

Matthew Wardell, Music Director

24

25

SEASON

Your Orchestra, Your Music



FATE, GOBLINS, AND THE MOTHERSHIP

Saturday, October 19 - 7:30 PM | Sunday, October 20, 2024 - 3:00 PM

POPS! GOES THE HOLIDAYS

Saturday, December 7 - 7:30 PM | Sunday, December 8, 2024 - 3:00 PM Sponsored By: On Top of the World

VIVE LA FRANCE!

Saturday, January 25 - 7:30 PM | Sunday, January 26, 2025 - 3:00 PM

SOUND AND FURY

Saturday, February 15 - 7:30 | Sunday, February 16, 2025 - 3:00 PM

YOUTH, TRICKSTERS, AND METAMORPHOSIS

Saturday, March 8 - 7:30 PM | Sunday, March 9, 2025 - 3:00 PM

THE WEST MEETS SCHEHERAZADE (AND GODZILLA, TOO)

Saturday, April 12 - 7:30 PM | Sunday, April 13, 2025 - 3:00 PM

Season Support Provided By:









PHOTOS BY: Maven Photo + Film and Danielle Veenstra





SPECIAL CONCERTS

RED, WHITE, AND OCALA SYMPHONY BLUE

A SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS

Sunday, June 30, 2024 - 3:00PM Sponsored By: Grace Dunlevy and Bob Levenson

OSO CHORUS PRESENTS: MESSIAH COMMUNITY SING ALONG

Sunday, November 24, 2024 - 5:00 PM

SYMPHONY UNDER THE LIGHTS

Friday, December 6, 2024 - 7:30 PM Sponsored By: Jenkins Auto Group | City of Ocala

YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION: HONORS RECITAL

Sunday, January 12, 2025 - 3:00 PM

ODE TO JOY: BEETHOVEN'S 9TH SYMPHONY

WITH THE COLLEGE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA PATRIOT SINGERS AND OCALA SYMPHONY CHORUS

Sunday, March 30, 2025 - 3:00 PM

SPECIAL CONCERT PRICING

Special concert pricing is listed on the **ticket order form** on page 14 and 15. Tickets can also be purchased online at **www.ReillyArtsCenter.com** or through the **box office**.

BOX OFFICE: Call 352.351.1606 or visit in person T-F, 10AM-2PM.

Subscribers receive complimentrary tickets to the Young Artist Competition.

Music Director and Conductor Matthew J. Wardell

As the Music Director of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra, I am thrilled to invite you to an extraordinary season filled with musical adventures, legendary tales, and the joyous spirit of community. This season is a vibrant tapestry of classical masterpieces, innovative works, and beloved holiday traditions that promises to enchant, inspire, and unite us all.

We open our subscription season with "Fate, Goblins, and the Mothership," a thrilling exploration of destiny, mythical creatures, and interstellar travel through the works of Bates, Dvořák, and Tchaikovsky. As the holidays approach, join us for our annual "Pops! Goes the Holidays", this year featuring the Ocala Symphony Chorus. Our journey continues into the new year with "Vive la France!" — an homage to French elegance and beauty, showcasing Debussy, Saint-Saëns, and Ravel with the help of two phenomenal soloists and our principal quest conductor, Raymond Chobaz. Subscription concerts, "Sound and Fury" and "Youth, Pranksters, and Metamorphosis," feature the talents of our Young Artist Competition winners and a diverse program ranging from Mendelssohn to Hindemith, culminating in our grand finale "The West meets Scheherazade (and Godzilla, too)," where music and storytelling will merge in an unforgettable climax.

This 49th season features incredible collaborations between the orchestra, the Ocala Symphony Chorus, CF's Patriot Singers, and renowned soloists - those collaborations will reach their zenith with Beethoven's monumental 9th Symphony, an ode to joy and brotherhood that promises to be a

transcendent experience next April. Also not to be missed is our "Messiah Sing Along," inviting you to lend your voice to Handel's immortal masterpiece in a celebration of community and music.

This season embodies our commitment to showcasing the transformative power of music, featuring both the celebrated classics and the innovative new. Each concert is an invitation to explore the depths of human emotion, the heights of artistic achievement, and the communal spirit of music-making. Join us at the Reilly Arts Center for this spectacular season. Whether you're a lifelong orchestra enthusiast or a curious newcomer, there's something in this season for you. Together, let's make memories that will last a lifetime.

Sincerely yours, Matthew Wardell | Music Director and Conductor Matthew Wardell |

Dr. Matthew Wardell is a dynamic and acclaimed conductor known for his infectious musical enthusiasm and captivating performances. As Music Director of the Ocala Symphony since 2009, he has led more than 470 works in over 275 performances including several world premieres. Matt was also a key figure in fundraising and the creation of the Reilly Arts Center in Ocala, FL. He is a champion of orchestral music and its power to build communities. Recent guest conducting appearances include the Chamber Orchestra of Pittsburgh, the Pioneer Valley Symphony, the New England Philharmonic, the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, and the Gainesville Orchestra. Passionate about education, Matt recently served as an Interim Director of Orchestras and Visiting Lecturer at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and has served as a visiting faculty member and guest artist with Georgia Tech and the University of Florida.

FATE, GOBLINS, AND THE MOTHERSHIP

Dive into an electrifying program of music that spans from the cosmos to the depths of mythical waters and the impassioned human heart. Take off with Mason Bates' *Mothership*, a vibrant, pulsating piece that invites you on a thrilling interstellar journey combining electronica with the orchestra. The adventure continues with Dvořák's *The Water Goblin*, a captivating piece that weaves a tale of love, tragedy, and a supernatural world beneath the waves, holding you spellbound while you follow along with the story via supertitles above the orchestra. Tchaikovsky's powerful, fate filled *Symphony No. 4* ends this performance you won't want to miss!



POPS! GOES THE HOLIDAYS

Featuring your favorite music from Mannheim Steamroller, Home Alone, the Nutcracker and more, you do not want to miss this celebration of the holiday season that brings together the incredible musicians of the orchestra and the outstanding vocalists from the Ocala Symphony Chorus! This annually sold-out performance for all is full of fun, humor, and pure admiration for this special time of the year!



VIVE LA FRANCE

Raymond Chobaz, conductor

Ooh La La! Prepare to be whisked away by the OSO's principal guest conductor, Raymond Chobaz, on a sublime musical journey to France. Experience Debussy's ethereal *Trois Nocturnes* and the exotic rhythms of Camille Saint-Saëns' *Africa: Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra* with the renowned Kevin Sharpe on piano. Continue your adventure with the OSO's virtuosic concertmaster Stewart Kitts playing *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso*, and finally your trip will culminate in the lush, romantic landscapes of Maurice Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe Suite No. 2* and the Ocala Symphony Chorus



Camille Saint-Saens

Maurice Ravel

Daphnis and Chloe Suite No. 2

Sunday

January 26, 2025

3:00 PM

SOUND AND FURY

Embark on a mesmerizing journey from the serene Scottish coasts to the depths of human emotion and the heights of heroic triumph. We set off with Mendelssohn's Hebrides Overture before delving into the contemporary narrative and emotion of Anna Clyne's Sound and Fury featuring the captivating presence of Ocala Civic Theatre Artistic Director, Greg Thompson. Finally, the tour ascends to its zenith with Beethoven's monumental "Eroica" Symphony, a profound ode to heroism and human resilience. Every note and silence speaks directly to the soul in this performance that will leave you inspired and uplifted.



YOUTH, TRICKSTERS, AND METAMORPHOSIS

Join the Ocala Symphony Orchestra for an exhilarating evening of music and talent, featuring performances by two exceptional young concerto competition winners. The night will showcase the playful mischief of Richard Strauss's *Till Eulenspiegel*, a musical romp that captures the adventures of the legendary German trickster with thrilling orchestration. The program continues with Paul Hindemith's *Symphonic Metamorphosis* of *Themes by Carl Maria von Weber*, a masterpiece of transformation that weaves Weber's melodies into a rich tapestry of modern sound. This concert promises a blend of youthful virtuosity and orchestral majesty, making it a must-see event for music lovers of all ages.



THE WEST MEETS SCHEHERAZADE

(AND GODZILLA, TOO)

Experience the grand finale of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra's 49th season, a spectacular concert that promises an unforgettable blend of humor, fantasy, and exotic tales. We'll begin with Michael Daugherty's *Rio Grande*, a vibrant work that captures the spirit, breadth, and energy of the great river. Then, steel yourselves as Eric Whitacre's *Godzilla Eats Las Vegas* takes the stage, featuring Joshua Mazur and the Ocala Symphony Chorus in a playful depiction of the iconic monster on a romp through Sin City. Finally, the orchestra will transport you to the magical world of *Scheherazade*. In Rimsky-Korsakov's four captivating movements, you'll sail with Sinbad, venture with the Kalendar Prince, and fall in love with the Young Prince and Princess, culminating in the dramatic Festival at Baghdad. Don't miss this thrilling conclusion to the season, where music brings legends to life!





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Scan the QR code with your phone to view the complete lineup of events!

352.820.3049 | MarionTheatre.org | 50 S Magnolia Ave. Ocala, FL

SPECIAL CONCERTS

RED, WHITE, AND OCALA SYMPHONY BLUE:

A SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS

The Ocala Symphony pays tribute to our Independence and a celebration of all things patriotic with a special salute to our Veterans! You'll be marching to the beat of Sousa, enjoying all kinds of American music from pops to the profound, and leave feeling completely uplifted in this celebration of America's 248th birthday! This annual event sells out every season, so get your tickets fast!

Sunday **June 30, 2024**3:00 PM

Sponsored by: Grace Dunlevy and Bob Levenson

SYMPHONY UNDER THE LIGHTS

FREE OUTDOOR COMMUNITY CONCERT

Hot chocolate, family, friends, and festive music! What more could one ask for? The Ocala Symphony and members of the Ocala Youth Symphony bring this joyful annual free concert to the community under the incredible oaks of Tuscawilla Park. Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy!

Friday

December 6, 2024

7:30 PM

Presented by: Jenkins Auto Group with support from the City of Ocala

YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION: HONORS RECITAL

This special recital performance features the finalists from our 34th annual Young Artist Competition. These talented young musicians, from our junior and senior divisions, take the stage to perform their concerto with a pianist. The winners will be selected live immediately following the performance and will go on to perform as soloists with the full Ocala Symphony at "Youth, Tricksters, and Metamorphosis" on March 8 and 9, 2025. Subscribers will receive complimentary tickets to the Honors Recital.

Sunday **January 12, 2025** 3:00 PM

SPECIAL CHORAL CONCERTS

MESSIAH COMMUNITY SING-ALONG

WITH THE OCALA SYMPHONY CHORUS

Sunday, **November 24, 2024** 5:00 PM Hallelujah! Join us for a heartwarming afternoon of communal joy at our inaugural Handel's Messiah Community sing-along! Under the guidance of our chorus conductor, Joshua L. Mazur, and accompanied by a professional orchestra and soloists, we'll navigate the majestic "Hallelujah" chorus and more beloved selections from Messiah. No previous experience is required, and participation in the singing is optional. Bring your scores if you wish to sing along, or simply come to enjoy the music. This event is a celebration of the joy and unity that Handel's Messiah continues to inspire around the world. Join us in making this year's Handel's Messiah Community sing-along an uplifting ode to community, music, and the holiday spirit!

ODE TO JOY: BEETHOVEN'S 9TH SYMPHONY

WITH THE COLLEGE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA PATRIOT SINGERS AND OCALA SYMPHONY CHORUS



Immerse yourself in the monumental grandeur of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, a masterpiece that continues to inspire and move audiences around the world. Conducted by Matthew Wardell, the Ocala Symphony Orchestra, College of Central Florida Patriot Singers, and Ocala Symphony Chorus led by Joshua Mazur will join forces with four world-class soloists to bring this epic work to life. The concert will open with the stirring strains of Beethoven's Egmont Overture, setting the stage for an evening of dramatic intensity. The highlight of the afternoon, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, stands as a towering testament to the triumph of the human spirit over adversity. Known for its groundbreaking inclusion of vocal soloists and a chorus in the final movement, the symphony culminates in the exhilarating "Ode to Joy," a universal anthem of hope and brotherhood. This performance promises to be a powerful and moving experience, in a celebration of joy, unity, and the power of music.

Reilly Arts Center Upcoming Events and Series

REILLY NOIR JAZZ

Each month September through May experience intimate jazz nights with award winning musicians in the NOMA Black Box. From classic to contemporary, this series offers a variety of music everyone can appreciate and connect to. Reserve a café table for you and your friends and enjoy great music, drinks and company!

THE NUTCRACKER

The all-time family favorite presented by Dance Alive National Ballet, with beautiful dancing, sets and costumes is here again December 15 through 17! Everyone needs a hero and in this case she's a girl! Clara saves the Nutcracker Prince, and to thank her, he brings her on a magical journey to the Kingdom of the Sweets, where the exquisite Sugar Plum Fairy puts on a regal show for her. Tradition, beauty, grace, and a terrific story - what more can you ask for? Sheer Magic!

OCALA CARS AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

Join us and Jenkins Auto Group in Tuscawilla Park on November 16 from 12 PM to 5 PM to enjoy live music, food trucks, local arts and vendors, and the opportunity to see the latest lineups by Jenkins Auto Group! Bring a blanket and chairs to enjoy the music under the oak canopy. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. More details coming soon!

DUELING PIANOS

Enjoy Dueling Pianos each month in the NOMA Black Box at 6 PM! Grab a seat at a café table in the new NOMA Black Box at the Reilly Arts Center and enjoy dueling pianos, cocktails and an evening of fun with friends. Performing sing along classics of soft rock and pop that spans decades!

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA

Our annual fundraising gala, dedicated to supporting music education and programming will take place February 15, 2025 at the Reilly Arts Center. Set against a backdrop of enchanting melodies and inspiring performances, this event promises an enchanting fusion of entertainment and generosity. Guests will delight in food, captivating live music, and have the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of aspiring musicians and music

> enthusiasts. Whether you're a dedicated supporter of the arts or simply looking to make a positive impact in your community, this gala offers a chance to come together in celebration of the

transformative power of music.

NATIONAL ARTISTS, REGIONAL ACTS, & MORE

The Reilly Arts Center is ever-expanding its offerings with national artists such as Chris Botti and Kenny G. regional acts such as Steeln' Peaches and local favorites like Dance Alive National Ballet. Whether attending a stirring symphony or participating in a workshop, we strive to provide an unforgettable cultural experience to all.

THE DELLY

Support The Orchestra Make a Donation OR Become a Member

Maintaining and enhancing the Symphony's on-stage and community outreach programming relies heavily on support well beyond the purchase of a ticket! There are several ways to give back to the Ocala Symphony – each with different benefits, tangible and intangible, all helping us achieve our mission to bring as many people in contact with the arts as possible.

Make a **DONATION**

Donations are 100% tax deductible and donors will be recognized in Ocala Symphony concert programs throughout the year and receive VIP benefits. Donations do not include ongoing tangible benefits.

I wish to include the Ocala Symphony	Orchestra in my	planned giving
The OSO will send you a form that shares	syour intent to give	and membership
in the Legacy Circle!		

Become a **MEMBER** of the Reilly Arts Center

Memberships support arts and programming, and provide unique and tangible benefits that your family or company can enjoy all year long based on your giving level! Benefits last one year from when the membership is purchased. Members may consider the amount of their membership, minus tangible benefits (tickets, etc.) as tax deductible, as allowable by law.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS	Fan \$100	Friend \$1,000	Director \$5,000	Producer \$15,000
Early access to purchase tickets	5	5	5	5
Recognition in Ocala Symphony concert programs at level of giving	5	5	5	5
Pair of Season Subscription tickets		5	5	5
Additional complimentary tickets to Reilly events (Limit of 4 per show)		10	25	40
Complimentary tickets to regular Marion Theatre film programming		5	•	4
Access to the Reilly Arts Center Founders' Club at select events			5	5
Dedicated parking in the east parking lot at select events			•	5
Invitation to private reception hosted by the board president				5
Value in goods and services		\$350	\$875	\$1400

TO MAKE A DONATION OR **BECOME A MEMBER,** please indicate on your ticket order form (step 5 payment information), or process your membership online at www.reillyartscenter.com/support, or contact Natalie McComb, Executive Director at 352.351.1606, x102 or natalie@reillyartscenter.com.

2024-2025 Ticket Order Form



SELECT YOUR SEASON SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGE

Each Season Subscription Package includes a ticket to all six of the subscription concerts, and a complimentary ticket to the Young Artist Competition Honors Recital.

Same Seats	Change Seats New Subscriber	STAGE		
Seating Area	Saturdays at 7:30 PM Sundays at 3:00 PM QTY Total \$ QTY Total \$	LAT		
Tier A \$180		A		
Tier B \$156		B CLINE		
Tier C \$132		N N N		
Tier D \$75		CROSS AISLE		
Total Season Subscription Package \$				
Additional Seating	BALCONY			

2 SELECT YOUR SPECIAL CONCERTS

Same Seats as Subscription concerts

Seatin	g Area	Quantity	Total \$	
Red, V	Vhite and (Ocala Symphony Blue	Sun. 6/30/24 - 3 PM	
Tier A \$40	Tier B \$34			
Tier C \$28	Tier D \$15			
M	essiah Con	nmuity Sing-Along Sur	n. 11/24/24 - 5:00 PM	
Tier A \$40	Tier B \$34			
Tier C \$28	Tier D \$15			
Ode t	o Joy: Beetl	hoven's 9th Symphony Su	ın. 3/30/25 - 3:00 PM	
Tier A \$50	Tier B \$40			Total Special Concerts
Tier C \$35	Tier D \$20			\$
Addition	al Seating	Comments / Special Inst	tructions:	

Fill out page 15 to complete

Ticket Order Form (Continued)

To purchase tickets and give a donation, complete and mail order form to the Reilly Arts Center at 500 NE 9th St., Ocala, FL 34470.

You can also place your order by calling the box office at 352.351.1606 or visiting T-F, 10AM-2PM.

3 SUBSCRIBER IN	FORMAT	TION
Name(s)		
Address		
City	State	_ Zip
Phone		·
Email		
I wish to include the Ocala	Symphony Orch	estra in my planned giving
4 MEMBERSHIP se	ee page 13 for m	nembership information
I/we would like to become a member Payment is in	ncluded Pleas	se contact me for payment
Membership Level ■ Fan (\$100) ■ Friend (\$1,000) ■ D	irector (\$5,000)	Producer (\$15,000)
5 PAYMENT INFO	RMATIO	N
Total Season Subscription Package:		
Total Special Concerts:	\$	I have enclosed a check
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Charge amount to my credit card \$5 credit card processing fee will be added	l: Visa Mas	terCard Discover Amex
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Expiration Date/ Sec	curity Code (back	of card)
Name on Card (please print)		
Signature		
For donation, recognize me/us as:		

Your Orchestra

Making an Impact in Our Community

The Reilly and the Ocala Symphony's missions have always been larger than just making music and performances happen. We strive to impact the community around us – to leave a lasting impression on the hearts and souls of our neighbors.

OPEN REHEARSALS

e with the Conductor(s!)

Open Rehearsals give families and students an opportunity to enjoy the orchestra in a relaxed environment, while experiencing an educational, behind-the-curtain view on how a symphony prepares for a professional concert! These rehearsals are free and include

COFFEE WITH THE CONDUCTOR

Enjoy a cup of coffee with Matthew Wardell, Ocala Symphony conductor, as he leads an in-depth discussion about the pieces and composers that will be featured at the Ocala Symphony subscription concerts. Coffee with the conductor

is free, and you do not need a ticket to the concert to attend - but we think by the end of coffee you will want to be there to experience the music!

ACCESS FOR ALL

The Reilly Arts Center distributes more than 500 tickets to veteran, senior, mental health and child advocacy programs in Marion County annually. Our goal is to provide access for all to symphonic music, live performances, and more. The inspiration and healing power that comes from experiencing a live performance cannot be matched.

SYMPHONY FOR SCHOOLS

The Symphony for Schools program takes professional musicians into Marion County classrooms for a 30-minute presentation that's fun and educational! Musicians demonstrate orchestral instruments, perform music from Mozart to Moana, and get the students involved!

PARTNERSHIP WITH VETTIX

The Ocala Symphony Orchestra partners with VetTix to provide tickets to currently serving Military, Veterans and their Families as well as immediate family of troops KIA. Wounds of war, both mental and physical, can stay with our veterans the rest of their lives. Giving to our veterans and supporting the transitions back into their families and communities, is a gift of gratitude through music.

NATIONAL ARTISTS, REGIONAL ACTS, & MORE

A gift of the Lilac Foundation, the Community Music Conservatory, located at the Reilly Arts Center, features multiple teaching studios, professional staff and faculty, and performance spaces. Programming includes group classes and private instruction designed for students of all ages, backgrounds, and skill levels. Thanks to our generous donors, scholarships are available for students who demonstrate need and a desire to learn.

Learn more: www.reillvartscenter.com/community-conservatory

To learn more about upcoming rehearsals and these events, visit www.reillyartscenter.com/symphony/orchestra



The Reilly Arts Center Home of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra









The Reilly Arts Center Is Ocala's home for live entertainment and the home of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra.

The OSO was formed in 1975 and launched a capital fundraising campaign in 2013 to renovate the historic City Auditorium into what is now the Reilly Arts Center which opened in October 2015. The Reilly hosts more than 165 concerts and events annually. that range from the OSO to Grammy-Award winning musicians and community events. In 2022, the Reilly expanded to include the NOMA Black Box Theatre and the Ocala Symphony Community Music Conservatory. In 2021, the Reilly Arts Center group took over management of the historic Marion Theatre in downtown Ocala, presenting films and live performances for the community and quests to enjoy.

The Ocala Symphony Orchestra is a professional orchestra, directed by Matthew Wardell. As a nonprofit organization, the OSO, Reilly Arts Center, and all education programming is made possible by the generous support of donors, corporate sponsors and granting organizations.













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