



CHRISTOPHER WILKINS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

JASON SWANK, MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR
JSWANK@AKRONSYMPHONY.ORG

TEL (330) 535-8131
FAX (330) 535-7302

AKRON SYMPHONY FACT SHEET

Headquarters

Akron Symphony Orchestra Administrative Office
17 N. Broadway | Akron, OH 44308
Tel: (330) 535-8131 | Fax: (330) 535-7302
Website: www.AkronSymphony.org

History

The Akron Symphony Orchestra began in 1949 when Mabel Lamborn Graham received \$500 as "seed money" from the publisher of the Akron Beacon Journal with the instruction to begin raising money for a professional, union orchestra. After three years of intense fundraising, spearheaded by Mrs. Graham and other dedicated volunteers, the Akron Symphony's Classic Series was established in the organization's first season (1952-1953) to provide concerts performed by professional musicians of the highest caliber. Guest conductors and soloists of regional and national stature have been an integral part of the Classic Series since its onset, and remain a high priority for the Symphony.

Overview

The Akron Symphony Orchestra is operated by the Greater Akron Musical Association (GAMA), which is committed to providing the largest number of people possible in the greater Akron area. This mission is realized by operating the Akron Symphony Orchestra, Akron Youth Symphony, Akron Symphony Chorus, and numerous special outreach and educational programs. During the 2005-2006 season, more than 150,000 people experienced the work of GAMA through concerts, educational programs and radio broadcast.

Performances & Venues

Akron Symphony Orchestra

- 7 Classic Series Concerts at E.J. Thomas Hall
- 3 Odyssey Concerts at E.J. Thomas Hall
- 2 Pops concerts, including Pops at the Akron Civic Theatre and Holiday Pops at E.J. Thomas Hall
- 4 Sundays at the Elms chamber music concerts at Our Lady of the Elms Chapel
- 3 Messiah Concerts at area churches
- Gospel Meets Symphony concert at E.J. Thomas Hall
- 16 Concerts for Kids in Akron and surrounding cities
- 5 Picnic Pops Concerts in and around Akron

Akron Symphony Chorus

- 3 performances with the Akron Symphony Orchestra at E.J. Thomas Hall
- Special concert featuring the Chorus

Akron Youth Symphony

- 2 performances at E.J. Thomas Hall
- Special performances in surrounding communities
- Side-by-side performances with Akron Symphony musicians

Education and Outreach

- Previews from the Podium pre-concert lecture series
- Special performances including Odyssey and Concerts for Kids
- Akron Youth Symphony, Greater Akron Youth Philharmonic
- Student ticket opportunities.

Calendar of Events

For an up-to-date calendar of all the latest events, please visit AkronSymphony.org.

Music Director

Maestro Christopher Wilkins

Executive Board

The Akron Symphony Orchestra is guided by an experienced and knowledgeable board of directors. For a listing of Executive Board members, please visit AkronSymphony.org.

Media Contact

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact:

Jason Swank
Director of Marketing & Public Relations
JSwank@AkronSymphony.org