

STRATHMORE NEWS

FALL || 20 ||
25 ||

Hauntings (& Encounters!)

The Mansion comes alive after dark

The Power of Partnerships

Strathmore shows up for
Burtonsville Day

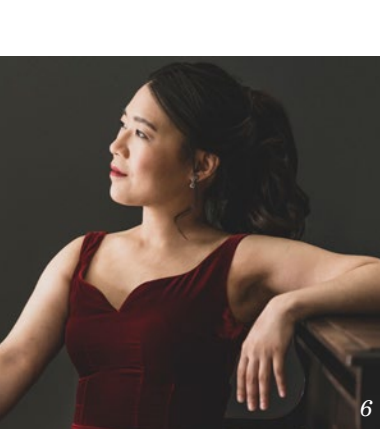
Icon & Legend

Shining a spotlight on
Broadway star Lea Salonga

Art with Heart

40 years of the Shop
at Strathmore

Plus, new shows on sale!



IN THIS ISSUE

Just Announced! In the Music Center	3
Music in the Mansion	6
40 Years of the Shop	8
SYC's Singing Ambassadors	10
Connecting with Community	11
Snapshots: Music Center Birthday Bash	13
Drawing for Art as a Cherished Tradition	14
Hauntings and More Exhibitions	16
Meet the 2026 AIR Class	18
Scrapbook: Broadway Leading Ladies	20
Q&A: Lea Salonga	21
Fall Calendar	22
Donor Spotlight	26
General Information	27

COVER PHOTO: Strathmore Mansion

INSIDE COVER PHOTOS L-R: Charlotte Hu by Dario Acosta, the Gift Shop at Strathmore by David Stuck, *The Witch* by Kara Lin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Christoph A. Syllaba
Chair
Mr. Theodore R. Goldstock
Vice Chair
Dr. Jean C. Accius II
Secretary
Ms. Karen R. Lefkowitz
Treasurer

Mr. J. Tyler Anthony
Ms. Cathy Bernard
Mr. Pete S. Briskman
Ms. Jessica Chod
Ms. Cynthia Cifuentes
Mr. Lewis H. Ferguson
Ms. Noreen B. Friedman
Ms. Linda A. Herman
Mr. Steven P. Hollman
Ms. Fariba Kassiri
Dr. William E. Kirwan
Mr. Marcel Lettre
Ms. Catherine S. Leggett
Mr. Bayo Oyewole
Mr. Peter Pratt
Mr. Edward J. Rich
Ms. Hope L. Brown Saxton
Dr. Deborah M. Smith
Ms. Kate Stewart
Mr. Benjamin H. Wu

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Mr. Eliot Pfanstiehl
Founder and CEO Emeritus
Mr. Charles A. Lyons
Chair Emeritus
Mr. Jerome W. Breslow
Honorary Trustee

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Monica Jeffries Hazangeles
President and CEO
Bess Amerman
Chief Financial Officer
Joi Brown
Artistic Director / Vice President of Programming
Lauren Campbell
Vice President of Education and Community Engagement
Drew Martorella
Chief Operating Officer
Heidi Onkst
Vice President of Advancement
Alaina Sadick Goss
Vice President of Communications and Marketing
Lesley Morris
Director of Mansion Galleries
Carlyle Smith
Senior Director of Information Technology

On Sale Sept 5



Finalists Concert & Awards Ceremony

Fri, April 24

Applications are open for the 2026 awards! For details on how musicians can apply for the contest and updates on when tickets for the concert go on sale, visit STRATHMORE.ORG/SONGWRITING



JUST ANNOUNCED!

These shows go on sale Fri, Sept 5. Buy early to get the best seats!

IN THE MUSIC CENTER

David Sedaris

Sun, Oct 26

New York Times bestselling author and beloved humorist shares poignant, hilarious stories from his latest book.



Angelique Kidjo

Thu, April 9

Grammy-winning artist blends West African roots with global sounds in a performance that celebrates tradition, collaboration, and change.



Eliades Ochoa

Sun, April 19

Grammy-winning guitarist and Buena Vista Social Club icon performs his new album rooted in Cuban folk tradition and powerful storytelling.



Fresh AIR

Wed, Nov 12

Strathmore's 2026 Artists in Residence class makes its debut in a dynamic evening of cross-genre collaborations.



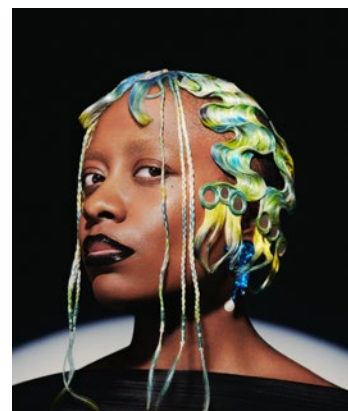
Strathmore & Washington Performing Arts Present

Cécile McLorin Salvant Book of Ayres

With the Brandee Younger Trio

Thu, June 11

Grammy-winning vocalist with a passion for storytelling, blending jazz, folk, country, and baroque influences.



Emmet Cohen Presents: Miles and Coltrane at 100

Sat, March 21

A high-energy tribute to jazz legends Miles Davis and John Coltrane in celebration of their 100th birthdays.



ON SALE NOW!

Big Head Todd and the Monsters

Tue, Feb 24

The Okee Dokee Brothers

Sun, March 22

Co-presented by Live Nation

Natalia Lafourcade Cancionera Tour

Tue, April 14 & Wed, April 15

... and many, many more.



The Okee Dokee Brothers by Nate Ryan,
Big Head Todd and the Monsters by
Kirsten Cohen, Natalia Lafourcade

DEEPEN YOUR EXPERIENCE!

Select performances throughout the season are part of our Windows series, which includes a free preshow event designed to deepen your experience. These companion programs, led by local artists and experts, offer context through lectures, discussions, or interactive events. Space may be limited, so buy early and RSVP today!

Disney's *Moana* Live-to-Film Concert

Sun, Oct 12

Maita'i Polynesian Arts Market

An eclectic marketplace highlighting the Polynesian community in Montgomery County.

Compagnie Herve KOUBI

Thu, Oct 30

Rhythms and Stories: Indian Classical Dance & Hip Hop with Chitra Subramanian

in partnership with CityDance

Lecturer: Chitra Subramanian, Indian American dancer, choreographer and educator

American Railroad: Silkroad Ensemble featuring Wu Man

Sun, Nov 16

American Railroad: Cultural Intersections Along a Ribbon of Steel

Lecturer: Rick Davis, Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at George Mason University

See website for additional American Railroad events!

RENT in Concert

Wed, Feb 25

Creating Community in Times of Change

Moderator: Phillip Alexander Downie, CEO of MoCo Pride Center

Ravi Shankar Ensemble

Thu, March 19

South Asian Arts Showcase

Immerse yourself in the sounds, rhythms, and artistic expressions that have shaped South Asian music.

Emmet Cohen Presents: Miles and Coltrane at 100

Sat, March 21

The Sound of Innovation: Miles, Coltrane, and the New Jazz Generation

Moderator: Omrao Brown, jazz curator and former owner of Bohemian Caverns

Eliades Ochoa

Sun, April 19

Eliades Ochoa and the Cuban Traditional Son

Lecturers: Marietta Ulacia, Executive Director of Belongó; Alberto Miranda, Cuban bassist

STRATHMORE.ORG/WINDOWS

MEMBERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Set the stage to ensure the arts thrive in our community! Join today as a Strathmore Stars or Circles member to deepen your connection at Strathmore and make an impact.

You'll enhance your experience with exclusive benefits.

- Member-only presales all year
- Free extended ticket exchanges
- Insider access
- Member-only events

And more!

Join today!

STRATHMORE.ORG/JOIN



Museums & Makers HOLIDAY MARKET

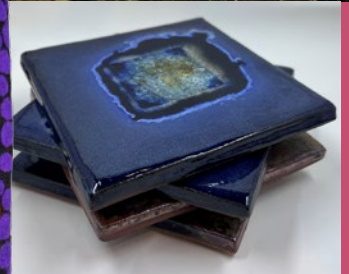
Thu-Sat, Nov 13-15, 10am-6pm

Same great event, fresh new name! Explore a wonderland of one-of-a-kind treasures while supporting local nonprofits, artists, and cultural institutions at our annual marketplace.

MANSION

RSVP today!

STRATHMORE.ORG/MARKET



MUSIC *in the* MANSION

Join us in the Mansion for intimate concerts by soloists and small ensembles with unforgettable style

Brandon Patrick George & Leah Claiborne

Thu, Sept 4, 7:30pm—sold out!

Flute and piano duo celebrates Black composers

André Mehmarí Trio

Thu, Sept 25, 7:30pm—sold out!

Brazilian traditions meet jazz and classical

Benjamin Appl, baritone & James Baillieu, piano

Thu, Oct 30, 7:30pm

Celebrated vocalist performs art songs

Jesse & Kevin*

Thu, Nov 6, 7:30pm—sold out!

Duo brings Scottish and Irish music to life

From China to Appalachia: Cathy Fink, Marcy Marxer & Chao Tian*

Sun, Nov 9, 4pm & 7pm

Cross-cultural fusion of global folk music

The Thirteen

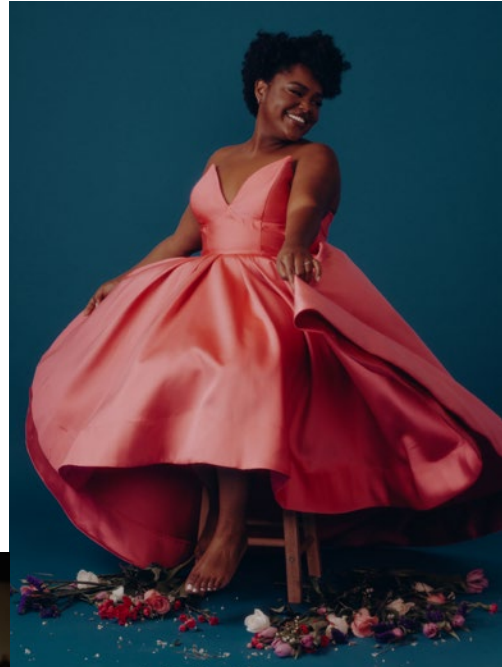
Thu, Nov 20, 7:30pm

Vocal quartet explores music inspired by nature

Lily Henley with Duncan Wickel

Thu, Dec 11, 7:30pm—sold out!

Sephardic ballads reimagined with fiddle



Lorelei Ensemble: Frost and Fire

Sun, Dec 14, 4pm & 7pm

Winter songs for treble voices

Christie Dashiell*

Sun, Jan 18, 4pm & 7pm

Grammy-nominated vocalist reshaping jazz

Hermitage Piano Trio

Thu, Jan 22, 7:30pm—limited tickets left!

Celebrated chamber music ensemble with broad repertoire



L–R: Brandon Patrick George by Marco Borggrev, Leah Claiborne by Valeriia Photography, Christie Dashiell, Lily Henley by Ally Schmaling, Lily Neill by Steve Parke, Sons of Town Hall, Overlook Quartet by Harold Levine, Miramar by Chris Smith

Dorian Wind Quintet

Thu, Feb 5, 7:30pm—limited tickets left!

Classical ensemble expanding woodwind repertoire

Dublin Guitar Quartet

Sun, Feb 15, 4pm & 7pm

Boundary-pushing classical guitar

Sons of Town Hall

Sun, Feb 22, 4pm & 7pm

Folk music meets mythic storytelling

Miramar

Thu, Feb 26, 7:30pm

A fresh take on classic boleros

Lily Neill*

Thu, March 5, 7:30pm

Innovative harpist defies musical expectations

Overlook Quartet

Thu, March 12, 7:30pm

String ensemble reimagines chamber music

Tord Gustavsen Trio

Sun, March 29, 4pm & 7pm

Reflective blend of Nordic folk and jazz

Charlotte Hu, piano

Thu, April 2, 7:30pm

Classical pianist honoring women composers

Biribá Union

Sun, April 12, 4pm & 7pm

Dynamic trio fusing global rhythms

Seating is limited, and tickets are selling fast.

Get yours today at

STRATHMORE.ORG/MIM

*Former Strathmore Artist in Residence



Strathmore extends its gratitude to Live Better Hearing + Balance for supporting the Music in the Mansion series.



WHERE ART MEETS HEART

The Shop at Strathmore celebrates four decades of creativity and community

By Laura Farmer

Tucked inside the historic Mansion at Strathmore, the Shop at Strathmore has become a beloved destination for unique finds and warmth and wonder infusing every shelf. This year, as the Shop celebrates its 40th anniversary, longtime patrons, volunteers, and staff reflect on how a modest corner grew into a vibrant haven of handcrafted artistry and community.

Founded in 1984 in the Mansion's pantry, the Shop began as a small consignment space initiated by Kitty Barclay, Strathmore's first docent, to earn revenue for the institution. It started humbly, with a minimal inventory of accessories and small décor items managed entirely by volunteers.

Over the years, the Shop evolved and expanded from the tiny pantry to an unoccupied office space and then, in 1997, to a newly renovated, dedicated retail space. A few years later, continued success allowed expansion into the adjacent gallery.

Today's Shop features more than 200 artists, offering everything from wearable art and entertaining essentials to music-themed kitchen tools and whimsical children's toys. Among its exclusive offerings is Strathmore's Signature Blend Tea, created specially by Master Tea Blender John Harney and served at the Mansion's Afternoon Tea events.



The collection is curated by Charlene McClelland, whose decades-long journey with Strathmore—from high school intern to volunteer to director of the Mansion—reflects a deep love of creative expression and community. Even after retirement, Charlene continues as the Shop's buyer and merchandiser, having shaped much of its evolution. She describes the Shop's mission as “retail with a purpose,” with items carefully chosen to bring joy while fostering a rich community of artists and support for Strathmore's arts and education programs.

“I get excited listening to people show each other what they've found,” McClelland says. “When I witness customers connecting over a shared appreciation for a unique item, that is really meaningful to me. We support artists in earning a living, helping them get something in return for their creativity and hard work.”

That spirit keeps customers like Janey Richards, a devoted Strathmore volunteer since 2009, coming back. “It is the best shop I've ever been in,” she says. “They just have wonderful things. You can buy something

really special for someone and not break the bank at all. It just feels like there's always a discovery there."

Richards particularly enjoys the Shop's collection of joyful pop-up flower cards, imaginative puppets, and accessories by regional artists. "It's great to know who made it, where they were from, what's the story behind it," she says.

Jill Gendleman, who has worked at the Shop for 36 of its 40 years, started as a volunteer and quickly found herself woven into the Mansion's fabric. "People comment how much this is like a museum. Every nook and cranny have something lovely and creative," she says. For Gendleman, the Shop is a form of therapy—for customers and for herself. "I used to do personal counseling, now I do retail therapy! I've always been in the helping profession, and that's what keeps me here: people really appreciate me helping them." Many regulars know Gendleman by name and even call ahead to see when she's working. "We're always laughing in here. Customers hug me all the time."

The Shop at Strathmore isn't just a place to buy merchandise; it's a place to feel seen, inspired, and cared for. Whether you're simply browsing or hunting for the perfect present, you're likely to walk out with something more: a connection to the people and programs that are hallmarks of Strathmore. For many

customers like Richards, the Shop also serves as a gateway to Strathmore's broader arts programming, a mission that extends beyond the Mansion's walls through an online store.

As McClelland puts it, the Shop at Strathmore is filled with positive energy. "From the salespeople working with customers to get just the right gift, to talking to artists about their work, I think it makes a difference—and I think you can feel it."

STRATHMORE.ORG/SHOP

CURRENT SHOP HOURS

Tue–Fri: 12–4pm

Sat: 10am–3pm

Sun–Mon: CLOSED



YOUNG LEADERS FIND THEIR VOICE

The New Strathmore Youth Chorus Singing Ambassadors program empowers high schoolers to make an impact

By Marilyn Millstone

When 16-year-old Strathmore Youth Chorus (SYC) member Sofia Veshi heard about a new leadership program, she jumped at the chance to apply. “I’ve been a chorister for almost a decade,” explains Sofia. “I wanted some way to give back and involve myself more, especially as graduation draws nearer.”

Launched in January, SYC Singing Ambassadors enables select SYC high-school choristers to assist with younger ensembles, from leading vocal warm-ups to helping students navigate challenging sections of music.

“Ambassadors make the rehearsal process much more efficient and engaging. They can give individualized help to young choristers, so the director can stay focused on the holistic growth of the larger group,” says SYC Production Manager Rachel Borczuch, who created the program. “Our directors love having them in the room.”

The feeling is mutual. “I’ve gotten to know many Treble Chorus members on a personal level,” says Heidi Gohari, a sophomore with seven years in SYC. “After one rehearsal, the choristers were all talking to me at once. Whether it was about something they thought was funny during the rehearsal or something in their personal lives that bothered them, they found that sharing it with me was important.”



Sofia also finds these connections with younger choristers deeply satisfying. It’s especially meaningful watching her seven-year-old sister join the children’s choir. Becoming an ambassador, she explains, “feels as though my journey as a singer here at Strathmore has gone full circle.”

For Borczuch, seeing these young leaders develop confirms her belief that arts programs should amplify youth voices both on and off stage. She’s proud of the inaugural class of 10 ambassadors and hopes to expand the program.

“We’ve already invited ambassadors to a staff meeting, where they started proposing ideas for SYC programming,” says Borczuch. She’d love to see all youth programs at Strathmore offer similar opportunities for student leadership.

With this promising start, the possibilities for this arts education program seem limitless.

Strathmore extends its gratitude to the Marinus and Minna B. Koster Foundation for generously supporting Strathmore Youth Chorus.

THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

Burtonsville Day showcases Strathmore's commitment to bringing the arts directly to Montgomery County communities

By Barbara Ruben

On September 20, marching bands, floats, and local luminaries will step off from Paint Branch High School in Burtonsville and make their way down Old Columbia Pike to the Marilyn J. Praisner Library and Community Recreation Center. At the Burtonsville Day festival grounds, parade participants will be greeted by dozens of local organizations, businesses, and food trucks. On the performance stage, Strathmore Artist in Residence alum Dante' Pope will kick off the celebration.

"I don't know exactly what I'll perform yet, but as a soul artist and drummer, it'll be a cross-genre performance that speaks to all generations," says Pope, who has toured with the Americana strings band Old Crow Medicine Show.

Like Pope's music, which aims to reach a wide-ranging audience, Strathmore's involvement in Burtonsville Day reflects its mission to provide meaningful arts experiences that enrich individuals and strengthen communities.





Strathmore's partnership with Burtonsville Day started in 2015, the same year it launched its East County Strings program and Step Up to College program with Paint Branch High School. "One of our values is to be engaged not just on our Music Center campus, but throughout the county," says Pablo de Oliveira, Strathmore's education and community engagement manager. "We prioritize being present in East County to co-create quality arts experiences with these communities."

This philosophy extends beyond traditional arts programming, with Strathmore participating in events like MoCo Green Fest to build connections across all sectors. The strategy reflects meeting people where they are, rather than expecting residents to travel to North Bethesda.

Each year, Strathmore provides the sound system and advises Burtonsville Day organizers on artist selection. This year's lineup includes Pope and 2013 Artist in Residence alum Deborah Bond, a celebrated singer and voice-over artist.

Since 1991, Burtonsville Day has united East County's diverse communities, according to festival director Peter Myo Khin. While the event began as a celebration of Burtonsville itself, it has grown to encompass neighboring areas such as Hillandale,

White Oak, Briggs Chaney, Colesville, Cloverly, and Spencerville. This year's theme, Building a Better Community Together, underscores that mission. Attendance has grown to more than 5,000 residents annually, and Khin says Strathmore has been pivotal in helping broaden the festival's musical offerings. Before partnering with Strathmore, the music selection was one-dimensional, but now festivalgoers enjoy a range of styles—from hip-hop to rock and everything in between.

"We discuss the needs of the community in terms of arts," de Oliveira explains. "We find artists and formats that serve their needs. At last year's Burtonsville Day, we also incorporated local dance troupes, so they're part of the performance and feel special. It's a collaborative effort that speaks to their tastes but still has a Strathmore flavor to it."

In addition to impacting the community, Strathmore's boots-on-the-ground approach also transforms individual lives. De Oliveira recalls connecting a parent of a child with autism at Burtonsville Day to Strathmore's sensory-friendly programming and free ticket programs. The family now regularly attends performances at the Music Center, gaining access to arts experiences that wouldn't otherwise be available to them.

For de Oliveira, these types of partnerships succeed because they put a human face on Strathmore for East County residents who might otherwise see it as distant or exclusive. "We are in North Bethesda, a very wealthy region, and the name somehow conveys like we're in England," de Oliveira jokes. "But when people get to talk to our staff at these festivals, when they see we have a sense of humor and are community-oriented, it makes a difference. It puts a friendly face to the organization—a connection they may not have otherwise understood to be there."

Burtonsville Day

Sat, Sept 20

**MARILYN J. PRAISNER LIBRARY &
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER**

14906 Old Columbia Pike
Burtonsville, MD 20866

BURTONSVILLEDAY.ORG

STRATHMORE *Snapshots*

BIRTHDAY BASH

On February 8, our community gathered to mark a major milestone—the Music Center’s 20th birthday! It was a lively and festive celebration, complete with musical performances, art activities, and family fun!

Strathmore extends its gratitude to Pepco for generously supporting our Birthday Bash.



Photos by Liz Lynch

THE ART OF TRADITION

One family discovers that collecting original artwork is about more than decoration

By Julianne Garnett

Jon Gerson's interest in handmade art started when he was young by attending craft shows with his mother. She helped him understand the difference between mass-produced pottery and pieces shaped by hand and to notice the careful craftsmanship in wood furniture and textiles.

"She was the genesis for my love of handcrafted art," says Gerson.

Those early lessons stuck with him. As a teenager, Gerson started collecting art himself. When he got his first home, he continued collecting. And when

he married Susan and had his son Eliot, it became something the whole family did together. Today, their Kensington home displays a diverse collection spanning stained glass, sculptures, fiber art, and paintings, many of which came from Strathmore's Drawing for Art event.

The Gerson family has been attending Drawing for Art since it started in the early 1990s. Artists donate original pieces, which get raffled off to attendees for just the cost of the ticket—around \$100. It's a way for art lovers to get high-quality works at an accessible price while supporting Strathmore's visual art programs.



Susan, Jon, Eliot, and Hilary Gerson at Drawing for Art
Artwork: Maureen Melville, *Hawks*



Gerson and his son Eliot admiring artwork at Drawing for Art

“Drawing for Art is for a great cause,” says Gerson. “We have almost always come home with something that’s a good match for our collection.”

Their selection process has become a ritual. Weeks before each event, family members visit Strathmore’s Mansion to preview the works, each ranking favorites according to personal taste. With such diverse preferences, they often buy multiple tickets to avoid “heated negotiation,” Gerson laughs.

As their collection has grown, wall space is now at a premium; they’ve shifted toward stained glass pieces and sculptures that can be displayed on existing furniture. “One of us would really have to make the case for a 2-D wall piece,” Gerson jokes.

Some pieces have ended up in other homes, too. In 2010, knowing that Strathmore founder

Eliot Pfanstiehl’s family really wanted a metal music scale wall piece, the Gersons chose it specifically as a gift when their number was drawn early. Gerson had worked at Strathmore in its early days as one of the original employees, so he and Pfanstiehl were longtime friends and colleagues.

Certain works hold special meaning. A 3-D pottery mask by polymer artist Carol Zilliacus has been his son Eliot’s favorite since childhood. A Chinese brush painting by Nellie Chao connects to the family’s previous admiration for the artist’s work.

For Gerson, collecting art is still about creativity and family connection, just like those early craft fair trips with his mother. He’s passed the tradition down to Eliot, now in his early 30s, who’s started bringing the important people in his life to Drawing for Art. “Drawing for Art provides texture and color,” Gerson reflects, “along with the opportunity for people in our community to connect with one another.”



Gerson home



Drawing for Art auction and reception

EXHIBITIONS

SEPT 2-17

Event & Drawing: Wed, Sept 17

Drawing for Art

Each \$125 ticket includes entry into a special event, with ticket holders randomly selected to choose an original artwork to take home. Every participant leaves with a piece, and proceeds support Strathmore's visual arts programs.

OCT 4-NOV 8

Opening Reception: Sat, Oct 4, 1-3pm

Women Artists of the DMV

Curated by Lenny Campello

A celebration of local female artists' creativity, highlighting a dynamic blend of established and emerging talent from the DMV's diverse arts scene.

Hauntings

Beware, visitors! The galleries grow eerie with an artistic exploration of the macabre, paranormal, and things that go bump in the night. Strathmore's historic Mansion sets the scene for goosebumps and suspense, with artwork inspired by ghost stories and midnight sightings. Explore shadowy landscapes, spectral portraits, and fantastical creatures. Prepare to be haunted, beguiled, and transfixed.

See page 17 for details on *Hauntings* and the many ways to explore the Mansion's spooky side this season, including art, events, and eerie encounters.

MANSION HOURS

Tue-Fri: 12-4pm

Sat: 10am-3pm

Sun-Mon: Closed

FREE ADMISSION



Orquevaux 1, from Women Artists of the DMV exhibition by Lea Craigie-Marshall

NOV 22-JAN 10

Opening Reception: Sat, Nov 22, 1-3pm

Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, DC

Fine Art in Miniature

Now in its 92nd year, this annual exhibition brings together nearly 700 small works from around the world, each displaying extraordinary detail and craftsmanship.

STRATHMORE.ORG/EXHIBITIONS

Hauntings (& Encounters!)

As the nights grow longer and shadows stretch across the Mansion's halls, we invite you to a season of mysterious delights. Centered around *Hauntings*, a ghostly and gorgeous new exhibition, the Mansion becomes a place to celebrate the thinning of the veil through artful, eerie encounters this autumn.

EXHIBITION RUNS OCT 4–NOV 8

Halloween Pet Parade

Sat, Oct 11, 11am–1pm

Bring your four-legged friend for some frightful fun, featuring a spooktacular costume parade (with prizes!), a pet photo booth, and more.

Midnight Tea

Fri, Oct 24, 9pm–11pm

As shadows stretch across the storied Mansion, this ghostly gathering reimagines Strathmore's beloved Afternoon Tea as a decadent after-dark experience.

A Live Music Screening of *Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror* (1922)

Sat, Nov 1, 7:30pm

Join us for a spine-tingling screening of this silent film classic, accompanied by live musicians from Strathmore's Artists in Residence program.

The Gothic Color Palette

Wed, Nov 5, 7:30pm

In this chilling lecture, artist Glen Kessler reveals his top five scariest artworks from the Western canon, sharing unnerving backstories and the artistic techniques behind their macabre mood.



L–R: *Skull Jug* by Phil Haralam, *Midnight Tea*, *The Lost Lenore* by Maud Taber-Thomas

Learn more and get tickets at
STRATHMORE.ORG/HAUNTINGS



Meet the 2026 ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE CLASS

Introducing the 21st cohort of rising local musicians



MICHAEL MCSWEENEY (January 2026) is a percussionist, bandleader, educator, and arts administrator whose performance career spans the US, Ghana, Trinidad, Colombia, and Bali. He brings expertise in salsa, Afro-Cuban and Ewe drumming, rock, pop, steel pan, jazz, classical, and global fusion. Since 2016, he has led the Chicago- and DMV-based band Costas Colectivo and regularly performs with local groups including Son Cubano Subterráneo, Avenue 66, and Panjung Duo. Known for his collaborative spirit, Michael explores culturally rooted musical traditions and their creative boundaries. His debut album, *Lienzos* by Salsa del Norte, was released in May 2019.

Paired with AIR donors Jeff Menick[♪], Richard & Melba Reichard[♪], and Marilyn & Barrie Ripin[♪]



Trumpeter **CYRUS MACKEY** (February 2026) grew up in Chicago and was introduced to jazz by his grandfather, who shared the music of Miles Davis, Lee Morgan, Jimmy Smith, and Herbie Hancock with him. Cyrus studied at the Chicago High School for the Arts before transferring to Dillard Center for the Arts, where his jazz band won first place at the 2018 Essentially Ellington Competition. That same year, he toured Europe with Carnegie Hall's National Youth Jazz Orchestra and was named a 2019 National YoungArts Foundation Finalist in Jazz/Trumpet. A student of jazz masters, including Nicholas Payton, Sean Jones, Roy Hargrove, and Wynton Marsalis, Cyrus continues growing as an artist while working in sound design and music production.

Paired with AIR donors Tina & Art Lazerow, Howard & Dorothy Pedolsky, and Myrna Sislen

See our newest resident artists share
the stage for the very first time at

FRESH AIR

Wed, Nov 12

THE MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE

STRATHMORE.ORG/AIR

*Program supported in part by Cathy Bernard / Bernard Family
Foundation[♪] and Carol & Joe Danks[♪]*

In-kind support provided by  **Seasons 52**
FRESH GRILL

♪Strathmore graciously thanks our AIR Champions for their multi-year commitments and their above-and-beyond support of the AIR program.



CHRIS HON (March 2026) is a DC-based keyboardist and multi-instrumentalist whose sound spans jazz, R&B, neo-soul, pop, and electronic music. Originally from Los Angeles, he earned a bachelor's degree in jazz and commercial music from Cal State Fullerton and a law degree from The George Washington University. Chris blends his jazz training with curiosity for synths and sound design, honoring tradition while exploring fresh soundscapes. He performs with artists including The JoGo Project, Cecily, and bëheld, with appearances at Blues Alley, 9:30 Club, Keystone Korner, and NPR's Tiny Desk.

Paired with AIR donors Karen Deasy♫, Hope Eastman & Allen Childs♫, and Karen Lefkowitz & Al Neyman♫



Cellist **ELLEN GIRA** (April 2026) blends the rich traditions of Scottish, Irish, and Old-Time music with her classical training. A native of the DC area, she spent seven years in Glasgow, Scotland, performing, teaching, and earning a PhD and master's in Scottish music from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She has toured as part of the acclaimed duo Jocelyn Pettit & Ellen Gira, whose debut album, *All It Brings*, won Traditional Album of the Year at the 2024 Canadian Folk Music Awards. Ellen also performs with Vandalia, a string band offering a fresh take on Appalachian Old-Time music. Highlights include appearances at Celtic Connections and Celtic Colours International Festival as well as performances for BBC Radio and HRH King Charles III.

Paired with AIR donors Daniel & Sarah Gallagher♫, Ellen & Michael Gold♫, Linda & Van Hubbard♫, and Ava Kaufman♫



JUAN MANÚ (May 2026) is a Latin-folk instrumentalist and singer-songwriter based in Washington, DC. Originally from the border city of El Paso, Texas, his music celebrates his Mexican heritage and Tejano culture. Most of Juan's songs are in Spanish, with English and a range of Latin and American influences woven throughout. He has more than a decade of training in both classical solo and orchestral violin, as well as 10 years of experience performing mariachi vocals, violin, and guitar. Through his work, Juan brings a distinct social perspective, using traditional genres and folkloric stages to uplift queer voices and stories.

Paired with AIR donors Jean & Michael Hoyt♫, J. Alberto Martinez & Anna Pigotti♫, and Jamie & Jessica McIntyre♫



A versatile vocalist, songwriter, and actress, **KANYSHA** (June 2026) graduated from Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, DC, before studying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and earning her Bachelor of Music from George Mason University. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and across the DC theater scene, including Arena Stage, Signature Theatre, and Round House Theatre. Kanysha's original music, including the singles "Alive" and "Kiss Me," is available on all streaming platforms. She also co-hosts the podcast Downstage Center and is an active music educator in the DC area.

Paired with AIR donors Bayo & Funke Oyewole♫, Dale Rosenthal & Michael Cutler♫, Carolyn & Marty Shargel♫, and Steven & Irene White♫

STRATHMORE *Scrapbook*

BROADWAY'S LEADING LADIES AT STRATHMORE

Over the past two decades, Strathmore's stages have welcomed some of Broadway's greatest female legends. This December, that tradition continues with Tony Award winner Lea Salonga! (See page 21 for a Q&A with Salonga!)



FROM ALADDIN TO 80s ANTHEMS

Lea Salonga brings music from the “Stage, Screen & Everything in Between” to Strathmore

By PJ Feinstein

Broadway legend and Disney icon Lea Salonga returns to the Music Center at Strathmore this December for a performance that promises to be as genre-spanning as her remarkable career. A trailblazer for representation in entertainment, Salonga was the first Asian actress to win a Tony, for *Miss Saigon* in 1991, and the first to play the role of Éponine in 1993’s *Les Misérables*. Fans may also recognize her as the singing voice of *Aladdin*’s Princess Jasmine and Mulan.

In our conversation, Salonga reveals backstage rituals, shares her favorite holiday song, and makes a surprising confession about a classic 80s film.

Q: What do you remember about performing at Strathmore?

A: I remember wood, so much wood! The first time I stepped out on the stage for a rehearsal, the whole house was empty, and everything was just bathed in very bright light. It felt welcoming and warm, and everyone was so hospitable and lovely.

Q: Do you have any backstage routines or good luck charms?

A: I do a warm-up, put my face on, put my costume on, get my microphone, and then head down to the stage and wait for the show to start. It’s pretty basic. I don’t have a full crazy ritual that gets me ready—although I do keep an elephant or two in my dressing room. My aunt gave me my first one, and she said the trunk needs to point towards the stage and be up for good luck. I’ve been collecting them ever since.



Q: Do you have a favorite song from your concert setlist?

A: I think when I launch into “Don’t You (Forget About Me)” from *The Breakfast Club*. Oh my gosh, that’s fun. This is my childhood.

Full disclosure, I still haven’t seen the movie! I know, right? I mean, I’ve seen *Pretty in Pink* and *16 Candles*. I’ve seen quite a lot of movies from that era—I’ve seen *St. Elmo’s Fire*. I never saw *The Breakfast Club*, which is ridiculous and wrong. I’m sorry! I’m sure I can catch it on YouTube or one of the streaming services!

Q: You’re visiting us at the start of the holiday season. Is there a song that always puts you in the holiday spirit?

A: I know that the minute I hear “All I Want for Christmas” by Mariah Carey, the holiday season is beginning in earnest. That’s the hard launch of the holidays—we know it’s Christmas when we hear her voice.

Tickets on sale now!

Lea Salonga
Stage, Screen &
Everything in Between
Sat, Dec 6

Visit the website for an extended interview!

STRATHMORE.ORG/NEWS

FALL CALENDAR

Strathmore Exhibitions

Drawing for Art

Tue–Wed, Sept 2–17

This special event invites ticketholders to browse gallery works and leave with original art while supporting Strathmore's visual arts programs.

MANSION

Strathmore Presents

Flutist Brandon Patrick George & Pianist Leah Claiborne

Thu, Sept 4, 7:30pm—sold out!

MANSION

Strathmore and Mission Belonging Present

United Against Silence Poetry and Performances Community Showcase

Fri, Sept 12, 7pm

An evening of poetry and performances by the Mission Belonging Community, hosted by Seema Reza.

MANSION

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Beethoven X Beyoncé | Steve Hackman's BSO Fusion

Steve Hackman, *Conductor*

Fri, Sept 12, 8pm

In an all-new blend of pop/R&B's queen and classical music's king, Hackman weaves 15 of Beyoncé's chart-topping hits into Beethoven's Seventh Symphony.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Presents

An Evening with Dante' Pope: A Tribute to Sam Cooke

Sat, Sept 13, 5pm

A soulful concert featuring music by Sam Cooke, plus original songs and selections by fellow Chicago legends such as Curtis Mayfield and Donny Hathaway.

GOOD HOPE NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION CENTER

Strathmore and Mission Belonging Present

A Day of Belonging

Sat, Sept 13, 9am–4pm

A day of professionally facilitated expressive arts workshops, as well as performances and readings showcasing the work and talent of artists from the military and veteran communities.

ROCKWOOD MANOR RETREATS & EVENTS

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Gala Celebration

Jonathon Heyward, *Conductor*
Joshua Bell, *Violin*

FARRENC Overture No. 1
SAINT-SAËNS Violin Concerto No. 3
MASSENET "Méditation" from *Thaïs*
BIZET Selections from *Carmen* Suites

Fri, Sept 19, 8pm

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore and Mission Belonging Present

Virtual Creative Writing Workshops

Thu, Sept 18, Oct 16 & Nov 20, 7pm

In this series of workshops, accomplished contemporary authors offer perspectives on their craft and guide participants through a series of writing prompts.

ONLINE

NatPhil Presents

Celebration: Coleridge-Taylor & Tchaikovsky

Michael Repper, *Conductor*

Sat, Sept 20, 7:30pm

NatPhil begins the season with a concert celebrating the music of three timeless composers—and the release of NatPhil's first studio album of works by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, conducted by Repper featuring violinist Curtis Stewart.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Presents

An Evening with Elizabeth Gilbert

Sun, Sept 21, 7pm

The author of ten books—including *Eat Pray Love* and *Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear*—discusses her latest release, *All the Way to the River*.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Presents

Black Violin Full Circle Tour With Amythyst Kiah

Thu, Sept 25, 7:30pm

Grammy-nominated, genre-defying duo blends classical and hip-hop in a performance celebrating resilience, growth, and the return to one's roots.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Presents

André Mehmar Trio

Thu, Sept 25, 7:30pm—sold out!

MANSION

Strathmore Presents

Hiromi's Sonicwonder

Fri, Sept 26, 8pm

A genre-blurring jazz fusion performance featuring a virtuoso pianist and electric quartet blending funk, rock, classical, and pop influences.

MUSIC CENTER

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Heyward's Triumphant Beethoven

Jonathon Heyward, *Conductor*

Inon Barnatan, *Piano*

Stefan Jackiw, *Violin*

Hayoung Choi, *Cello*

IMAN HABIBI *Jeder Baum spricht "Every Tree Speaks"*
BEETHOVEN Triple Concerto
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 7
Sat, Sept 27, 8pm

MUSIC CENTER

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Jurassic Park In Concert

Jack Everly, *Conductor*

Fri, Oct 3, 7:30pm

The action-packed adventure of *Jurassic Park* pits man against prehistoric predators. Experience the film projected in HD with the BSO performing John Williams' iconic score live to picture.

Jurassic Park is a trademark and copyright of Universal Studios and Amblin Entertainment, Inc. Licensed by Universal Studios. All rights reserved.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Exhibitions

Opening Reception

Sat, Oct 4, 1pm

Mingle with other art lovers to celebrate the opening of our fall exhibitions.

MANSION

Strathmore Presents

Not Dead Yet! John Cleese and the Holy Grail at 50

Sat, Oct 4, 7:30pm—sold out!

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Exhibitions

Women Artists of the DMV Curator Lenny Campello

Oct 4–Nov 8

A celebration of local female artists' creativity, highlighting a dynamic blend of established and emerging talent from Maryland, Virginia, and DC's diverse arts scene.

MANSION

Strathmore Exhibitions

Hauntings

Oct 4–Nov 8

An ode to ghost stories and midnight sightings, this exhibition invites guests to explore the eerie and paranormal through paintings, sculptures, and chilling installations.

MANSION

*Strathmore Presents***Lizz Wright***Sun, Oct 5, 7pm*

A richly expressive voice shines in a soulful performance shaped by gospel, jazz, and the musical traditions of the American South.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Presents***Ludovico Einaudi: The Summer Portraits Tour***Tue, Oct 7, 8pm—sold out!***MUSIC CENTER***Strathmore Presents***Joss Stone
Less is More***Thu, Oct 9, 8pm*

Powerful vocalist plays a pared-down and emotional setlist highlighting her rich voice and heartfelt storytelling.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Presents***Soweto Gospel Choir—Peace***Fri, Oct 10, 8pm*

The South African a cappella ensemble shares uplifting messages of peace, hope, and love through harmony, song, and dance.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Exhibitions***Halloween Pet Parade***Sat, Oct 11, 11am–1pm*

Bring your four-legged friend for a spooktacular pet parade, eerie photo ops, and prizes for best costume and best human–pet duo!

STRATHMORE LAWN*Strathmore Presents***An Evening with
Alex Hamburger***Sat, Oct 11, 5pm*

A flute-led, genre-blending concert honoring women composers and songwriters through jazz, Brazilian music, folk, and more.

**GOOD HOPE NEIGHBORHOOD
RECREATION CENTER***Baltimore Symphony Orchestra***Stravinsky Ballets &
Iberian Tales**

Joana Carneiro, *Conductor*
Rafael Aguirre, *Guitar*

STRAVINSKY Suite from
Pulcinella

RODRIGO *Concierto de Aranjuez*
ANDREIA PINTO CORREIA

Cortejo (East Coast premiere)

STRAVINSKY Divertimento
from *The Fairy's Kiss*

*Sat, Oct 11, 8pm***MUSIC CENTER***Strathmore Presents***Disney's Moana
Live-to-Film Concert
The North American Tour***Sun, Oct 12, 2pm & 6pm* 

Experience a live film screening with an ensemble of Hollywood musicians, Polynesian percussionists, and dynamic vocalists performing on stage.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Presents***Ben Folds and a Piano Tour
with Lindsey Kraft***Wed, Oct 15, 7:30pm*

Emmy-nominated pop rock artist delivers a stripped-down evening of fan favorites, deep cuts, and heartfelt storytelling.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Presents***Chris Thile***Fri, Oct 17, 8pm*

Grammy-winning mandolin virtuoso pushes the musical envelope from bluegrass to jazz.

MUSIC CENTER*Baltimore Symphony Orchestra***Voices of Vienna:
Mozart & Schubert**

Mario Venzago, *Conductor*
Claire Huangci, *Piano*

ANNA CLYNE *Masquerade*

MOZART Piano Concerto No.

21 in C Major, K. 467, "Elvira
Madigan"

SCHUBERT Symphony No. 9,
"The Great"

*Sat, Oct 18, 8pm***MUSIC CENTER****Once Upon a One More Time**

Based on music performed and recorded by Britney Spears

*Sun, Nov 23***Working**

Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, Lin-Manuel Miranda,
Mary Rodgers, James Taylor, and more!

*Sat, Feb 14***Disney's The Lion King JR**

Music and lyrics by Elton John and Tim Rice

*Sat, Feb 21***The Prince of Egypt**

Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

*Sat, May 2*Learn more at **YAA.ORG***Baltimore Symphony Orchestra***Symphonie Fantastique
(Tales of Poe)**

Jonathon Heyward, *Conductor*
Francesca Dego, *Violin*

MARK SIMPSON *Israfel* [based
on *Israfel* by Edgar Allan Poe]
(U.S. premiere)

PROKOFIEV Violin Concerto
No. 2

BERLIOZ *Symphonie
fantastique*

*Thu, Oct 23, 8pm***MUSIC CENTER***Strathmore Presents***Patty Griffin &
Rickie Lee Jones***Fri, Oct 24, 7:30pm*

Two celebrated artists take the stage for individual sets of music and storytelling that span folk, gospel, rock, jazz, and pop.

MUSIC CENTER

NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC



National Philharmonic's 2025–2026 season begins on a high note with **Celebration: Coleridge-Taylor & Tchaikovsky** on **September 20** at the Music Center at Strathmore. **Conductor Michael Repper** and **violinist Curtis Stewart** join NatPhil for a concert of works honoring the release of NatPhil's first album dedicated to the works of **Samuel Coleridge-Taylor**, including *Toussaint L'Overture* and a new arrangement of *Ballade op. 4* for Violin and Orchestra by Curtis Stewart. This program also features *Sussex Landscape*, composed by **Avril Coleridge-Taylor**, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's daughter, and concludes with **Tchaikovsky's** enduring *Symphony No. 5*.

On **October 25**, NatPhil reunites with The Washington Chorus for **One Song: Exultávit**, led by **TWC Artistic Director Eugene Rogers**. This concert explores prayer practices across cultures and religions—as well as the social justice inherent in their texts, featuring **J.S. Bach's** beloved *Magnificat* and **Reena Esmail's** extraordinary *This Love Between Us*, which juxtaposes Western classical music and Indian musical traditions. Both works present a bold vision for the future where more unites us than divides us, and the least among us matter the most.



Tickets start at just \$29. Kids ages 7–17 can attend any NatPhil performance for free with an adult!

NATIONALPHILHARMONIC.ORG

Strathmore Exhibitions

Midnight Tea

Fri, Oct 24, 9pm–11pm

This ghostly take on Afternoon Tea features hauntingly delicious brews, nighttime treats, spooky tours, and more.

MANSION

NatPhil and The Washington Chorus Present

One Song: Exultavit!

Eugene Rogers, *Conductor*

Sat, Oct 25, 7:30pm

NatPhil and The Washington Chorus explore prayer practices across cultures and religions—as well as the social justice inherent in their texts. Featuring Bach's beloved *Magnificat* and Reena Esmail's extraordinary *This Love Between Us*, which juxtaposes Western classical music and Indian musical traditions.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Presents

An Afternoon with

David Sedaris

Sun, Oct 26, 3pm

New York Times bestselling author and beloved humorist shares poignant, hilarious stories from his latest book.

MUSIC CENTER

Washington Performing Arts Presents

Philharmonia Orchestra

Santtu-Matias Rouvali, *Music Director*

Víkingur Ólafsson, *Piano*

Mon, Oct 27, 7:30pm

The London Philharmonia Orchestra's first return in 20 years, featuring music director Santtu-Matias Rouvali, new Gabriela Ortiz work, and Víkingur Ólafsson performing Ravel's Piano Concerto.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Presents

Benjamin Appl, *baritone*

James Baillieu, *piano*

Thu, Oct 30, 7:30pm

Two celebrated artists come together for a captivating performance of *lieder* and *art songs*.

MANSION

Strathmore Presents

Compagnie Hervé KOUBI

Sol Invictus

Thu, Oct 30, 8pm 

A gravity-defying performance blending urban dance, capoeira, and martial arts explores movement, connection, and identity through striking visual storytelling.

MUSIC CENTER

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Haunted Hall:

Halloween Film Favorites

Damon Gupton, *Conductor*

Fri, Oct 31, 8pm

The BSO conjures musical tricks and treats in a spine-tingling concert led by film conductor Gupton. Haunting melodies and thrilling scores set the stage for a cinematic symphonic fright night.

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Exhibitions

A Live Music Screening of Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror (1922)

Sat, Nov 1, 7:30pm

Join us for a spine-tingling screening of *Nosferatu* (1922), with live music by Strathmore AIRs in our hauntingly charming Mansion.

MANSION

Strathmore Presents

Herbie Hancock

2025 North American Fall Tour

Sat, Nov 1, 8pm—sold out!

MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore Exhibitions

The Gothic Color Palette

Wed, Nov 5, 7:30pm

Compass Atelier founder Glen Kessler reveals five chilling works of art and the eerie stories and techniques behind them.

MANSION

Strathmore Presents

Jesse & Kevin

Thu, Nov 6, 7:30pm—sold out!

MANSION

Strathmore Youth Chorus and Washington Performing Arts Children of the Gospel Choir Present

Share the Spirit, Share the Joy!

A Workshop for Choral Educators, A Concert for Music Lovers

Sat, Nov 8, 5pm

Celebrate the power of spiritual and gospel traditions in choral music and one-of-a-kind educator workshop focused on cross-cultural musical exchange and community-building through song before the concert.

MUSIC CENTER

*Strathmore Presents***Marcel Penzes***Sat, Nov 8, 5pm*

A trombone-led concert celebrating New Orleans jazz, from French Quarter music halls to the soulful sounds of the city's streets.

GOOD HOPE NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION CENTER

*Baltimore Symphony Orchestra***Symphonic Poetry: Magic, Fire & Light**

Jonathon Heyward, *Conductor*
George Li, *Piano*
University of Maryland Concert Choir
Jason Max Ferdinand, *Director*

DUKAS *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*
RAVEL *Daphnis et Chloé: Suite*
No. 2

MUSSORGSKY *Night on Bald Mountain*

SCRIABIN *Prometheus: Poem of Fire*

*Sun, Nov 9, 3pm***MUSIC CENTER***Strathmore Presents***From China to Appalachia: Cathy Fink, Marcy Marxer & Chao Tian***Sun, Nov 9, 4pm & 7pm*

Grammy-winning American roots duo joins Chinese classical hammered dulcimer in a cross-cultural fusion of global folk music.

MANSION*Strathmore Presents***Fresh AIR***Wed, Nov 12, 8pm*

Strathmore's 2026 Artists in Residence class makes its debut in a dynamic evening that highlights their unique artistry and cross-genre collaborations.

MUSIC CENTER*Baltimore Symphony Orchestra***Alsop Conducts Brahms 3**

Marin Alsop, *Conductor*
Nemanja Radulović, *Violin*

REENA ESMAIL RE | *Member*
KHACHATURIAN Violin Concerto
BRAHMS Symphony No. 3

*Sat, Nov 15, 8pm***MUSIC CENTER***Strathmore Presents***American Railroad**

Silkroad Ensemble featuring
Wu Man

Sun, Nov 16, 7pm

A dynamic ensemble explores the overlooked contributions of Indigenous, African American, and immigrant communities in a powerful musical journey through American history.

MUSIC CENTER

Recorded and by Call The Shots Photography

WINDOWS EVENTS

Voices from the American Railroad: Indigenous and Immigrant Stories from *My Music with Rhiannon Giddens*

Mon, Oct 13, 6:30pm

Film screening and community conversation
AFI SILVER THEATRE AND CULTURAL CENTER

Rails, Rhythms, and Revolution:
The Transcontinental Railroad's Impact on Arts

Sat, Oct 25, 7pm

Lecture and conversation with Professor Rick Davis
EATON HOUSE

American Railroad: Cultural Intersections
Along a Ribbon of Steel

Sun, Nov 16, 5:30pm

Lecturer: Rick Davis, Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at George Mason University
MUSIC CENTER

Strathmore extends its gratitude to AARP for its generous support and for making this program possible.

*Strathmore Presents***The Thirteen***Thu, Nov 20, 7:30pm*

A vocal quartet with piano celebrates music inspired by nature and love in all its forms, from early chant to contemporary works.

MANSION*Baltimore Symphony Orchestra***ICON: The Voices That Changed Music**

Lucas Waldin, *Conductor*
Capathia Jenkins, *Vocalist*
Ryan Shaw, *Vocalist*

Fri, Nov 21, 8pm

Journey through the soundtrack of your life with Broadway sensation Jenkins and Grammy-nominee Shaw. Backed by the BSO, these powerhouse musicians perform the music that defined American culture.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Exhibitions***Opening Reception***Sat, Nov 22, 1pm*

Mingle with other art lovers to celebrate the opening of our winter exhibitions.

MANSION*Strathmore Exhibitions***Montgomery Art Association****Member Exhibition***Nov 22–Jan 10*

The nonprofit Montgomery Art Association supports visual arts and artists in Montgomery County and the DC Metro Area.

MANSION*Strathmore Exhibitions*

Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, DC

Fine Art in Miniature*Nov 22–Jan 10*

Now in its 92nd year, this annual exhibition brings together nearly 700 small works from around the world, each displaying extraordinary detail and craftsmanship.

MANSION*Strathmore Presents***Annual ASDF/BAILA4LIFE****Latin Dance Competition****(Senior Division)**

with support from MCPS

Mon, Nov 24, 7pm

Held at the Music Center at Strathmore since 2010 with the support of MCPS, this annual competition is the culmination of Montgomery County's elite high school Latin dance program.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Presents***Mannheim Steamroller Christmas**

By Chip Davis

Fri, Nov 28, 4pm

A festive concert of holiday classics brought to life with immersive multimedia effects and a signature blend of classical and modern sounds.

MUSIC CENTER*Strathmore Presents***A Swingin' Little Christmas!****Starring Jane Lynch**

Featuring Kate Flannery
and Tim Davis

With The Tony Guerrero Quintet

Sat, Nov 29, 7pm

The comedy trio brings nostalgic holiday cheer with jazzy takes on Christmas classics and original songs in this cabaret-style variety show.

MUSIC CENTER

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

A GIFT THAT KEPT GROWING

How one holiday present sparked two decades of giving from Janet and Michael Rowan

By Briana Lim

On Christmas 2005, music lovers Janet and Michael Rowan unwrapped a thoughtful gift from their son—tickets to a classical concert at Strathmore’s newly opened Music Center.

As they stepped through the velvet ropes that evening, they realized the gift offered more than just a night out. In Strathmore, they found a home for the arts and a partner whose mission, goals, and values aligned with their own. The Rowans have been loyal donors ever since, helping the arts continue to thrive in their community.

What motivates them to keep giving? “The music,” they say simply.

Musical Roots

Both Janet and Michael come from music-loving families. Janet’s childhood home was filled with the sound of her piano, and she played French horn at Richard Montgomery High School. Michael was more of a “radio player,” but his love of music was just as strong.

“If you care about the arts, you have to help them thrive”

The Strathmore Experience

Michael especially appreciates the Concert Hall. “Acoustically, it’s just so much better than other venues, and the seating is fantastic,” he says. From their box seats, the Rowans feel like they’re part of the performance. “You’re right there,” he adds.



Michael and Janet Rowan

They also credit the staff for making every visit memorable. “The people who work there are unbelievable,” says Michael. “The atmosphere is terrific.”

Creating Magic

One magical memory illustrates what makes Strathmore feel so special. After a neighborhood nurse helped Michael during a medical emergency, the Rowans wanted to show their thanks. They learned the nurse’s daughter had just started playing violin and brought her to see Joshua Bell perform.

As members, they secured front-row seats for the dress rehearsal. Afterward, Bell invited the girl onstage and asked what she was learning. “He closes his eyes, tilts his head back, and starts to play it,” Janet recalls. “She looked like she had died and gone to heaven. That’s the kind of experience you can’t get at a bigger institution.”

Their Giving Philosophy

Moments like that drive the Rowans’ philanthropy.

“Your money is well spent,” says Michael, a tax professional. “We give to many charitable causes, but with Strathmore, you can see your donation making an impact. Supporting the arts matters to Janet and me. If you care about the arts, you have to help them thrive.”

MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT

Join Janet and Michael by contacting Heidi Onkst, vice president of Advancement, at 301.581.5133 or honskt@strathmore.org.

Learn more at

STRATHMORE.ORG/SUPPORT

AFTERNOON TEA

Enjoy Afternoon Tea in the inviting atmosphere of the Mansion at Strathmore. The sounds of local musicians fill the room as you sip Strathmore's Signature Blend Tea and lunch on light tea savories.

Teas begin at 1pm and are \$45 per person. Free onsite parking is available in the Mansion parking lot.



For information on reservations and current availability, visit

STRATHMORE.ORG/TEA



GENERAL INFORMATION

DIRECTIONS & METRO

Strathmore is located on Rockville Pike (Route 355), half a mile north of the Capital Beltway (I-495).

M Take Metro to Strathmore! The Music Center and Mansion at Strathmore are adjacent to the Grosvenor-Strathmore station on Metro's Red line.

Plan your trip by bus with Montgomery County Transit Services.

For complete driving directions and Metro, bus, and parking information, visit strathmore.org/visit.

PARKING

For ticketed Music Center performances: Complimentary parking is available in the Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro garage. The entrance is located off Tuckerman Lane.

For nonperformance Music Center events, including all Education Center events: Metered parking is available on Tuckerman Lane, or park in the Metro garage, which requires a SmarTrip or credit card payment of \$5.20 Monday through Friday. Parking is free on weekends.

For Mansion concerts, exhibitions, and events: Limited free parking is available on a space-available basis in the Mansion lot. Enter at 10701 Rockville Pike.

ACCESSIBILITY

Strathmore is committed to making our programs accessible for all patrons. To request accessible services or assistance, please visit strathmore.org/access or email access@strathmore.org.

JOIN & GIVE

To learn more about donating, or to become a member, visit strathmore.org/give or call us at 301.581.5145.

OUR MISSION

We amplify distinctive and diverse artistic voices and curate experiences to enrich *every* life and shape stronger communities.

HOURS OF OPERATION

TICKET OFFICE HOURS

Located in the Music Center

5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD 20852
301.581.5100

Mon–Fri, 10am–5pm

The Music Center ticket office is also open three hours prior to performances through intermission.

SCHEDULED FALL CLOSINGS:

Strathmore's Administrative Offices and the Mansion at Strathmore are closed on Mon, Sept 1; Mon, Oct 13; Tues, Nov 11; and Thu, Nov 27.

The Ticket Office is closed on most federal holidays. Please check before visiting.

MANSION SHOP & GALLERIES

10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852

Tue–Fri, 12–4pm; Sat, 10am–3pm; Sun–Mon, Closed

MANSION TEA

Visit strathmore.org/tea for the schedule.

ALLEGRO KITCHEN MUSIC CENTER CAFÉ

Opens 90 minutes prior to Concert Hall performances.
strathmore.org/dining

GROUP SERVICES

Strathmore welcomes groups of 15 or more at the Music Center, with personal service and special offers such as discounted pricing and waived fees.

Visit strathmore.org/groups or email groups@strathmore.org.

STAY CONNECTED

   @StrathmoreArts

STRATHMORE NEWS

Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc.
5301 Tuckerman Lane
North Bethesda, MD 20852-3385

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1763
SUBURBAN, MD

*Strathmore is partially funded
by operating grants from:*



Customer Number

Source Code



CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

Fall in love with all that Strathmore has to offer this season, from electrifying shows in both the Music Center and the Mansion to dynamic exhibitions and seasonal events!

Plus, plan ahead for the holidays with festive concerts, our annual Museums and Makers Holiday Market, and much more.

STRATHMORE.ORG



L-R: *Nola* by Kate Norris, *Hiroimi* by Mitsuru Nishimura, *Biribá Union* by Emily Walker, *Angelique Kidjo* by Brantley Gutierrez