

PRESS RELEASE

THE MUSIC RETURNS AS OSHKOSH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IS REIMAGINED, FOCUSING ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, OPPORTUNITY, AND LEADERSHIP

OSHKOSH, WI, June 15, 2023 - Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra (OSO) is returning to live music making, reimagined and reinvigorated, fall 2023. The storied arts organization will return to its roots in its 82nd season, using the model that led to its past success—community engagement.

<u>A new model.</u> Next season, OSO will be made stronger by inviting members of the community to perform in the orchestra. This was the orchestra's model decades ago. OSO will once again offer the finest musical product while also serving the community. Side-by-side, adult community musicians will perform with area professionals, deepening that which connects us.

<u>More education.</u> A new partnership with University of Wisconsin Oshkosh (UWO) has been established to better serve the community. The partnership allows OSO to emphasize its educational mission and prepare our young people for success later in life. Now, UWO students will have the opportunity to perform with OSO, honing their skill as they perform next to mentors as well as learn transferable skills from leaders in the community.

<u>A new maestro.</u> Dylan T. Chmura-Moore has been appointed the new Music Director of Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra. Chmura-Moore says, "Community makes us strong. It makes for better music. OSO will, once again, lean into this ideal and I couldn't be more excited. People make music, and it rings more true when your neighbor, whom you trust and love, is the one who is making it for you or with you. That is the beauty of what OSO will be. The return to this model should help our community listen to each other better and show each other more support and empathy. And the music's going to be phenomenal!"

<u>Great music.</u> Throughout the year OSO will present big symphonic masterworks for all to enjoy. *Saturday, October 14 at 7:30pm* Edvard Grieg's *Piano Concerto* will be performed, considered one of the most outstanding and virtuosic musics in the repertoire. It will be performed by internationally recognized artist Eli Kalman, an artist who has performed extensively throughout the world, including Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, who calls Oshkosh home. *Saturday, December 2 at 7:30pm*, the holiday tradition returns. The whole family is invited to hear seasonal favorites by Tchaikovsky, Leroy Anderson, Henry Mancini, and Irving Berlin. This concert will feature the beloved singer, Erin Boheme, in song with the orchestra. *Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 7:30pm*, the season concludes in collaboration with Oshkosh Chamber Singers and choirs from UWO. Performed will be Dvorak's sixth symphony and an exceptional mass by the brilliant romanic composer José Maurício Nunes Garcia.

ABOUT OSO: Founded in 1941, Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra is comprised of professional musicians, community leaders, and University of Wisconsin Oshkosh students. OSO performs orchestral masterworks of all genres and from all eras. Concerts are held in Music Hall on the UW Oshkosh campus and seating is general admission. The symphony is celebrating its 82nd season.

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Pronunciation notes: Chmura-Moore (Sha*mura) Tchaikovsky (Chi*kof*skee) Dvorak (Da*vor*jak) Leroy (Le*roy)