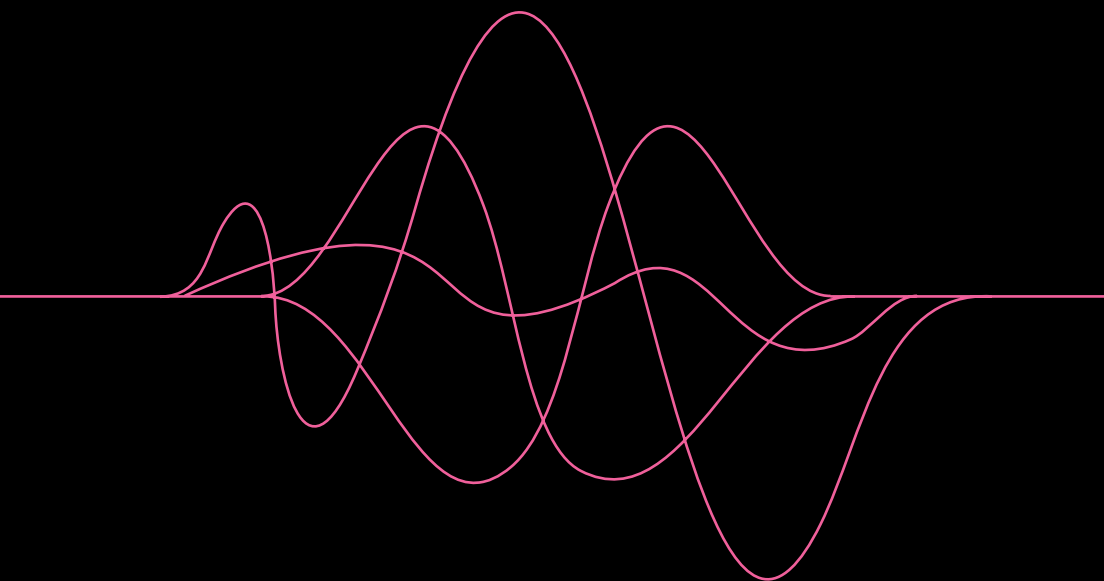


# SF SYMPHONY



2021-22  
SEASON REVIEW

# WELCOME

## SECOND CENTURY PARTNER

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INAUGURAL PARTNER

## LEAD MUNICIPAL PARTNER

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## SEASON PARTNERS

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This report reflects activities from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022. Please address questions or concerns to [support@sfsymphony.org](mailto:support@sfsymphony.org).

## What does music mean to you?

As we look back on the San Francisco Symphony's 2021–22 season, we affirm music's vital place in our lives. In venues large and small, from the virtual space to community spaces, our offerings brought us together to explore the full range of the human experience. Re-live the season through words, numbers, and images that make one thing clear: Our music makes the world better.

More than a snapshot of the year, this report is a tribute to the people who made it possible. To those who supported us in any capacity, we extend our most heartfelt gratitude. You are making a difference in the life of our Orchestra, and benefiting the tens of thousands of people we serve every year.

Should you be inspired to learn more and join us, please know that you are welcome here. We invite you to visit us soon to experience firsthand what it means to be part of the San Francisco Symphony family.

**Together, let us discover what we can accomplish with music— and for our world.**



Priscilla B. Geeslin  
President



Matthew Spivey  
Chief Executive Officer

# ARTISTS

Everything we accomplish—performances, education and engagement initiatives, innovative programming, and more—springs from our artists. These gifted individuals spend a lifetime exploring the frontiers of human possibility, all to learn how to communicate with us about who we are and who we can be.




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**46**  
Conductors

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**8**  
Collaborative  
Partners

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**91**  
Orchestra  
Members

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**32**  
Chorus  
Members

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**65**  
Guest Artists

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## COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

Our Collaborative Partners are forward-looking artists, thinkers, and doers who join with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Symphony to explore new ideas, break rules, and create powerful experiences.

## A STAGE FOR THE WORLD

The world's preeminent artists come to San Francisco for consummate creative opportunities and risk-taking audiences.

Launching a multi-season partnership, Peter Sellars staged Igor Stravinsky's *Oedipus rex*.



## AMPLIFYING VOICES

We bring new music into the world by identifying talented composers, supporting their creative processes, and premiering their work on an international stage.

Trevor Weston was the first winner of the Emerging Black Composers Project, a partnership with the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.



## EXPERIENCE

## ON STAGE

Each live performance by our artists is a singular opportunity. In coming together for these out-of-the-ordinary occasions, we experience moments of beauty, joy, and unity—moments that can help us lead fuller, more meaningful lives.




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**189**  
Performances

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**273,517**  
Attendance

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**62**  
Premieres, Including  
22 World Premieres

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**Oldest Work**  
*Karitas habundat*,  
Hildegard von Bingen  
(1098–1179)

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**Newest Work**  
Piano Concerto, Mason  
Bates (b. 1977)

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“I came to the San Francisco Symphony because I felt there was a potential for something powerfully transformative to take place here, in this city where things begin, in this state where anything is possible. I could feel that there was something fast approaching—something that I wanted to be a part of.”

Esa-Pekka Salonen  
Music Director

## EXPERIENCE

## ON DEMAND

We produce original content inspired by the intersection of music and digital art, utilizing widely available platforms. In a world connected as never before, audiences can experience our distinctive artistry virtually anywhere.

## SFS MEDIA

**CURATING THE SOUNDTRACK OF LIFE** Through commercial recordings and streaming services, people around the world make the sounds of the San Francisco Symphony part of their lives.

2

New Releases

11,000,000+

Streams

2

Grammy Nominations  
(our 25th and 26th)

## CONCERT FILMS

**TELLING STORIES IN NEW WAYS**  
Original video productions fuse music, visuals, and dramaturgy in provocative ways.

2

New Productions

10,267

Views



## BROADCASTS

**FILLING THE AIRWAVES**  
Television and radio broadcasts enrich the lives of local, national, and international audiences.

52 Weeks

Local Radio Broadcasts

13 Weeks

National & International  
Radio Broadcasts

20,000,000

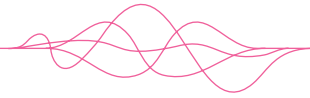
Radio Audience

1

National Television  
Broadcast

62,255

Television  
Viewership



## EXPERIENCE

# IN COMMUNITY

Young people, families, and local communities flourish from an abundance of free programs centered around our music. By supporting learning and togetherness, we help people to grow, nurture the future, and build a healthier society through music.

## SF SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

**LIFELONG BENEFITS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE** Exemplary training and performance opportunities prepare young people, ages 12–21, for a life in music or any path they choose.

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**120**

Young Musicians

---

**19**

Professional Coaches

---

**5**

Performances Attended  
by 7,000+ People

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## SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

**EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MUSIC FOR YOUNG PEOPLE** Our decades-long partnership with the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) is a national model of public-private collaboration.

## ADVENTURES IN MUSIC

**OPENING UP A MUSICAL WORLD** Five years of music education for all SFUSD elementary school students ensure that music will be part of their lives.

---

**21,101**

Student Participants

---

**80**

Schools

---

**33**

Teaching Artists Working  
with 1,081 Educators

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## MUSIC AND MENTORS

**MAXIMIZING SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM IMPACT** Training and support for all SFUSD middle and high school instrumental programs enable school music teachers to better serve their young musicians.

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**1,450**

Student Participants

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**23**

Schools

---

**18**

Teaching Artists Working  
with 32 Educators

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## MINDFUL MUSIC

**STARTING THE SCHOOL DAY ON A GOOD NOTE** Daily musical meditation helps students get the most out of their time in school. *Pilot year.*

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**5**

Schools

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## COMMUNITY CHAMBER CONCERTS

**HELPING PARTNERS SERVE OTHERS** Intimate performances in community spaces help fellow nonprofits to provide a variety of experiences for their constituents.

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**9**

Performances

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## ONLINE EDUCATION RESOURCES

**MUSIC RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS** Virtual content, including Music Connects, Concerts for Kids, and *Musical Heroes: Stories of African-American Composers*, engages learners of all ages.

## COMMUNITY TICKET PROGRAM

**REMOVING COST AS A BARRIER** By offering complimentary tickets and a warm welcome, we benefit community partners, essential workers, and Bay Area residents. *Pilot year.*

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**6,000+**

Tickets Distributed

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## MUSIC IN THE WARDS

**PROMOTING HEALING THROUGH MUSIC** Performances for patients at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital, as well as their families and hospital staff, provide relief at a difficult time.

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**12**

Performances

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## ARCHIVES

**CONNECTING PEOPLE ACROSS TIME** Access to assets supports performance, research, and cultural understanding.

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**100+**

Inquiries Served

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**15,000+**

Items Added, Bringing Collection to a Total of 65,000+ Items

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## DEEPER CONNECTION THROUGH MUSIC

The **All San Francisco Concert**, an opening week performance for the people of Bay Area nonprofit organizations and community groups, includes the presentation of the Ellen Magnin Newman Award. This year, we saluted Loco Bloco.



Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser became our first-ever **Resident Conductor of Engagement and Education**. Education-oriented performances included Music for Families and—in a first for us or any major US orchestra—Teen Night for adolescent audiences.



**Deck the Hall** includes seasonal concerts for the young and the young at heart, plus a free event for SFUSD students.



**Día de los Muertos** is a vibrant celebration of the Latin American tradition.



**Lunar New Year** is a jubilant event that draws on Asian traditions, past and present. This year, we stood in solidarity with our community and in opposition to AAPI hate.



# ALLIES

The artists of the San Francisco Symphony never take the stage alone. Backing them are the people who offer their philanthropy, labor, advocacy, and attention. We are as great as the people who support us in all kinds of ways.

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**7,545**

Patron Households

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**1,000+**

Volunteers from  
9 Counties Contributed  
5,000+ Hours

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**122**

Staff

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**61**

Board of  
Governors

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**30**

Life  
Governors

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**182,000**

Facebook Followers

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**109,000**

Instagram Followers

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**102,000**

Twitter Followers

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**8,500**

LinkedIn Followers

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## UNITED STRENGTH

The number of donors who supported us grew by 19% compared to the previous year. It would take nearly three Davies Symphony Halls to hold all of them at once. Together, they provide the bulk of the funding that makes our work possible—and remind us that every gift makes a difference.

## VITAL VOLUNTEERISM

Our dedicated volunteers lend valuable support ranging from office assistance and docent work to organizing fundraising events and introducing new audiences to us. We salute 2021–22 Volunteer Award recipients Maria Hemphill, Gloria Leitstein, Irena Matijas, Betty Schlaepfer, and Betsey Schneider.



# YOU

The San Francisco Symphony is your Orchestra. Our 2021–22 season was the creation of artists, donors, audiences, Board members, staff, volunteers, and a supportive community. To one and all, we say thank you.

**Join us in 2022–23 and beyond. Together, let us make the world a better place through music.**

# EXPLORE

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Go deeper into the 2021–22 season at [sfsymphony.org/Season-Review](https://sfsymphony.org/Season-Review)

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Join Our Family  
[sfsymphony.org/Donate-Volunteer](https://sfsymphony.org/Donate-Volunteer)

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Contact Donor Support  
415.503.5444  
[support@sfsymphony.org](mailto:support@sfsymphony.org)

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SF SYMPHONY

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