse. Michael plays a 14k gold flute made in 2001 by Verne Q. Powell flutes.



MATTHEW LENGAS

OBOE AND ENGLISH HORN

Matt Lengas joined the Kansas City Symphony as English horn and utility oboe in 2022. He previously held similar positions in the Green Bay Symphony Orchestra and the Amarillo Symphony, and has performed as a substitute musician with the San Antonio Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra and Quad City Symphony Orchestra. Matt is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Shepherd School of Music and the University of Texas at Austin, where he earned bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, respectively. Additional studies have included summer fellowships at the Banff Centre, Round Top Festival Institute and Aspen Music Festival and School. A native Wisconsinite, Matt began his oboe studies in the Peshtigo, Wisconsin public school system and studied privately with Andrea Gross Hixon throughout high school. His other important mentors include Richard Killmer, Robert Atherholt and Andrew Parker. When he is not playing the oboe or making reeds, Matt enjoys walking in Kansas City's beautiful parks and exploring the diverse art of coffee brewing.

Musician Bios (cont.)



RAYMOND SANTOS

PRINCIPAL CLARINET, BILL AND PEGGY LYONS CHAIR

Raymond Santos has served as principal clarinet of the Kansas City Symphony since September 2008. Previously, he was a clarinet fellow with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida. Raymond has played as guest principal clarinet for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and the Oregon Symphony. He received multiple fellowships to the Boston Symphony Orchestra's Tanglewood Music Center, where he was awarded the Gino B. Cioffi Memorial Prize for exceptional musical achievement. He also performed at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara and the National Orchestral Institute in Washington, D.C. In addition to his orchestral activities, he has played chamber music throughout the United States, Europe and China. Originally from West Chester, Ohio, Raymond received his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Southern California, under the tutelage of revered pedagogue Yehuda Gilad. In high school, he studied with Richard Hawley, former principal clarinet of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. Other principal teachers have included Monica Kaenzig and Sandra Snyder. Raymond is a Buffet Crampon USA performing artist and plays exclusively on Buffet Crampon clarinets.



THOMAS DEWITT

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL BASSOON AND CONTRABASOON

Thomas DeWitt has been a member of the Kansas City Symphony since 2013. Previously, he played second bassoon with the Houston Grand Opera and was a regular player with the Houston Symphony and Ballet. Thomas attended the University of Texas at Austin for his bachelor's degree, where he studied with Kristin Wolfe Jensen and was a winner of the Winds Concerto Competition, performing the Mozart Bassoon Concerto. Thomas continued his studies at Rice University, where studied with Benjamin Kamins and attained a master's degree. He is principal bassoon of the Breckenridge Music Festival, and he has attended the Tanglewood, National Repertory Orchestra, Round Top and Eastern music festivals as a fellow.

2026/27

Season

It's going to be epic.



Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde

DOROTHY PAPADAKOS, ORGAN

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28



Buckets N Boards

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8



The Music of Studio Ghibli

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14



Brahms' German Requiem

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

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