



SAN FRANCISCO
SYMPHONY
MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR



SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN:

Adventures in Music (AIM): *Adventures in Music* (AIM) is a comprehensive music education program designed specifically for San Francisco's public elementary schools, in partnership with the San Francisco Unified School District. AIM serves every child in grades 1 through 5 in every San Francisco public elementary school, as well as a number of SF's independent and parochial schools, reaching nearly 25,000 children and more than 1,100 teachers annually. Presented to schools absolutely free of charge, AIM consists of a series of in-school ensemble performances representing diverse musical genres and cultural traditions, specially designed classroom curriculum, educational materials for each student, supplementary resources for each classroom and a hallmark concert by the San Francisco Symphony. Since its inception in 1988, over 150,000 children have gone through the AIM program.

Concerts for Kids: The *Concerts for Kids* series has been introducing children to symphonic music since 1919, last year serving more than 26,000 children, teachers and chaperones in Northern California. The program provides study guides and study CDs of the concert repertoire to help teachers prepare their classes for the visit to Davies Symphony Hall. For most of these students, the San Francisco Symphony's *Concert for Kids* provides their first experience of live orchestral music.

Music for Families: This popular series introduces children and their parents to the wonders of live orchestral music through engaging matinee concerts designed to spark the imagination of the whole family. These matinee concerts are presented at Davies Symphony Hall.

SFSKids.org: *SFSKids.org* is a free online educational resource designed to serve children, adults, families, teachers, and schools. The site presents opportunities for learning about music through interactivity, animation, and the creative exploration of music-making. A new, updated version of the site was launched in February 2014, incorporating up-to-date techniques for online education such as game-based learning environments and simulation scenarios.

Keeping Score®: Michael Tilson Thomas and the SFS launched the national *Keeping Score* PBS television series and multimedia project in 2006 to make classical music accessible to people of all ages and musical backgrounds. The project is anchored by eight composer documentaries hosted by Tilson Thomas, and eight live concert videos, and includes www.keepingsscore.org, an innovative website to explore and learn about music; a national radio series; documentary and live performance Blu-ray DVD and CDs; and an education program for K-12 schools to further teaching through the arts by integrating classical music into the core curriculum. To date, more than six million people have seen the *Keeping Score* television series and the radio series has been broadcast on more than 400 stations nationally.

PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS:

Instrument Training and Support Program: Through the *Instrument Training and Support Program*, the San Francisco Symphony provides assistance and resources to every orchestra and band in San Francisco's public middle and high schools, grades 6-12, free of charge. The program includes the services of professional musicians who visit schools weekly throughout the school year as clinicians and coaches for instrumental music students of all levels. It also provides music supplies such as bows, reeds, and mouthpieces; instrument repairs, and tickets to attend San Francisco Symphony concerts in response to music teachers' needs. Each year, more than 1,000 students receive coaching and mentoring in 38 band and orchestra programs.

San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra: The San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra has provided pre-professional orchestral training, tuition-free, to some of the Bay Area's most talented student instrumentalists between the ages of 12-21 for over 30 years. Founded in 1981, the Youth Orchestra tours internationally and has achieved an international reputation as one of the most accomplished youth ensembles of its kind.

Howard Skinner Student Forum: Nearly 400 college students subscribe to the San Francisco Symphony each year through the *Howard Skinner Student Forum* which offers them subscriptions to select Davies Symphony Hall concerts at a 50 percent discount. The SFS coordinates the program through student representatives, who help to promote the Symphony's special offer through the distribution of materials, sending out emails to classmates, posters and by word-of-mouth.

EDUCATION FOR ADULTS:

Community of Music Makers: The San Francisco Symphony's Community of Music Makers program encourages music engagement by providing opportunities for amateur musicians, singers, and chamber ensembles to make music on the stage of Davies Symphony Hall. Over 1,000 community members take part in workshops each year under the guidance of the Symphony's musicians and artistic staff.

Inside Music Talks: These thirty-minute talks from the stage of Davies Symphony Hall precede all San Francisco Symphony subscription concerts and Open Rehearsals.

Program Notes on the Web: Program notes are authored by award-winning SFS Program Annotator James M. Keller, former Program Annotator Michael Steinberg, Contributing Writers Scott Foglesong and Thomas May, and other writers committed to bringing readers closer to the music. These notes are available at no cost via the Symphony's website, www.sfsymphony.org, and are posted on a concert's designated event page one week prior to the performances.

Audio Podcasts: Selected works on subscription week programs are highlighted in an audio version of the program notes by SFS James M. Keller, former Program Annotator Michael Steinberg, Contributing Writers Scott Foglesong and Thomas May, and other guest writers. The story behind the music is narrated by KDFC Radio's Rik Malone and brought to life with musical excerpts from the San Francisco Symphony's recording archives. The SFS also offers a series of podcasts titled "From the Archives," in which pre-concert lecturer Scott Foglesong explores nearly a century's worth of recordings, including some that have not been available to the public for generations. Audio podcasts are available at sfsymphony.org/podcasts, and can be downloaded for free from the [iTunes store](#).

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS:

Free Outdoor Concerts: The San Francisco Symphony annually offers free outdoor concerts. These performances at venues like Justin Herman Plaza, Golden Gate Park, Stern Grove, Civic Center Plaza and Dolores Park attract diverse and enthusiastic audiences from throughout the entire Bay Area.

Social Media: The San Francisco Symphony uses a variety of social media platforms to interact with its concert-goers, worldwide fans, and new audiences. Fans on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Tumblr](#) can get up-to-date information on concerts, recordings, and special events; learn more about the orchestra, and win tickets and special prizes.

All San Francisco Concert: Every year during its Opening Week, the San Francisco Symphony invites the community to celebrate the start of the season by offering \$10 tickets to more than 100 local social service and neighborhood organizations.

Deck the Hall Community Day: A repeat performance of the annual holiday *Deck the Hall* concert, offered free of charge to nearly 2,000 Bay Area children who would not otherwise be able to attend.

Senior Citizen Discount Packages: *Silver Savers*, the San Francisco Symphony's Senior Citizen Discount Package, offers eight or sixteen concerts at a cost of \$20 or \$45 per concert, depending on seat location.

Tickets for Community Constituencies: The San Francisco Symphony distributes 6,000 complimentary tickets annually to Bay Area community groups and underserved populations.

Volunteer Council: Nearly 1,500 committed and energetic volunteers provide volunteer support to the San Francisco Symphony in the areas of fundraising, audience development and community service.

Bus Service: A bus service is offered from approximately 12 locations throughout California to Davies Symphony Hall for the Thursday Matinee Series, providing transportation to those who might not be able to drive into the city.