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THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA ADDS *THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS*, CLASSICAL CHRISTMAS, CHAMBER CONCERTS & MORE

- **Disney *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Concert Live to Film*** | Family film with Danny Elfman's distinctive score performed live
- **Classical Christmas** | Michael Francis conducts cozy traditional favorites
- **Cécile McLorin Salvant** | Blending jazz, blues, folk and theatrical storytelling
- **Soundwaves Chamber Orchestra series** | Get close to the music
- **A Star to Remember Family Concert** | Exploring family connections through music

Single tickets to all concerts go on sale today at FloridaOrchestra.org

ST. PETERSBURG, FL -- The Florida Orchestra will present **Disney *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Concert Live to Film*** featuring the contemporary holiday classic on the big screen in full symphonic glory with GRAMMY®-winning composer Danny Elfman's musical score performed live to the film by TFO. The concert comes to the Mahaffey Theater on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 7:30 pm and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 2 pm for a matinee. Single tickets to this and all Florida Orchestra concerts go on sale today at FloridaOrchestra.org.

First released in 1993, ***Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas*** was directed by Henry Selick (*James and the Giant Peach*) and based on a story and characters by Tim Burton. Bored with the same old scare-and-scream routine, Pumpkin King Jack Skellington longs to spread the joy of Christmas. But his merry mission puts Santa in jeopardy and creates a nightmare for good little boys and girls everywhere.

Tickets to all concerts go on sale at 10 a.m. today (Aug. 11), along with single tickets to the entire 2026-2027 season. Tickets available at FloridaOrchestra.org, at 727.892.3337 and at The Florida Orchestra Ticket Center, 244 Second Ave. N (first floor) in St. Petersburg.

Rounding out its 2026-27 season, The Florida Orchestra also announces **Classical Christmas**, conducted by Music Director Michael Francis; the **Soundwaves Chamber Orchestra series** of intimate concerts; a special appearance by three-time GRAMMY® winner **Cécile McLorin Salvant**; and a full-orchestra Family Concert. Performance details in chronological order:

FAMILY CONCERT
A Star to Remember

Chelsea Gallo, conductor
Alec Brown, vocalist
Madison Pineda Bender, dancer
Mackenzie McLean, dancer
Antonio Hernandez, dancer
Step into a magical world with Milo for an unforgettable adventure to the mysterious Night Market. As he searches for his grandfather's missing constellation, he discovers that the people we love are never truly

gone as long as we remember them. Featuring beloved music from **E.T.** and **Coco**, alongside orchestral favorites like Smetana's **The Moldau** and Brahms' **Hungarian Dance No. 1**, this heartwarming family concert is designed for audiences of all ages.

Come early to try instruments at the Instrument Petting Zoo and other activities with community partners.

Sun, Oct 25, 2 pm | Mahaffey Theater – Matinee

FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA

Disney *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Concert Live to Film*

Experience the contemporary holiday classic on the big screen in full symphonic glory with GRAMMY®-winning composer Danny Elfman's musical score performed live to the film by The Florida Orchestra. The 1993 film follows Pumpkin King Jack Skellington, who longs to spread the joy of Christmas. But his merry mission puts Santa in jeopardy and creates a nightmare for good little boys and girls everywhere. Rated PG.

Sat, Dec 5, 7:30 pm
Sun, Dec 6, 2 pm – Matinee
Mahaffey Theater

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SPECIAL CONCERT

Classical Christmas

Michael Francis, conductor
Alex Boyd, baritone
The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay
Heather Mitchell, artistic director
Lumina Youth Choir
Deah McReynolds, artistic director

Michael Francis leads The Florida Orchestra in a celebration filled with the timeless music of the holidays. From Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and Handel's "Hallelujah" Chorus to Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* and traditional carols, these are the sounds that make the season feel like Christmas. Join in several sing-alongs.

Fri, Dec 18, 7:30 pm | Straz Center
Sat, Dec 19, 7:30 pm | Mahaffey Theater

SOUNDWAVES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA SERIES

Beethoven & Dvorak for Winds

William Short, conductor
Ruth Gipps: Seascape
Beethoven: Octet for Winds
Dvořák: Serenade for Winds

Music that will make you smile. From bright, joyful works to music inspired by the sea, this intimate concert featuring our woodwind section brings you closer to the music – and the musicians. *This series is generously sponsored by Rick and Amy Smith.*

Fri, Feb 5, 7:30 pm | Church of the Ascension, Clearwater
Sat, Feb 6, 7:30 pm | Zinober Hall, USF Tampa
Sun, Feb 7, 2 pm | Museum of Fine Arts Marly Room, St. Petersburg – Matinee

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SOUNDWAVES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA SERIES
Mozart's Symphony No. 29

Jeffrey Multer, violin and leader
David Smith, horn

Beethoven: String Quartet (arr. Gustav Mahler)
Mozart: Horn Concerto No. 2
Max Richter: On the Nature of Daylight
Mozart: Symphony No. 29

Here is chance to be in the moment with radiant, joyful Mozart. Add the youthful energy of Beethoven and the soaring melodies of Max Richter for a unique, intimate chamber orchestra experience. *This series is generously sponsored by Rick and Amy Smith*.

Fri, March 12, 7:30 pm | Central Park Performing Arts Center, Largo
Sat, March 13, 7:30 pm | Zinober Hall, USF Tampa
Sun, March 14, 2 pm | Student Center Ballroom, USF St. Pete – Matinee

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SOUNDWAVES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA SERIES
Bizet's Carmen

Chelsea Gallo, conductor
Theo Ould, accordion

Moncayo: Huapango (arr. Manuel Enríquez)
Márquez: Danzón No. 2
Albeniz: Asturias (arr. Theo Ould)
Piazzolla: Oblivion (arr. Theo Ould)
Piazzolla: Adios Nonino (arr. Theo Ould)
Bizet: Selections from *Carmen*

Get up close to the irresistible rhythms of Spain and Latin America in this intimate concert. From Bizet to Marquez, this is fiery, passionate music that doesn't hold back. With a special set by guest artist Theo Ould, an accordionist based in Paris. *This series is generously sponsored by Rick and Amy Smith*.

Fri, April 23, 7:30 pm | Church of the Ascension, Clearwater
Sat, April 24, 7:30 pm | Centro Asturiano, Ybor City
Sun, April 25, 2 pm | Student Center Ballroom, USF St. Pete – Matinee

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SPECIAL CONCERT
Cécile McLorin Salvant
Three-time Grammy winner and Miami native Cécile McLorin Salvant blends jazz, blues, folk, Baroque music and theatrical storytelling to transform every song into something unexpected. All with a voice of

extraordinary beauty and the power of The Florida Orchestra. Forget everything you think a jazz concert should be. This is a rare chance to discover one of today's most original musical storytellers live.

Sat, June 5, 7:30 pm | Ruth Eckerd Hall

The Florida Orchestra will perform nearly 100 concerts this season in venues throughout Tampa Bay, including a wide range of classical, popular and family-friendly music. Music Director Michael Francis launches The Florida Orchestra's premier Hough Family Foundation Masterworks series with **Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture** on Oct. 2 & 4 at the Mahaffey Theater. The Raymond James Pops series opens Oct. 9 & 10 with **Revolution: The Music of The Beatles** at the Straz Center and Mahaffey Theater. Led by Resident Conductor Chelsea Gallo, the Morning Matinees series kicks off Oct. 7 & 8 at Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Mahaffey Theater.

For the orchestra's full 2026-27 calendar, click here.

About The Florida Orchestra

The Florida Orchestra's mission is to INSPIRE | EDUCATE | UNITE through the power of music. *Now in its 59th season, The Florida Orchestra is the largest professional orchestra in Florida and the only performing arts organization to serve the entire Tampa Bay region. Led by internationally acclaimed Music Director Michael Francis, TFO's 70 professional musicians and conductors perform more than 100 concerts each season, from classical masterworks and Pops to film, family and special performances. Beyond the concert hall, TFO reaches more than 150,000 people annually through concerts, education and community programs – nearly half through free or low-cost initiatives. Learn more, purchase tickets or support the orchestra at* ***FloridaOrchestra.org****. The Florida Orchestra is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization (EIN 59-1223691; CH1830).*

About Disney Concerts

Disney Concerts is the concert production and licensing division of Disney Music Group, the music arm of The Walt Disney Company. Disney Concerts produces concerts and tours, and licenses Disney music and visual content to symphony orchestras, choruses and presenters on a worldwide basis. Disney Concerts' concert packages include a variety of formats, such as "live-to-picture" film concerts, and themed instrumental and vocal compilation concerts that range from instrumental-only symphonic performances to multimedia productions featuring live vocalists and choirs. Showcasing concerts from the largest movie franchises in the world and the most iconic studios in entertainment –Walt Disney Pictures, Walt Disney Animation Studios, Marvel Studios, Lucasfilm, Pixar, 20th Century Studios and National Geographic – Disney Concerts delivers world-class specialty entertainment, from bespoke performances to blockbuster hits, classics to seasonal favorites, in many of the world's leading venues. Current and upcoming titles include the Star Wars Film Concert Series, Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas, Infinity Saga Concert Experience, Black Panther, Moana, Frozen, The Lion King, Coco, Waiting to Exhale, Disney Princess: The Concert, The Muppet Christmas Carol, Toy Story, Edward Scissorhands, Home Alone 2, and the hit Worlds Collide tours. For more information visit www.disneyconcerts.com.