



NEWPHILHARMONIC

Maestro Kirk Muspratt, Music Director and Conductor



Welcome to the MAC! Our entire staff is thrilled to have you here and we are grateful that you have chosen to invest your time in live entertainment and world-class culture in our community. We want to offer you a space to unwind and enjoy an evening filled with laughter, music, dance, or theatre. Our aim is to provide you with unique and inspiring opportunities to engage more deeply with the arts. Join us for a complimentary pre-show MAC Chat or Q&A following specific performances. Our arts center, located in a community college, and offers over 60 student productions supported by professional lighting, sound, and costumes. These can be enjoyed at affordable costs, or you can attend our FREE programs like Music Fridays at Noon and our free international global film series, Global Flicks in February. We hope to exceed your expectations with excellent service and special pre and post-show engagement opportunities. These will help you connect with the artists and art forms more deeply. While you are here, don't forget to visit the Cleve Carney Museum of Art in the lobby to experience cutting-edge contemporary art. You can also enjoy our full-service concession area and gift shop.

After your visit, please stay connected with us by joining us on Facebook (AtTheMAC) or subscribing to our e-newsletter to find out about added shows, events, and special offers (www.AtTheMAC.org). We challenge you to try something new at the MAC and expand your cultural palate. Come see the New Philharmonic Orchestra or a Buffalo Theater Ensemble Play. Or join us this summer for the Lakeside Summer Series. We are grateful for your presence here and we want to ensure that your visit is enjoyable. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to ask any of the staff and we will do our best to accommodate you.

We hope you have a wonderful time and look forward to entertaining you.

Enjoy the show!

Diana Martinez

Director, McAninch Arts Center



Dear Friends of New Philharmonic,

Speaking for not only myself, but for the splendid, talented musicians in our ensemble, I want to thank you sincerely for your support and care of our unique symphony orchestra.

At New Philharmonic, we strive to give you not only first-class performances, but also to create a family of people, both on and off the stage, in order that we all experience the miracle of music together. As musicians, we seek to honor the genius and wonder of the composers who have given their gift to each and every one of us. Please come and say "hello" to me after the concerts, so I can always best understand what you experienced, what you felt, and what you would like to relate back to us.



Kirk Muspratt, Artistic Director and Conductor

----- NEW PHILHARMONIC 2023-2024 SEASON ------

Tchaikovsky and Beethoven Saturday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, 3 p.m. Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto Beethoven: *Symphony No. 7* Esme Arias-Kim, violin

Sinatra Forever: A Salute to Frank Sinatra Saturday, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5, 3 p.m. Starring Rick Michel **New Year's Eve Concert** Sunday, Dec. 31, 1:30, 5 & 8:30 p.m. Richard Ollarsaba, bass-baritone

The Best of John Williams Saturday, Jan. 20, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21, 3 p.m.

Brahms Piano Concertos Nos. 1 and 2 Saturday, Apr. 13, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 14, 3 p.m. Wael Farouk, piano

For tickets and information, call (630) 942-4000 or visit AtTheMAC.org

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New Philharmonic Kirk Muspratt, Music Director and Conductor 47th Season 2023-2024

The Best of John Williams

Kirk Muspratt, Music Director and Conductor

Benjamin Nadel, Associate Conductor

with

Metea Valley Chamber Strings Mark Liu, Director

Sponsored by Frank Modruson & Lynne Shigley

Media Support provided by



This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

Superman March
Sayuri's Theme from Memoires of a Geisha
Viktor's Tale from The Terminal
A Prayer for Peace from Munich
Liberty Fanfare

Theme from Schindler's List

The Patriot

INTERMISSION

Raiders March from Raiders of the Lost Ark
Side by Side: Metea Valley Chamber Strings
Benjamin Nadel, Conductor

Devil's Dance from The Witches of Eastwick

Main Theme from Star Wars – Episode IV: A New Hope
Yoda's Theme from Star Wars – Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back
The Asteroid Field from Star Wars – Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back
Here They Come from Star Wars – Episode IV: A New Hope
Far and Away

Music by John Williams

Following the performance, please enjoy a complimentary cookie, sponsored by Brookdale Glen Ellyn.







Kirk Muspratt (Music Director and Conductor) recently received the Conductor of the Year award from the Illinois Council of Orchestras. He was also named "Chicagoan of the Year" in classical music by John von Rhein and the staff of the *Chicago Tribune*. In honoring Muspratt, von Rhein said, "Ask the delighted adults and kids who this year flocked to his concerts in west suburban Glen Ellyn with the New

Philharmonic Orchestra ... They will tell you he made concert going an interactive experience that was both enlightening and—are you ready?—fun."

Recognized as one of the outstanding figures in the new generation of conductors, Muspratt has garnered international critical acclaim as a "born opera conductor" (Rheinische Post), "a knowledgeable musician who delivers superbly controlled, gorgeously shaped readings" (St. Louis Post-Dispatch), and "friend to local music" (Midwest Beat Magazine). The Los Angeles Times declared, "Watch him!"

In July 2004, Muspratt was named both music director of New Philharmonic and artistic director/music director of DuPage Opera Theatre (now New Philharmonic Opera). In his last 15 years, productions featured Otello, Madama Butterfly, Le Nozze di Figaro, Il Barbiere di Seviglia, Hansel and Gretel, La Boheme, Faust, Tosca, The Beggars Opera, Elixir of Love, Turandot, Gianni Schicchi, Cosi fan Tutte, The Mikado, La Traviata and Die Fledermaus.

In 2017 and 2009, New Philharmonic was awarded Professional Orchestra of the Year by the Illinois Council of Orchestras.

In his first months at New Philharmonic, Muspratt instituted a Side-by-Side program for local high school students. Six years ago, Muspratt initiated a popular Solo Competition for Children that results in a child performing at every New Philharmonic concert. In order to involve the community to the maximum, Muspratt has created "Just Ask Kirk™" cards for audience members' questions and a "Kirkature™" cartoon to help advocate the credo: "Classical music is for everyone."

Muspratt begins his 21st acclaimed season as music director of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra (NISO). In 2006, with NISO, he initiated the South Shore Summer Music Festival.

From 1991 through 1996, Muspratt served as resident conductor to Lorin Maazel at the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Prior to that, he was appointed as associate conductor to Joseph Silverstein at the Utah Symphony Orchestra (1990-1992). From 1987 through 1990, Muspratt served as assistant conductor to Leonard Slatkin at the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra as well as music director of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. He was music director of

the Alberta Ballet from 1997 through 1999. At the New York Philharmonic, Muspratt has served as a cover conductor. During the 2018 and 2019 season Muspratt served as a guest conductor at the Joffrey Ballet.

In addition to his work in Pittsburgh, Utah and St. Louis, Muspratt has guest conducted the orchestras of Los Angeles, Montreal, London, Korean Broadcast Symphony, Detroit, Rochester, National Arts Center, Vancouver, Knoxville, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Hamilton, Victoria, Thunder Bay, New Orleans, Stamford, Binghamton, Lafayette, South Bend, Puchon, Annapolis, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra and Baltimore Chamber Symphony. Summer debuts have included the Tanglewood, Chautauqua and Sewanee Music Festivals and the Banff Center for Performing Arts.

In Europe, Muspratt was assistant conductor in the opera houses of Monchengladbach/ Krefeld, Germany, from 1985 to 1987. His American operaconducting debut came with the Utah Opera in 1991. He returned there to premiere Mascagni's *L'Amico Fritz*. Maestro Muspratt has conducted *Die Fledermaus* for the Calgary Opera, *Faust* and *Merry Widow* for the Utah Opera, *Of Mice and Men* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for the Arizona Opera, all to stunning critical acclaim. In addition, he debuted at the Ash Lawn-Highland Summer Opera Festival in Virginia. He returned to Arizona Opera to conduct their production of *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, to the Utah Opera for their new production of *Faust* and *Amahl and the Night Visitors* at Opera Illinois.

In 1983 and 1984, Muspratt was invited to be a scholarship student at the Chautauqua Institute and in 1986 was selected as a conducting fellow at the Aspen Music Festival. A year later, he was invited into the Conducting Program at the Tanglewood Festival. In 1988, he was chosen to be one of three conducting fellows for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute at the Hollywood Bowl.

As a teacher, Muspratt has taught at the Conductors' Institute of the University of South Carolina, the Conductors' Guild National Workshops, Association of Canadian Orchestras National Conference in Toronto, the Conductors' Studio at Illinois State University and at Westminster Choir College in Princeton. During the summer, he has often taught a graduate conducting class at VanderCook College of Music and for the last three summers has been teaching at the Northwestern University Summer Opera Seminar. In 2019, he taught graduate conducting master classes at Illinois State University and judged the concerto competition at Northwestern University.

Having always enjoyed working with young people, he has conducted the Pennsylvania Regional Orchestra and the Pennsylvania All-State Orchestra and most recently the IMEA District 9 orchestra. Muspratt has conducted the Boston University Tanglewood Orchestra at the Tanglewood Festival. Muspratt has been the recipient of numerous awards, among them grants from the

Canada Council and the Presser Foundation. In 1983 and again in 1984, he was winner of the Strauss Conducting Prize while a conducting student at the Vienna Conservatory. During his tenure in Utah, he received the first Utah Up 'n Comers Award ever given to a classical musician. This honor was awarded to Muspratt for his work and involvement in the Utah Arts Community. In 1987, he was named winner of the prestigious Exxon/Affiliate Artists Award.

He began his studies as a pianist in New York with Harold Zabrack and continued his studies at Temple University with Adele Marcus and Alexander Fiorillo. After completing graduate studies, Muspratt was accepted into the conducting program at the Konservatorium in Vienna, Austria.

Muspratt is a native of Crows Nest Pass, Alberta, Canada. He became an American citizen in the summer of 2010.

In 2016, he was honored to become a Paul Harris Fellow, an award named for the Rotary International Founder, Paul Harris.



Benjamin Nadel (Associate Conductor and Librarian) is a classically trained conductor, pianist, and violinist. Based in Chicago, he is the Associate Conductor and Orchestra Librarian for the New Philharmonic and Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra. In addition, he is the Orchestra Director at the Northwest Indiana Symphony Youth Orchestra and North Central College. Since he began these positions, Nadel has conducted a wide variety of programs

and has prepared hundreds of pieces across both the classical and pops repertoires.

Nadel began his conducting studies with Dr. Glenn Block at Illinois State University while completing his undergraduate degree in Music Education. He then went on to receive his MA in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Iowa with Dr. William LaRue Jones. While pursuing his degrees, he had the opportunity both assist and conduct several operatic productions, including Candide, La bohéme, La clemenza di Tito, and Iolanthe. He has participated in several summer music festivals, one of which was Cincinnati Conservatory's program as a part of the summer music festival in Spoleto, Italy.

From 2011 – 2015 Nadel spent his summers with the Midwest Institute of Opera, as the assistant conductor to Maestro Joshua Greene of the Metropolitan Opera. While there, he conducted productions of *Don Giovanni, Così fan tutte*, and *Carmen* in addition to assisting and coaching productions of *Die Zauberflöte* and *La Cenerentola*.

Aside from his work as a professional conductor, Nadel has a strong connection and personal interest to music education. He believes that one of the most

important aspects of being an artist is to pass along that experience and knowledge to the next generation of musicians. To that end, Nadel has worked with several high school ensembles in the Chicago area, including New Trier, Metea Valley, Glenbard West, Glenbard South, and Stevenson High School. His work has included side by side concerts with New Philharmonic. He has also led conducting workshops for the Opus Chamber Music camp, North Central College, and Illinois State University.

Metea Valley High School, located in Aurora, Illinois, enrolls 3,000 students and offers a wide array of curricular and co-curricular musical experiences. Since the opening of the school in 2009, the music program has built a strong sense of tradition and musical excellence. The music department has been recognized as a GRAMMY Signature School Finalist six times and acknowledged by the National Association of Music Merchants as one of the Best Communities for Music Education in America every year since 2012. Metea Valley High School was named a GRAMMY Signature Gold School in 2016, one of just three in the country to receive the honor.

Metea Valley Chamber Strings is a select string ensemble that offers an advanced orchestral experience through the study and performance of college level works for string and full orchestra, utilizing the most advanced wind and percussion students from the Wind Ensemble.

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Contact Thomas Stark at (630) 942-2391 or starkt1620@cod.edu.

For ADA accommodations, please email access@cod.edu with the event title in the subject line and your accommodation request. Please email two weeks in advance.



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Kirk Muspratt, Music Director and Conductor

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For information or to make a gift: (630) 942-3088 or foundation@codfound.org

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The Friends of the MAC is a family of those who have decided that a world-class performing and visual arts center should reside in their community. Ticket sales provide only 42 percent of our \$4 million operating budget. It is through the support of College of DuPage and through the generous gifts from patrons and local businesses that we can keep art in our museum and on our stages.

Your Gift to the MAC

- Brings nationally and internationally renowned artists to our community
- Supports our SchoolStage program that annually offers affordable arts experiences to thousands of schoolchildren
- Provides students and community members the opportunity to interact with artists
- Enhances quality of life in our community

Without the generous support of the Friends of the MAC, we would not be the beacon for the arts in DuPage County. We gratefully thank our friends, and we invite others to join them.

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Donor may choose to direct gifts to the Arts Center Endowment or the MAC-tastic Treat Seats – Tickets for Kids & Families Endowment. Donations made to these MAC Endowments, our "savings accounts," go into principal secured, invested accounts that will provide ongoing support for arts programs and arts accessibility for years to come.

The McAninch Arts Center and the College of DuPage Foundation can also provide you with information on planned giving options, gifts of stock, IRA Charitable Rollovers and other giving opportunities.

For complete details, visit the MAC Box Office or contact the College of DuPage Foundation at (630) 942-2462 or foundation@codfound.org.



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- Cameras and recording devices are not allowed in the theater and are prohibited by our contracts with the artists.
- Smoking is not permitted in the theater or on campus.
- For your comfort and security, all backpacks and large bags must be checked.
- Please turn off all cell phones and any other alarms while in the theater.
- Emergency phone number at COD Police Department for after-hour calls is (630) 942-2000.
- Latecomers seated at discretion of the House Manager.
- Groups of 10 or more may contact (630) 942-3026 or grouptix@cod.edu to arrange for group discounts.
- If you notice a spill in the theater, please notify an usher.

- McAninch Arts Center volunteers are people who assist the house staff in areas of ticket taking, ushering and general management during performances. To get involved, call (630) 942-3705.
- For Americans With Disabilities Act accommodations, call (630) 942-2141 (voice) or (630) 858-9692 (TDD).
- Infrared Assistive Listening Devices: For audience members who desire audio amplification of performances, headsets with individual volume controls are now available. You may check out the headsets at the Box Office with a driver's license. Underwritten by a generous gift from The Knowles Foundation.

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