#### Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's **75th Anniversary Season** began with dazzling performances featuring celebrated guest artists and conductors, Mahler's monumental "Symphony of a Thousand," the launch of our free concert series "Around the A," and the kickoff of our many education and community programs. The season did not end as we had hoped, coming to an abrupt and unforeseen halt when Symphony Hall was shuttered due to the global pandemic that has changed all our lives.

During this challenging year, we were more grateful than ever for you, our generous donors who provide extraordinary support for our concerts, education programs, student musician training, free community activities and our Virtual Stage productions.

Thanks to you, we continue to fulfill our mission and stay connected to our community though our love for the music, even while apart. Your love for the Orchestra has sustained us this year.

Thank you.



### MISSION

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra unites, educates and enriches our community through the engaging and transformative power of orchestral music experiences.

## 75th Anniversary Season

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra celebrated its landmark **75th Anniversary Season** with a dazzling array of classical concert performances, guest artists and conductors that highlighted the vitality and virtuosity of the Orchestra in this historic season. We shared the music with over **450,000** people through live and virtual performances.

454 The ASO and Chorus performed Mahler's monumental "Symphony of a Thousand" with 454 soloists, instrumentalists and singers on stage!

There were eight ASO premieres, including a world premiere of Rapido! competition winner Brian Raphael Nabors' *Onward*. Guest artists Joshua Bell, Pinchas Zuckerman, Tengku Irfan, Emanuel Ax and Jorge Federico Osorio as well as our own David Coucheron, Justin Bruns and Elizabeth Koch Tiscione delighted fans with their solo performances. Former Music Director Yoel Levi retuned to Symphony Hall in what turned out to be the final concert

of the season on March 11.

Families filled Symphony Hall to share a Family Concert as they introduced their children to the Orchestra. **Tens of thousands** of students experienced the power of live music through one of the Concerts for Young People while our youngest fans moved and grooved at Music for the Very Young performances.

Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE events and the Movies in Concert series brought new audiences looking for special entertainment experiences like the Indigo Girls with the ASO and *Casablanca* with live orchestra to share with friends and family.



The ASO's most important commitment has always been to the community we serve with our music. In addition to the many artistic achievements of the **75th Season**, we deepened our connection with the Atlanta community by broadening our education and community programs that give access to the music.

Despite the many unforeseen challenges and the devastating cancellation of the remainder of the **75th Season**, the ASO ended the fiscal year with a surplus for the **Sixth Consecutive year** thanks to a deep ASO team spirit and the many generous donors who share our belief in the power of music.

## Community Commitment

To celebrate 75 years of connecting people through the transformative power of music, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra launched "Around the A," a new free concert series, in September 2019. The inaugural concert took place at Centennial Olympic Park and showcased two talented young musicians from the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra as soloists.

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra musicians performed at a variety of new venues in Atlanta neighborhoods – taking the music to the community, engaging new audiences and creating new partnerships.

ASO musicians shared the joy that only music brings across the city with performances including:

A collaboration with the Atlanta Opera at Monday Night Garage dubbed "Bachtober Fest"

Día de Muertos performance at the Atlanta History Center

Avondale Arts Walk

"At the Point" chamber concert at East Point City Hall

Concert with our longtime partner the Morehouse College Glee Club

Talent Development Program fall recital at Friendship Baptist Church

Cultural exchange concert at Atlanta City Hall

Celebration of Rosa Parks at Agnes Scott College for International Women's Day



# Education

## Talent Development Program & Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra

Youth Orchestra (ASYO) and the Atlanta Symphony Talent Development Program (TDP) graduating classes of 2020 received \$6.8 million in scholarship offers.

The **25** Talent Development Program Fellows performed in Symphony Hall and community venues as they prepare for future careers in classical music. The **five** TDP seniors were accepted at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music; The University of Michigan; The Juilliard School; New England Conservatory; and San Francisco Conservatory. The Fellows have continued to receive individual lessons from ASO musicians virtually after the shutdown.

The 2019/20 Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra brought together **101** of Metro Atlanta's most talented musicians under the direction of ASYO Music Director Stephen Mulligan. These talented musicians performed in chamber concerts as well as in Symphony Hall.

#### Concerts for Young People

**29,000** Over 29,000 students in Pre-K - 12

over 29,000 students in Pre-K - 12 attended one of the ASO's Concerts for Young People and experienced the power of live orchestral music.

#### Family Concerts

5,708

The Family Concert series brought out the smiles for over 5,700 attendees of the Superheroes and Villains and A Flicker of Light on a Winter's Night concerts at Symphony Hall.



#### Instrument Petting Zoo

The Instrument Petting Zoo introduced over **800** preschool and elementary students to the instruments of the orchestra with interactive educational demonstrations that put instruments in their hands.

#### Musicians in Schools

Atlanta schools depend upon ASO musicians to share their time and talent with orchestra students. This year over **2,000** students benefitted from master classes and instruction.

## Music for the Very Young

Always a favorite for the youngest music lovers and their caretakers, Music for the Very Young (MVY) brought joyful musical experiences to close to **700** participants.



Responding to the public health and financial impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) made the difficult decision to cancel all concerts for the remainder of the FY20 season, which was scheduled to conclude June 2020.

The music continues, however, through the ASO Virtual Stage, a central hub of engaging online content featuring interviews, on-demand concerts, listening parties and Q&A sessions, educational programs, archival content and premieres of newly recorded solo and chamber performances by ASO musicians. Music lovers far and wide have remained connected to the music and each other while we are apart.

Nearly **300,000** people enjoyed the many offerings of the Virtual Stage from March through May and that number continues to grow!



We feel that now, more than ever, it is vital for us to continue toshare a message of inspiration and hope with the community.

Virtual

Stage

aso.org/virtualstage

#ASOtogetherapart

Jennifer Barlament Executive Director, ASO From Our Patrons

This is one nurse who really misses seeing the ASO live. Thank you for continuing toshare your beautiful music. I watched and listened with delight while in selfimposed quarantine home in Richmond, Va. I know you didn't schedule the concert to coincide with the arrival of COVID-19, but the concert turned out to be a real gift in this unsettling time. [l've] Been watching this on repeat – thanks for the gorgeous, heartfelt video with stunning music, y'all.