



CHATTANOOGA
SYMPHONY
& OPERA

UNSPOKEN:
OUR STORIES THROUGH SOUND

CHAPTER 1

REFLECTION

2025-2026
SEASON



Art by Andi Kur



ILYA RAM
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Photo by Brooke Bragger

UNSPOKEN - OUR STORIES THROUGH SOUND

Over the next three years, the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera invites you on an extraordinary musical journey—an experience that weaves together the tapestry of our past, present, and future. Each season is a chapter in this larger narrative, exploring time, transformation, and vision, with music as the connecting force that bridges generations and perspectives. Whether you're with us from the beginning or joining us along the way, together we create a living, breathing story that belongs to all of us.

In **Chapter 1: Reflection (25-26 Season)**, we turn our gaze to the past, celebrating the foundations of our orchestra and exploring the triumphs, challenges, and transformative moments that have defined our history. Through timeless classics and stories of growth and change, we reflect on the lessons of yesterday that guide us today. As we close this chapter, we prepare to step forward, embracing the present.

Chapter 2: Moments (26-27 Season) immerses us in the present, capturing the vibrant pulse of music that speaks to today's world. This season is a celebration of who we are now, where diverse voices and local compositions come together to resonate with our shared experiences. As we conclude this chapter, we set our sights on what lies ahead, dreaming of the possibilities for the future.

In **Chapter 3: Destiny (27-28 Season)**, we turn our eyes to the horizon. This season is a declaration of the future we are building, featuring innovative works and collaborations that aim to push the boundaries of the orchestral experience. This final chapter anticipates the infinite potential that lies ahead, where we embrace the unknown and boldly step into a new era.

Together, Reflection, Moments, and Destiny form the symphonic arc of our shared journey – an exploration that honors the past, embraces the present, and dreams of the future through sound.

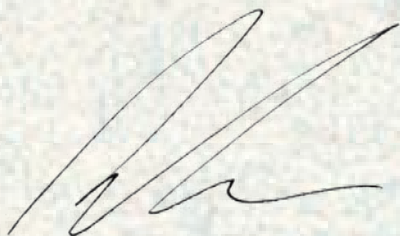
And so it begins – Chapter 1: Reflection (2025-26 Season).

I'm overjoyed to step into the role of Music Director and to begin this adventure with you and your fantastic CSO.

This season marks the start of something new – not just for me, but for all of us. It's the first chapter in the story we'll write together: full of discovery, emotion, beauty, and maybe even a little mischief along the way.

I can't wait to share the music I love with you – to build something meaningful, one note, one concert, one moment at a time.

Join us. Be part of the story. Let's begin.



Ilya Ram

Music Director

Chattanooga Symphony & Opera

SEASON ART BY ANDI KUR



Andi Kur is a Chattanooga-based illustrator who explores the rich intersections of science and art. She first moved to the city in 2014 to study Biology at UTC, where she developed a deep appreciation for the region's flora and fauna. This love of nature sparked her self-taught journey into science illustration.

In 2018-2020, Andi earned a Master's in Plant Science from the University of Vermont, carrying her artistic practice with her throughout her research. Over time, her illustrations evolved from precise observations to narrative-driven works—using graphics and comics to tell stories about the natural world. Her recent work weaves in elements of science fiction and feminism, further expanding her creative voice.

Since returning to Chattanooga in 2021, Andi has pursued life as a self-employed artist and science illustrator. You can find her selling prints at local markets, online at andikurart.com, or on Instagram @Andi_k_art.

CLASSICS

SEE PG.11 FOR SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

OPENING NIGHT

LA MER

THURS, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 | 7:30 PM

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

ILYA RAM

conductor

YING LI

piano

Made Possible by Captain
Larry and Toni Taylor.

WILLIAM GRANT STILL

Festive Overture

GEORGE GERSHWIN

Piano Concerto in F Major

LILI BOULANGER

D'un matin de printemps

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

La Mer

AMERICAN REFLECTION

DVOŘÁK & BEACH

THURS, OCTOBER 16, 2025 | 7:30 PM

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

ILYA RAM

conductor

TAE-YEON KIM

cello

JOHANNES BRAHMS

Tragic Overture, Op. 81

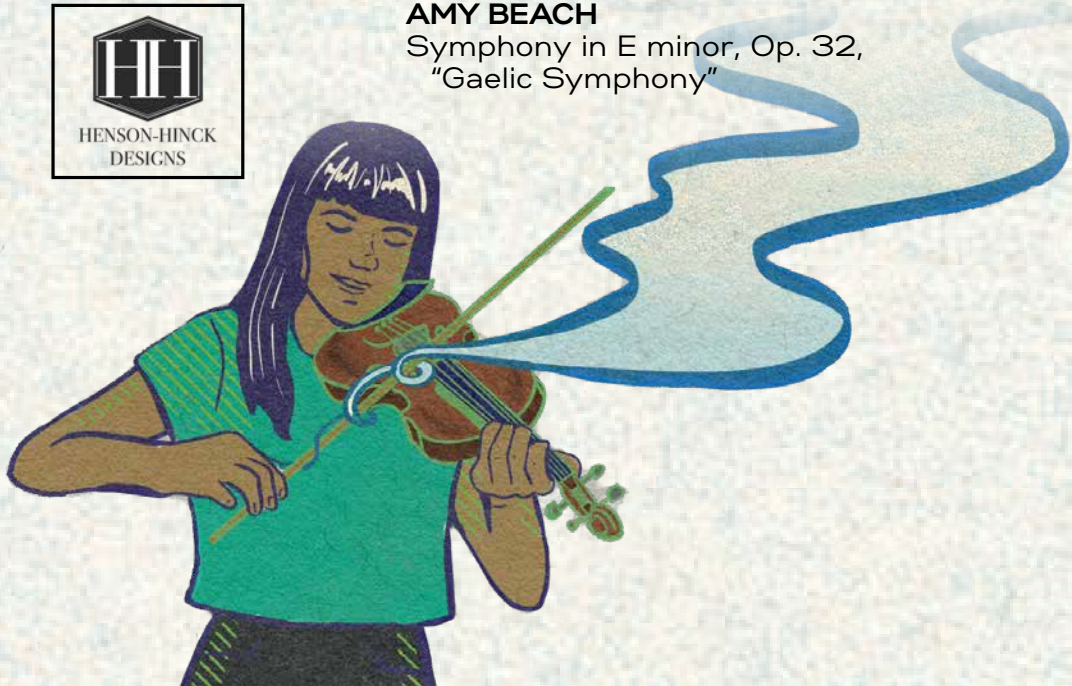
ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104

AMY BEACH

Symphony in E minor, Op. 32,

"Gaelic Symphony"



SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH THE CHATTANOOGA YOUTH SYMPHONY

SIBELIUS' FINLANDIA

THURS, FEBRUARY 19, 2026 | 7:30 PM

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

ILYA RAM

conductor

ISMAEL SANDOVAL

conductor



TIM HINCK

Symphony No. 1, "Prairie Nightscape"
IV. Morning

DARIUS MILHAUD

Le Bœuf sur le toit

ROBERT SCHUMANN

Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 97,
"The Rhenish"

JEAN SIBELIUS

Finlandia, Op. 26

SEASON FINALE

VERDI REQUIEM

THURS, APRIL 23, 2026 | 7:30 PM

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

ILYA RAM

conductor

TIFFANY

TOWNSEND

soprano

ASHLEY DIXON

mezzo-soprano

RICARDO GARCIA

tenor

JASON ZACHER

bass

CSO CHORUS

Darrin Hassevoort, director

GIUSEPPE VERDI

Messa da Requiem





POPS

SEE PG.11 FOR SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DECADES: BACK TO THE '80s

SAT, NOVEMBER 8, 2025 | 7:30 PM

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

ILYA RAM

conductor

Grab your headbands, leg warmers, and neon - it's *Back to the '80s*! *Back to the 80's* is a power packed evening of the decade's #1 hit songs, including *The Power of Love*, *Time After Time*, *Material Girl*, *Another One Bites The Dust*, *Footloose*, *Addicted to Love* and many others. Featuring the music of such 80's iconic stars as Madonna, Debbie Gibson, Huey Lewis & The News, Phil Collins, Queen, Joe Cocker, and others, *Back to the 80's* contains all new arrangements by Grammy-winner Jeff Tyzik and features three incredible vocalists.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

SAT, DECEMBER 20, 2025 | 7:30 PM

SUN, DECEMBER 21, 2025 | 3:00 PM

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

ILYA RAM

conductor

CSO CHORUS

Darrin Hassevoort, director

**METROPOLITAN
BELLS**

Gary Bynum, director

CHATT GIRLS CHOIR

Dr. Kimberly Keck, director

CHATT BOYS CHOIR

Vincent Oakes, director

One of Chattanooga's most treasured holiday events, *Home for the Holidays* is the perfect seasonal celebration for the whole family! The CSO is joined by the CSO Chorus, a variety of community groups, and even the big man himself!

STAR WARS™

A NEW HOPE

IN CONCERT



FILM LIVE WITH ORCHESTRA

PRESENTED BY
CHATTANOOGA SYMPHONY & OPERA

FULL ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY JAMIE REEVES

SAT, JANUARY 31, 2026

MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

MUSIC BY JOHN WILLIAMS



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SPECIALS

ADD ANY OF THESE PERFORMANCES ON TO
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION AND SAVE 10%

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

FRI, DECEMBER 5, 2025 | 7:30 PM

SAT, DECEMBER 6, 2025 | 3:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga

SUN, DECEMBER 7, 2025 | 3:00 PM

Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church

**DARRIN
HASSEVOORT**

conductor

CSO CHORUS

Darrin Hassevoort, director

AMBER MONROE

soprano

**COURTNEY J.
FLETCHER**

mezzo-soprano

DANIEL MCGREW

tenor

YOSEPH PARK

bass

**CHORAL ARTS OF
CHATTANOOGA**

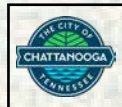
Darrin Hassevoort, director

Celebrate the season with Handel's classic oratorio, *Messiah*, featuring the world-famous *Hallelujah Chorus*. Get your tickets early, these performances have sold out three years in a row!

THE ATLANTA OPERA'S FAMILY OPERA

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

In partnership with:



SAT, MARCH 14, 2026 | 3:00 PM

UTC Roland Hayes Recital Hall

ISMAEL SANDOVAL

conductor

W.S. GILBERT & ARTHUR SULLIVAN

The Pirates of Penzance (adapted for families)

Approx. 1 hour run time.

THE VELVET CHAIR EXPERIENCE

SAT, MARCH 28, 2026 | 7:30 PM

Walker Theatre

ILYA RAM

conductor

KAREN COLLINS

vocalist



The Velvet Chair is more than just a show, it's an experience! The musicianship of the CSO with Dexter Bell and friends combined with the powerhouse vocals and creative wit of Chattanooga's own Karen Collins is sure to bring you a night you will never forget!

FRONT ROW

ADD ANY OF THESE PERFORMANCES ON TO
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION AND SAVE 10%

What is the Front Row Series?

Front Row is an invitation to experience music up close—personal, intimate, and invigorating. This new concert series reimagines our concerts, placing you closer to the artists than ever before. Seating is arranged to bring the audience into the heart of the music. It's the kind of experience usually reserved for the lucky few in the front row—now shared with everyone.

SECOND TO NONE

THE SECOND SYMPHONIES OF BEETHOVEN AND FARRENC

SUN, NOVEMBER 16, 2025 | 3:00 PM

Hotel Chalet - The Beverly Ballroom

ILYA RAM
conductor



LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 36

CARLOS SIMON
Fate Now Conquers

LOUISE FARRENC
Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 35

BOHEMIAN VIENNESE

MOZART'S "PRAGUE" SYMPHONY

SUN, JANUARY 25, 2026 | 3:00 PM

Hotel Chalet - The Beverly Ballroom

ILYA RAM
conductor



MARIANNA MARTINES
Sinfonia in C

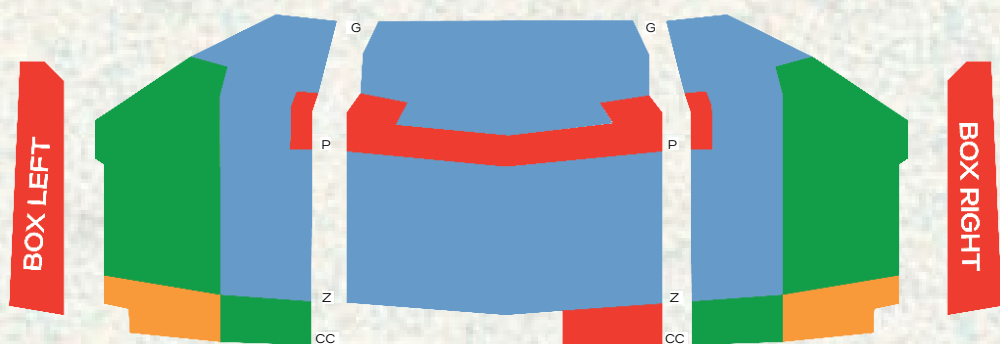
FRANZ SCHUBERT
Symphony No. 8 in B minor, D. 759,
"Unfinished"

W.A. MOZART
Symphony No. 38 in D Major, K. 504,
"Prague"

SOLDIERS & SAILORS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

STAGE

FRONT ORCHESTRA



REAR ORCHESTRA



CLASSICS

4 CONCERTS

| | |
|-----|----------|
| PL1 | \$342 |
| PL2 | \$237 |
| PL3 | \$173.14 |
| PL4 | \$110.25 |

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| STUDENT/CHILD 50% discount |
| MUSIC EDUCATOR \$60 |

POPS

3 CONCERTS

| | |
|-----|---------------|
| PL1 | \$364.80 |
| PL2 | \$252 - \$281 |
| PL3 | \$201 - \$230 |
| PL4 | \$151.40 |

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| STUDENT/CHILD 50% discount |
| MUSIC EDUCATOR \$45 |

PRICES MAY VARY DEPENDING
ON EXACT SEAT LOCATION. CALL
BOX OFFICE OR GO ONLINE FOR
EXACT PRICING

ADD ON TICKETS

PRICES INCLUDE 10% SUBSCRIBER DISCOUNT

FRONT ROW

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| GENERAL ADMISSION \$49.50 | STUDENT/CHILD \$25.75 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|

MESSIAH

| | | |
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| GENERAL ADMISSION \$31.50 | VIP \$58.50 | STUDENT/CHILD \$15.75 |
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THE VELVET CHAIR EXPERIENCE

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ADULT \$31.50 - \$82.80 | STUDENT/CHILD 50% discount |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|

Prices stated above are for subscription purchases made before July 15, 2025. Prices will be raised at that time.

SUBSCRIBE

The Best Seats at the Best Prices

Enjoy up to 20% savings on single ticket prices when you purchase a subscription package!

Priority Renewal and Seating

Not only do CSO subscribers get the best seats at the best prices, but they also get to enjoy their preferred seats for every concert in their subscription series.

Free Exchanges

Did something come up? Don't worry, you can easily exchange your subscription ticket to any other CSO concert. Exchange fees are waived for CSO subscribers; **that's \$5 savings per ticket!**

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Instead of donating your unused ticket, CSO Subscribers can donate the value of that ticket back to the CSO!

Additional Savings

CSO subscribers get **10% off** additional single ticket purchases to CSO concerts.

Advance Purchase Opportunities

Each season, CSO Subscribers have the opportunity to secure seats to CSO performances before tickets go on sale to the general public (plus get 10% off those additional tickets with their subscriber discount).

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

ONLINE ChattSymphony.org

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620 Lindsay Street, #210
Chattanooga, TN 37403

PHONE 423-267-8583
(Tu - Fr, 10 AM - 3 PM)

IN-PERSON Chattanooga Symphony & Opera
620 Lindsay Street, #210
Chattanooga, TN 37403
(Tu - Fr, 10 AM - 3 PM)

SINGLE TICKETS ON SALE AUGUST 1, 2025.

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Art by Andi Kur