



# New Season, New Era

**Annual Report**  
2019/2020 Season-140th Year

s|s|o

**St. Louis Symphony  
Orchestra**

stéphane denève : music director

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*Music Director Stéphane Denève and the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.*

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*Stéphane Denève and the SLSO at the 2019 Forest Park Concert.*

### MESSAGE FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR STÉPHANE DENÈVE

Bonjour, St. Louis,

I would like to thank all of you for welcoming me so warmly in my first season as Music Director of your St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

It was my great honor to welcome you to Powell Hall, our magnificent musical home. I was delighted to meet you there, and also throughout the community, in restaurants, museums, at Busch Stadium, Enterprise Center, and all around St. Louis. And I loved hearing you greet me back with your best *bonsoir* before our concerts! During this special season, it felt indeed that we became a musical family.

Together, we celebrated an arch between American and French cultures, between classic repertoire and music of our time, between familiar guest artists and wondrous new talents.

I will treasure so many unforgettable moments we shared—like starting our season under a propitious sun at Forest Park, welcoming John Williams to our stage, making music with both our talented choruses, and sharing the stage with our first Artist-in-Residence (and my dear friend) Jean-Yves Thibaudet. Thanks to our amazing musicians, I performed some core repertoire that felt new, including Mahler's Second and Beethoven's Ninth Symphonies, Ravel's *Boléro*, and even Mozart's *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*. I so enjoyed your curiosity and open minds in discovering many brand new works I hope will become cherished favorites.

While the season ended abruptly due to COVID-19, preventing us from bringing you programs I was greatly anticipating, I remain deeply grateful for the experiences we shared and look forward to making music with our SLSO again for you. I am extremely proud to be the Music Director of such a remarkable orchestra in this truly wonderful and welcoming community. Merci to you all for a marvelous first season together. Here's to many, many more.

Amitiés,

Stéphane Denève

+Executive Committee Member

\*Deceased



Marie-Hélène Bernard,  
President and CEO,  
and Music Director  
Stéphane Denève.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends,

Thank you for supporting your St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. As we reflect on the past year—the milestones and memories we shared—we are grateful for your generous, continued commitment and for the trust you place in our institution.

Our 2019/2020 season marked a new era in our extraordinary 140-year history. We welcomed Stéphane Denève—a remarkable musician, beloved collaborator, and heartfelt storyteller—as the SLSO’s 13th Music Director. He inspired all of us with his warmth, talent, and vision. Together, we made music accessible to all, with new pricing including our \$15 Classical Concert tickets and new formats like Crafted. We introduced our community to SLSO musicians and their instruments through the Instrument Playground Online, which was used by teachers, families, and also enjoyed by many of you.

It was also a historic year, with COVID-19 impacting us all. While we were disappointed to have to end our season early, we continued to share the power of music with you online through #SLSOatHome and *Songs of America*. We collaborated with St. Louis Public Radio to rebroadcast concerts on Saturday evenings. Combined, our online and broadcast content reached more than 3 million people between March and August.

**Your SLSO continues on a creative, sustainable path, with substantial artistic and community impact in our region and world** (see below). We deepened our understanding and framework around Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), which remains an institutional priority, and engaged our community in listening sessions to prepare for anti-racism and anti-bias training. We are grateful for the grant from the Mellon Foundation through the League of American Orchestras to support our EDI work, and to Bayer Fund for its longtime support of IN UNISON.

**Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are pleased to report a balanced budget for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2020, due to strong expense management, a Paycheck Protection Program loan, and—most importantly—your generosity.** More than 40 percent of patrons donated the value of their tickets to canceled concerts back to the SLSO, totaling more than \$370,000. Our spring challenge that honored Howard Witsma inspired significant new and increased gifts from 649 donors—more than half of whom were new. We are so inspired by your support.

I would like to thank Norm Eaker for his fearless leadership as Board Chair for the past three years. Norm has been extraordinarily generous with his time, support, and guidance. We appreciate all he has done during this time of significant change and meaningful growth and look forward to seeing the Eakers at Powell Hall often.

As we reflect on the past year, we look forward with hope for the future and all the musical magic we will share together. From our SLSO family to yours, thank you.

  
Marie-Hélène Bernard  
President and CEO

## LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

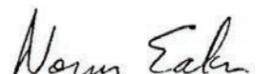
Thank you, St. Louis.

Your commitment to your SLSO is powerful. By attending a performance, listening to a broadcast, volunteering your time, or making a financial contribution, you enable the SLSO’s artistic contributions to the community we all call home and uplift our mission: **enriching lives through the power of music**. Everything on the following pages is because of you.

We are grateful for your support, which is helping sustain the SLSO during this unprecedented time. Despite the impact of the pandemic on our season, with 59 performances canceled or postponed, more than 40 percent of patrons donated their tickets (more than \$370,000) back to the SLSO. Thank you for your generosity, which St. Louis is nationally known for, and deservedly so.

Our artistic and institutional health and stability are envied by our peers in the orchestra industry. Our partnership with Stéphane is admired around the world. And thanks to you, your SLSO makes a significant impact on our region’s economy. As you’ll read in the 2020 Economic and Community Impact report, which we commissioned, spending by the SLSO and its patrons **triggers more than \$96 million in metro-wide economic activity each year and generates more than 1,000 jobs**.

I have been greatly enriched by and am appreciative of the opportunity to have served this orchestra and been a part of the SLSO family. The support from the community, fellow Board members, and SLSO staff and musicians has been inspiring and made the journey one of joy, interest, and challenge. I applaud Marie-Hélène for her vision and leadership. Over the past five years, she has led an innovative new era for the SLSO, both artistically and financially, including welcoming Stéphane Denève as Music Director. It is an exciting time for the SLSO. With Steve Finerty as incoming Board Chair, Stéphane Denève leading our musical vision, and Marie-Hélène leading our staff and culture of artistic excellence combined with fiscal responsibility, I believe the future of the SLSO’s artistic contribution to our community has never been more promising.

  
Norm Eaker  
Chair, Board of Trustees

“OUR ARTISTIC AND INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH AND STABILITY ARE ENVIED BY OUR PEERS IN THE ORCHESTRA INDUSTRY.”



Norm Eaker, Chair,  
Board of Trustees, and  
Laura Eaker.

“IN ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE, AUDIENCE GROWTH, AND COMMUNITY IMPACT, YOUR ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONTINUES ON A SOLID, SUSTAINABLE PATH.”

  
**190,000+**  
PEOPLE  
EXPERIENCED  
THE SLSO LIVE  
AT POWELL HALL  
AND ACROSS  
THE REGION

  
**430,000+**  
REACHED THROUGH  
OUR PUBLIC MEDIA  
PARTNERS

  
**8,100+**  
HOURS  
CONTRIBUTED  
BY SYMPHONY  
VOLUNTEER  
ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERS

  
**1,851**  
\$15  
TICKETS  
SOLD

  
**238**  
GUESTS  
WELCOMED  
THROUGH  
STÉPHANE  
SEATS

  
**252**  
CONCERTS AND  
FREE EVENTS/  
PROGRAMS  
PERFORMED  
DURING THE  
SEASON

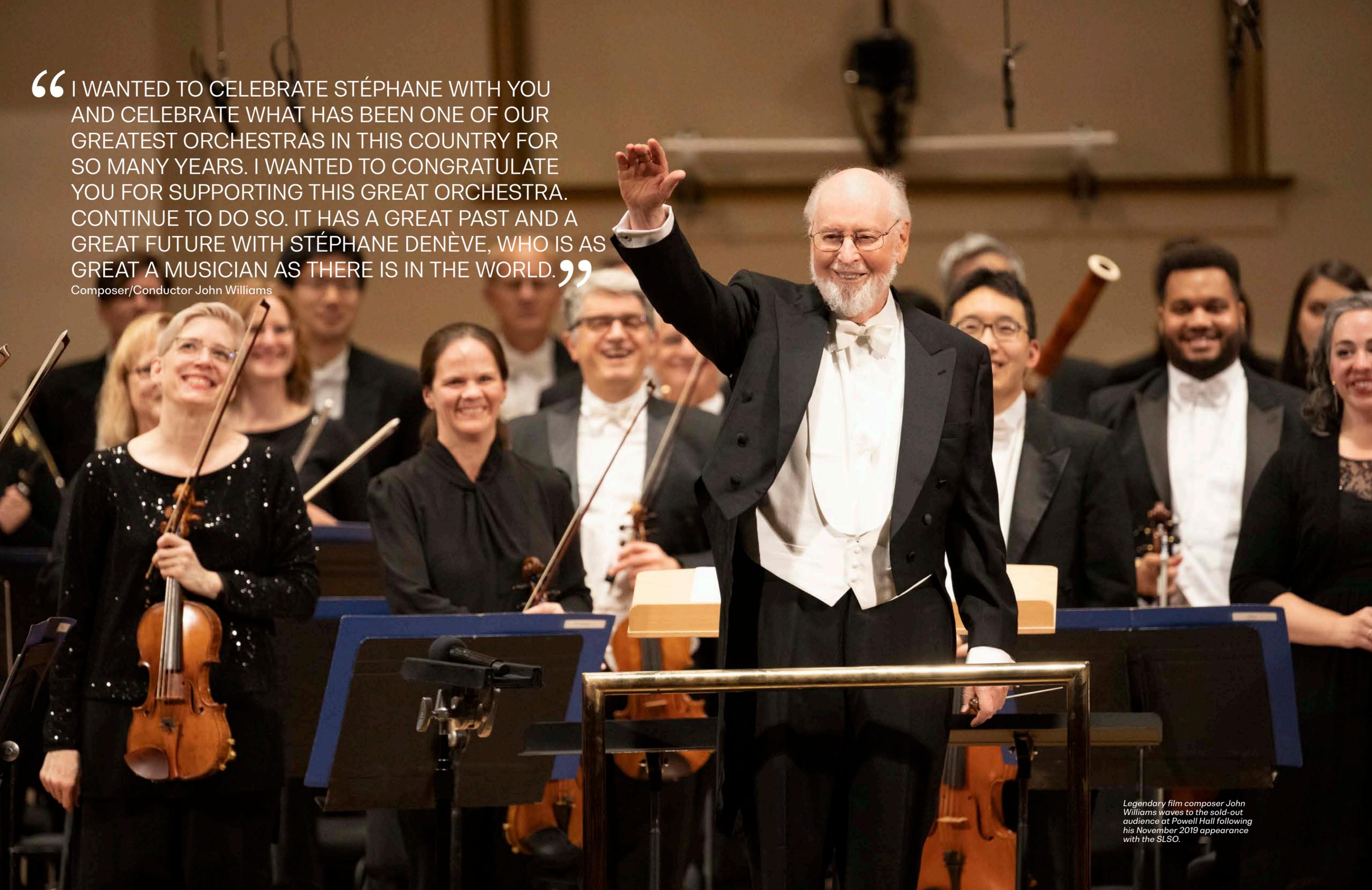
  
**108 CONCERTS**  
40 CLASSICAL SERIES  
30 EDUCATION AND FAMILY CONCERTS  
22 LIVE AT POWELL HALL PERFORMANCES  
1 LIFT EVERY VOICE CONCERT  
9 HOLIDAY CONCERTS  
4 PULITZER SERIES CONCERTS  
2 TOURS/RUN-OUT CONCERTS



**144 FREE EVENTS**  
50 COMMUNITY EVENTS  
53 EDUCATION PROGRAMS  
38 YOUTH ORCHESTRA PROGRAMS  
1 OUTDOOR CONCERT: FOREST PARK  
2 PICTURE THE MUSIC/EXPRESS THE MUSIC EVENTS

“ I WANTED TO CELEBRATE STÉPHANE WITH YOU AND CELEBRATE WHAT HAS BEEN ONE OF OUR GREATEST ORCHESTRAS IN THIS COUNTRY FOR SO MANY YEARS. I WANTED TO CONGRATULATE YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS GREAT ORCHESTRA. CONTINUE TO DO SO. IT HAS A GREAT PAST AND A GREAT FUTURE WITH STÉPHANE DENÈVE, WHO IS AS GREAT A MUSICIAN AS THERE IS IN THE WORLD.”

Composer/Conductor John Williams



*Legendary film composer John Williams waves to the sold-out audience at Powell Hall following his November 2019 appearance with the SLSO.*

# MILESTONE MOMENTS FROM THE ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S 2019/2020 SEASON



## BIENVENUE, STÉPHANE

Stéphane Denève kicked off his first season as Music Director of the 140-year-old St. Louis Symphony Orchestra with the SLSO's annual free concert in Forest Park, a beloved St. Louis tradition held in memory of Mary Ann Lee. During his first weeks as Music Director, Stéphane conducted eight more concerts, threw the first pitch at a St. Louis Cardinals game, and met thousands of St. Louisans—members of his new musical family.



## YO50

The Youth Orchestra marked a special milestone in 2020: its 50th anniversary. The season-long celebration included a unique concert and homecoming—a play-in concert with current YO members performing alongside YO alumni, including members of the inaugural YO from 1970, musicians from every class, and current SLSO musicians who are proud YO alumni.

## SHARING MUSIC ON AIR AND ONLINE

When live performances came to an abrupt halt due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SLSO continued to share music with the community in a variety of ways. Concert broadcasts continued on St. Louis Public Radio featuring previous performances. The SLSO developed and shared video projects including #SLSOatHome and *Songs of America*, which reached 250,000 people in its first month.



**GALA CELEBRATION AND NIGHTCAP**  
To celebrate the new season and new era, guests enjoyed a special evening at the Ritz-Carlton, which included a surprise four-hands performance on piano by Music Director Stéphane Denève and Artist-in-Residence Jean-Yves Thibaudet.



## STÉPHANE SEATS

For each of his concerts this season, Stéphane invited students, teachers, and community partners to attend for free as his guests in Stéphane Seats. Students from Gateway Music Outreach attended Opening Weekend—the first of more than 230 special guests this season.



## CRAFTED

On November 15, the SLSO presented its first-ever Crafted Concert—a casual concert experience with food and drink offerings from local restaurants, and Stéphane serving as a host and guide to welcome new audiences and draw listeners closer to the music-making process. More than one-third of Crafted attendees were new to the SLSO.

# MUSIC, EXPERIENCE, AND EXCELLENCE

Sustain and enhance the  
excellence of our music, the  
concert experience, and the  
SLSO's reputation and brand.



*Stéphane Denève leads a  
performance by the  
St. Louis Symphony Orchestra  
and Chorus at Powell Hall.*

## MUSIC, EXPERIENCE, AND EXCELLENCE

For 140 years, the SLSO has been a treasured cultural gem and important artistic export for the region. Stéphane programmed his inaugural season in St. Louis as a tribute to the Franco-American arch of musical friendship, a celebration of his new musical family. Together, Stéphane and the SLSO shared the power of music and impacted audiences wherever they performed, whether at home in Powell Hall, throughout the community, or beyond the region—like opening the Lied Center’s season in Lincoln, Nebraska, or visiting the Krannert Center in Urbana, Illinois.

Special thanks to the Centene Charitable Foundation, the Steward Family Foundation, and World Wide Technology for their support of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra’s 2019/2020 Classical Season.

### MUSICAL COLLABORATIONS

The SLSO is well known for its collaborative spirit, serving as a trusted musical partner to guest artists, composers, and community and arts organizations. The SLSO welcomed Jean-Yves Thibaudet, renowned pianist, longtime collaborator, and friend of Stéphane Denève as its Jean-Paul and Isabelle Montupet Artist-in-Residence for the season. Jean-Yves joined the SLSO for opening weekend and again in January, which included an evening of chamber music with SLSO musicians at Washington University.



Artist-in-Residence Jean-Yves Thibaudet (L) and Music Director Stéphane Denève with Jean-Paul and Isabelle Montupet at the SLSO gala.

Stéphane also brought to St. Louis another dear friend and collaborator: John Williams. The one-night-only concert included music spanning Williams’ legendary career, attracting audience members from across the country. Stéphane led the orchestra during the first half, then joined the audience as Williams conducted the second and shared stories from his career with the standing-room-only crowd. As the *Post-Dispatch* said of the evening: “The two conducted an ambitious lineup of Williams’ film music performed by an enthusiastic orchestra to an even more enthusiastic sold-out crowd.”



John Williams and Stéphane Denève prior to their performance with the SLSO in November.

### FAMILY AND TRADITIONS

Stéphane collaborated with the entire SLSO family this season. The IN UNISON Chorus, led by Kevin McBeth, joined him and the orchestra for the annual Forest Park concert. He supported the next generation of musicians by joining Gemma New and the Youth Orchestra for the annual side-by-side rehearsal with SLSO musicians.

Stéphane’s work with Amy Kaiser and the St. Louis Symphony Chorus on several performances throughout the season inspired audiences. Sarah Bryan Miller of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* wrote of Stéphane’s second week, a performance of Mahler’s Symphony No. 2, “Resurrection”: “If last weekend’s program showed something of Denève’s wide range, this one showed his considerable depth. May he give us many more such moments.” Chuck Lavazzi’s review of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 for KDHX simply stated: “SLSO Music Director Stéphane Denève conducted the orchestra and chorus in what was the best damn Beethoven Symphony No. 9 that I have ever heard, either live or on recordings. Olympian in its grandeur, electrifying in its impact and stunningly perfect in its execution, this was perhaps the Ninth against which all others must now be measured.”

Stéphane welcomed the new decade in St. Louis as he conducted his first BMO Wealth Management New Year’s Eve Celebration, themed as Dancing Around the World. As Sarah Bryan Miller wrote in her concert review for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*: “Stéphane Denève is putting his mark on all sorts of things at the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra...Denève displayed his keen wit and won a lot of laughs from the audience,” in this “music-focused affair.”



Stéphane Denève with the SLSO.



Resident Conductor Gemma New.

### THANK YOU, GEMMA

The end of the 2019/2020 season also brought with it the conclusion of Gemma New’s tenure as SLSO Resident Conductor and Music Director of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. The SLSO is grateful for the countless gifts Gemma has given St. Louis as a member of the SLSO family, especially the hundreds of young musicians forever impacted through her smart and heartfelt leadership of the YO. She touched countless lives with her quiet command, engaging presence, grace on the podium, and palpable love of sharing music. The SLSO looks forward to welcoming her back to Powell Hall for years to come.

### SOMETHING NEW

Throughout its history, the SLSO has championed new music and living composers. That focus continues under Stéphane’s leadership, with the intent to commission new works, perform them regularly, and secure their place in the repertoire of today and beyond. In the 19/20 season, the SLSO featured nine works by composers of today, alongside two world premieres of SLSO-commissioned pieces, and one U.S. premiere. This dedication to music of our time also played out in the 15th season of *Live at the Pulitzer* concerts, the collaboration between the SLSO and Pulitzer Arts Foundation.

The SLSO also experimented with a new concert format to engage new audiences: Crafted. This hour-long concert started and ended with a happy hour and featured commentary from Stéphane during the program. More than one-third of Crafted attendees were new to the SLSO. A second Crafted planned for spring was canceled due to the pandemic. Based on the enthusiastic audience response at the first program, Crafted will become a regular element of future SLSO seasons.

# A SEASON PAUSED...BUT NOT SILENCED

In March, as Stéphane, the SLSO, Symphony Chorus, and a stellar cast of soloists prepared for Berlioz's *The Damnation of Faust*, the COVID-19 pandemic's impact reached St. Louis. It became clear that the program would have to be canceled out of an abundance of caution for the health and safety of musicians, patrons, staff, and the community.

In total, the SLSO had to postpone or cancel 36 concerts and 23 community programs. The entire Opera Theatre of Saint Louis festival season was also canceled, and OTSL graciously donated a portion of the orchestra's fee to the SLSO. Through it all, patrons continued their generous support, with more than 40 percent donating the ticket value to canceled concerts back to the SLSO, helping sustain the orchestra during this unprecedented time.

Even without live, in-person concerts, the SLSO shared the power of music in a variety of ways to connect with the community, even when physically apart.

To support teachers and parents as schools shifted to online learning, the SLSO quickly shared new and updated education resources on [slo.org](http://slo.org). Included in these was the new Instrument Playground Online, presented by PNC Arts Alive, a digital resource featuring videos and activities to introduce the instruments of the orchestra and the musicians who play them.



Principal Oboist Jelena Dirks talks music with a student for the Instrument Playground Online video series.



The SLSO returned to St. Louis Public Radio on Saturday, May 2, with rebroadcasts of previous concerts, which continued throughout the summer. The SLSO also hosted and performed at the Arts United STL virtual benefit in collaboration with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis and area arts organizations. The event raised \$350,000 for the Regional Arts Commission Artist Relief Fund.

As a gift to the community, the SLSO created the *Songs of America* video project, a series of six videos released daily, culminating in a performance of "Amazing Grace" featuring Kennedy Holmes on July 4. Two additional videos were added over the summer. The project celebrates the breadth of voices in American music and features St. Louis artists and landmarks that showcase the unique spirit of the community. The videos also aired on the Nine Network of Public Media.



SLSO Musicians perform outside the Scott Joplin house for the Songs of America video series.



SLSO musicians in their #SLSOatHome performances.

Musicians shared performances from their homes to comfort and inspire through #SLSOatHome. The video series launched April 3, with 38 total videos created by members from the entire SLSO family, which were viewed more than 100,000 times.

The SLSO offered opportunities for patrons to connect, hosting virtual Lunch & Learns, including one about IN UNISON with Kevin McBeth, composer Nathalie Joachim, SLSO musicians, chorus members, and the IN UNISON team. The SLSO also hosted Whitaker Zoom happy hours prior to the radio rebroadcasts, with patrons chatting with Creative Partner Tim Munro and SLSO musicians about that evening's program.



**17**  
CONCERT  
REBROADCASTS  
OF PREVIOUS SLSO  
PERFORMANCES  
ON ST. LOUIS  
PUBLIC RADIO

**38**  
#SLSOATHOME  
VIDEOS

**1,200+**  
HOURS OF  
#SLSOATHOME  
VIDEOS WERE  
WATCHED

**250,000+**  
PEOPLE REACHED  
BY SLSO SONGS  
OF AMERICA IN ITS  
FIRST MONTH

**1,000**  
PEOPLE ATTENDED  
VIRTUAL LUNCH  
& LEARNS AND  
WHITAKER ZOOM  
EVENTS

## AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY

Celebrate St. Louis and its unique history, talent, and diversity. Make investments to attract, retain, and cultivate new and existing audiences, while elevating the SLSO as a community and education leader.

*An estimated crowd of 20,000 gathered on Art Hill in September 2019 to welcome new Music Director Stéphane Denève to his first Forest Park concert. The St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus and members of the Youth Orchestra performed alongside the SLSO.*



## AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY

The SLSO is a world-renowned and community-supported orchestra. Proud to be part of the St. Louis region, concerts and programs are musical gifts to the community we call home. The SLSO focuses on delivering engaging and innovative programming that is accessible, so all guests—from young children and first-time attendees to families and long-time patrons—feel they are a welcomed part of the SLSO family.

For almost 100 years, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra has offered education concerts—one small part of its dedicated education efforts. In addition to welcoming more than 22,000 students to Powell Hall, the SLSO supported teachers and students in other meaningful ways.



SLSO musicians Will James and Becky Boyer Hall perform with members of Maryville University's Music Therapy program and St. Louis Arc.

### CREATIVE MUSIC MAKING

Now in its 11th year, Creative Music Making is a unique partnership between the SLSO, St. Louis Arc, and Maryville University Music Therapy that empowers people with disabilities to create and perform their own concert and helps train music therapy students. The program was the subject of a documentary made by PBS station WEDU in Florida that also aired locally on the Nine Network.

### SENSORY-FRIENDLY CONCERTS

Students with disabilities generally have fewer opportunities to engage with the arts than their peers. In the 1980s and early 1990s, the SLSO regularly hosted concerts for children with special needs. In November, the SLSO brought back the idea with two Sensory-Friendly Education Concerts, presented by PNC Arts Alive. Musicians performed Prokofiev's timeless classic, *Peter and the Wolf*, for hundreds of children, their teachers, and staff of Special School District of St. Louis County and other schools in partnership with the St. Louis Jewish Community Center. The SLSO worked closely with Paula Berner, a retired special education and music teacher from Special School District, to provide a concert experience in a sensory-friendly environment that was welcoming and judgment-free.



The SLSO performing at the J.



Clarinetist Tzuying Huang shares insights about her instruments with a curious student for the new Instrument Playground Online video series.



SLSO trombonists Tim Myers and Amanda Stewart perform with local teachers at Powell Hall.

### EXTRA CREDIT ON STAGE AT POWELL HALL

In October, the SLSO celebrated music educators and welcomed them as very special guest artists, joining the SLSO and Resident Conductor Gemma New for Extra Credit, a side-by-side concert where teachers shared music stands with SLSO musicians. More than 100 teachers from the St. Louis region, across the state, and as far away as Tulsa, Oklahoma, participated in this unique community concert.

### INTRODUCING THE SLSO'S INSTRUMENT PLAYGROUND... ONLINE

For almost 15 years, the Symphony Volunteer Association has shared the SLSO Instrument Playground to give students, families, and all visitors a chance to experience the instruments of the orchestra. Thanks to a grant from PNC Arts Alive, the SLSO launched a virtual version as part of Music in Our Schools Month in March.

The Instrument Playground Online ([slo.org/ipo](http://slo.org/ipo)) features 10 musicians and their instruments in 20 videos, representing each instrument family of the orchestra. The webpage includes supplemental resources like discussion guides and activities teachers can use in class or families can use at home.

The videos were incredibly popular—with more than 25,000 total views and 400 hours of total watch time. And 67 percent of those viewers were new to the SLSO. The timing also worked well, as teachers, students, and parents began adjusting to at-home learning in March and were looking for additional resources, especially in music. Said one teacher: "These are amazing videos. My students' favorite part is the kids interviewing the musicians! Thank you for making them accessible to all and so well done."



**22,000+**  
STUDENTS  
(PRE-K THROUGH  
ELEMENTARY)  
ATTENDED  
EDUCATION  
CONCERTS



**583**  
SCHOOLS SERVED  
ACROSS THE  
BI-STATE REGION



**PUBLIC 328**  
HOME SCHOOL 96  
**PAROCHIAL 77**  
PRIVATE 59  
**CHARTER 13**  
OTHER 10



**482**  
**97**  
PARTICIPATING  
SCHOOLS



**1,253**  
TRAINED/ENGAGED  
TEACHERS FROM  
ACROSS THE BI-  
STATE AND REGION

## INSTITUTIONAL CULTURE AND CAPACITY

Strengthen the institution to align with our core values and make the SLSO and Powell Hall a premier resource in the region for culture, education, and music.



*The 442s—(L-R) Bjorn Ranheim, Bob DeBoo, Michael Casimir, Adam Maness, and Shawn Weil—were joined by vocalist Brian Owens to record Sam Cooke's "A Change Is Gonna Come," in downtown St. Louis' Kiener Plaza for the Songs of America series. Casimir, Ranheim, and Weil are SLSO musicians. The Songs of America videos reached more than 250,000 in their first month.*

## INSTITUTIONAL CULTURE AND CAPACITY

The culture of the SLSO is that of a family, including the Symphony Chorus, IN UNISON Chorus, Youth Orchestra, and Symphony Volunteer Association, plus donors, patrons, and the St. Louis Community. And this season, the SLSO family welcomed its newest member, Music Director Stéphane Denève for the orchestra's historic 140th season.



Principal Oboist Jelena Dirks shares a moment with Stéphane Denève during rehearsal.



## TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

A generous grant from the Berges Family Foundation enabled the SLSO to make substantial technology enhancements and improvements, like upgrading cybersecurity and acquiring new digital tools, to bolster institutional capacity and help shape its future. These transformations have made the SLSO more efficient and impacted institutional priorities including artistic achievement, educational and community outreach, and expanding access to music.

When the world was reshaped by the coronavirus, these technology upgrades made it possible for the SLSO team to immediately work remotely and collaborate safely, efficiently, and effectively. The collaboration this gift enabled will reshape how the SLSO works, far beyond the crisis.

## SYMPHONY VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION

A cherished part of the SLSO family for decades, the Symphony Volunteer Association continued its steadfast support of the orchestra, volunteering 8,100 hours over the season. It hosted the *Express the Music* and *Picture the Music* programs. *Picture the Music* celebrated its 30th anniversary, with students submitting more than 12,000 pieces of original artwork. The SVA also continued its longtime support of the YO by hosting its first-ever Trivia Night. The sold-out evening raised \$24,000 to support the YO's young musicians. From welcoming Stéphane at the airport and handing out Stéphane fans at Forest Park, to providing tours of Powell Hall and attending Arts Advocacy Day in Jefferson City, the SVA champions the SLSO throughout the region.



A young student admires his artwork during the 2020 *Picture the Music* program at Powell Hall.



Members of the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus.

## EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The SLSO continued its focused work on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) throughout the season. A team led by Board members Dr. Donald Suggs, Sherry Sissac, and Molly Hyland worked with Dr. Kira Banks of Saint Louis University and Rebecah Bennett of Emerging Wisdom to host community listening sessions to inform the SLSO's EDI framework. The SLSO received a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through the League of American Orchestras to support its ongoing EDI work. The SLSO also worked to share music of composers and artists of color through its Florence Price Project and the *Songs of America* video series.

“(STÉPHANE) IS STEADILY WINNING OVER ST. LOUISANS WITH HIS COMBINATION OF PERSONAL CHARM, SMART MUSICAL CHOICES AND CAREFULLY THOUGHT-OUT PROGRAMMING.”

– Sarah Bryan Miller, *St. Louis Post Dispatch*

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## OPERATING RESULTS: FISCAL YEAR 2020

September 1, 2019–August 31, 2020 (\$ in Thousands)\*

### REVENUE

#### EARNED REVENUE

Ticket Revenue	\$ 5,314
Fee and Tour Revenue	829
Other Earned Revenue	481

**Total Earned Revenue 6,624**

#### CONTRIBUTED REVENUE

Annual Campaign, Events\*\*

**Total Contributed Revenue 10,001**

\*\*less Reserve

#### ENDOWMENT AND OTHER REVENUE

Endowment Draw	10,200
Other	791

**Total Endowment and Other Revenue 10,991**

**TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE \$27,616**

### EXPENSES

Artistic/Concert Production; Community Partnerships, Education and Youth Orchestra	\$ 18,412
--	-----------

Marketing and Public Relations	2,935
Fundraising	1,651
Facilities	1,393
General and Administrative	3,214

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$27,605**

\*Preliminary and unaudited results

40%  
Endowment and  
Other Revenue

36%  
Contributed  
Revenue

24%  
Earned Revenue



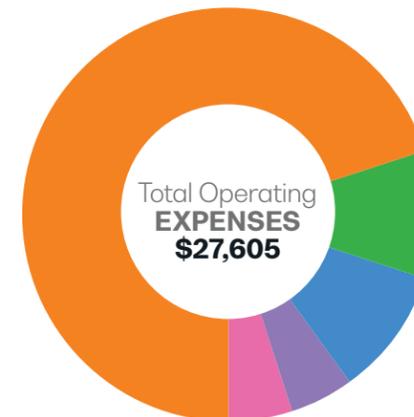
67%  
Artistic/Concert  
Production;  
Community and  
Education Programs

11%  
Marketing and  
Public Relations

11%  
General and  
Administrative

6%  
Fundraising

5%  
Facilities



### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

August 31, 2020 (\$ in Thousands)\*

#### ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 9,342
Investments held by the Symphony	12,341
Investments held by the Endowment Trust	219,570
Receivables	24,904
Other Assets	397
Property and Equipment (net)	5,051

**Total Assets 271,605**

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

##### Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	1,204
Deferred Revenue	2,935
Notes Payable	3,651
NPV of Annuity Obligations	266
Net Pension Liability	7,946

**Total Liabilities 16,002**

##### Net Assets

Unrestricted	54,033
Temporarily Restricted	36,266
Permanently Restricted	165,304

**Total Net Assets 255,603**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$ 271,605**

\*Preliminary and unaudited results



Stéphane Denève conducts a Family Concert, joined by actors to perform Cinderella.

## Founders Society

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra gratefully acknowledges the following donors whose lifetime of philanthropic support distinguishes them among the SLSO's most generous benefactors. Founders Society members are honored for their total cumulative giving as of August 31, 2020.

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The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra gratefully acknowledges the following donors who supported the Annual Fund at a leadership level with contributions and ticket donations from September 1, 2019, through August 31, 2020.

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### Neasa Gibbons Rohlik

Mr. Brian Rohlik

### Judith Rubenstein

J.K. Callahan

Mr. and Mrs. John Nischwitz

### John Sheridan

Ms. Eileen Traughber

### George Silfies

Mrs. Jeanine York-Garesche

### Noble and Johanna Smith

Ms. Jane R. Smith

### Aaron Starobin

Loren and Ken Ludmerer

### Mr. George Stern

Col. Robert S. Poydasheff Ret

### Barbara Tebbetts

Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Schulmn

### Drew Thompson

S. J. Braddock

Mr. and Mrs. James Deutschmann

Felicia A. Foland and Kati M. Guerra

Ms. Kimberly Norcross

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Samson

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Schweizer

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Stilwell

Ms. Susan Stokdyk

Ms. Jennifer Stokes

### Margaret Tracy

Loren and Ken Ludmerer

### Linda Webb

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher C. Webb

### Elizabeth "Libby" Weinman

Ms. Becky A. Brown

Mr. and Mrs. J.G. Canada

Mr. Alan R. Fiddleman

Ms. Maryann McNamara

Ms. Holly Parks

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Steinmeyer

### Dr. Stuart Weiss

Dr. Gregory Storch and Dr. Lisa Ring

### Mr. Charles A. Werner

Ms. Carolyn White and Mr. Jerome R.

Mandelstamm

### Rosemary S. Wick

Linda and Paul Lee

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Neidorff

### Wesley Wildman

Ms. Nancy Belt

### Howard Witsma

Dr. Charles Manley and Ms. Kimberly

Perry

Audrey Tabler and Family

Elaine and Edward Wichmer

### Dorothea Wolfram

Ms. Kathleen B. Williams

### Charlotte Wright

Dr. and Mrs. Donald R. Oliver

### Sylvia Zveitel

Acropolis Investment Management

Mrs. Barbara Bahn

June R. Bierman

Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Borowsky

Gatesworth Residents Association

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Glantz

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Glick

Mrs. Sidney Goldberg

Mr. John Greenberg

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Haynes

Ali Herbst

Ms. Frances Horn

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Kramer

Landmark Bank

Mr. Herbert Lesser

Ms. Carol C. Max

Ms. Joyce Ross

Mr. Steven Rudolph

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schraibman

Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Schulte

Mrs. Sylvia K. Silver

Mr. Andrew Solomon

Mr. Steve Sorkin

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Stix

Ms. Lori Stone

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth H. Suelthaus

Mr. William Sweeney

T. F. and Alison Talbot

Mr. Mark Voelpel

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew F. Wasserman

Dr. Robert Young and Dr. Katherine

Kreusser

Ms. Linda Younglove

# Administration | 140th Season | 2019/2020

## EXECUTIVE

### Marie-Hélène Bernard

President and Chief Executive Officer

### Tracey Koch

Executive Assistant to the President and  
CEO

## ARTISTIC AND OPERATIONS

### Erik Finley

Vice President and General Manager

### Margaret Bailey

Director of Operations

### Alex Bryant

Production and Hall Rental Manager  
(through February 2020)

### Paul Hennerich

Recording Engineer Consultant

### Ian Kivler

Artistic Administrator

### Audrey Kwong

Artistic Operations Manager

### Victoria Lam

Artistic Operations Assistant

### Cacia Meeks

Assistant Orchestra Personnel Manager

### Susan Patterson

Manager of Symphony Chorus

### Valerie Petrov

Orchestra Personnel Manager  
(through December 2019)

### Lindsey White

Artist Liaison

## Education and Community Partnerships

### Maureen Byrne

Associate Vice President, Education and  
Community Partnerships

### Michelle Byrd

IN UNISON Programs Coordinator

### Jessica Ingraham

Director of Education

### Brittney McIntyre

Education and Community Programs  
Coordinator

### Sarah Ruddy

Education Programs Coordinator

### Samantha Sachtleben

Youth Orchestra Manager

## Music Library

### Elsbeth Brugger

Librarian

### Henry Skolnick

Associate Librarian

### Amanda Tallant

Assistant Librarian

### Stage Crew

### M. Jason Pruzin

Stage Manager

### Ron Bolte, Jr.

Assistant Stage Manager (Sound)

### Rick McKenna

Stagehand

### Andrew Rock

Assistant Stage Manager (Lighting)

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Vicki Boutwell

Vice President, Communications

### Caitlin Custer

Communications Manager

### Eric Dundon

Public Relations Manager

### Tim Munro

Creative Partner

### Nikki Scandalios

Communications Consultant

## MARKETING AND AUDIENCE SERVICES

### David Nischwitz

Vice President, Marketing and Audience  
Services

### Dawn Berkbigler

Associate Director, Group Sales

### Lesley Chaney

Director of Patron Services

### Travis Estes

Director of Digital Strategy (through  
March 2020)

### Abby Freeman

Marketing Coordinator

### Daniel Glen

Graphic Designer

### Mary Helbling

Director of Marketing

### Julie Kruempel

Marketing Consultant

### Maribeth Lay

Front of House Operations Manager

### Brittney Leimkuehler

Assistant Box Office Manager

### Dave Moore

VIP Services Manager

### Alyssa Przygoda

Box Office Manager

### Rachel Sennett

Marketing Manager

### Liz Sullivan

Director of Creative Services



*The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra performing at Powell Hall.*

# St. Louis Symphony Chorus

<b>Amy Kaiser</b> <i>Director</i>	Derek Dahlke Laurel Ellison Dantas Inés de Erasquin Mary C. Donald Ladd Faszold Alan Freed Mark Freiman Amy Telford Garcés Amy Gatschenberger Megan E. Glass Justino Gordón Steven Grigsby James Haessig Susan H. Hagen Carlea Halverson Sue Harrington Michelle D. Harry Nancy J. Helmich Ellen Henschen Jacob Henson John Frederick Herget, IV Jeffrey Heyl Heather Humphrey Matthew Jellinek Kerry Jenkins Preston Jordan	Jim Kalkbrenner Scott Kennebeck Margaret Milligan Kerr Patricia Kofron Elena Korpalski Christina Kruger Paul Kunnath Thomas W. Kupferer, Jr. Debby Lennon Alina Luke Gina Malone Kellen Markovich Patrick C. Mattia Emese Mattingly Timothy John McCollum Virginia McGuigan Elizabeth McKinney Robert McNichols, Jr. Scott Meidroth Jonathan P. Miller Jei Mitchell-Evans Ashleigh C. S. Moffitt Elizabeth Ducey Moss Anthony Murgo Duane L. Olson Malachi Owens, Jr.	Susan D. Patterson Trent A. Patterson Angela Paulick Matt Pentecost David Pierce Lillian Pinto de Sá Sarah Jane Price Amy E. W. Prince Beth Rouintree Pritchett Shelly Ragan Valerie Christy Reichert Kate Reimann Greg Riddle Olivia Roland Caleb Rosenthal Terree Rowbottom Nathan Tulloch Ruggles Robert R. Runnion Mark Saunders Mark V. Scharff Leann Schuering Victoria Siddell Janice Simmons-Johnson Charles G. Smith Nick Spector Adam Stefo	J. David Stephens Kim Stewart Alyssa Strauss Dean Strouse Clark Sturdevant Maureen Taylor Nora Justak Teipen Byron E. Thornton Natanja Tomich Diane Toomey-Watson Philip Touchette DeWayne Trainer Pamela M. Triplett David R. Truman Greg Upchurch Kaamya Varagur Robert L. Voelker Nancy Maxwell Walther LJ White Mary Murphy Wissinger Paula N. Wohldmann Danielle Yilmaz Carl S. Zimmerman
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# St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus

<b>Kevin McBeth</b> <i>Director</i>	Lynette G. Brunson* Marvin C. Brunson* Denise Brunson-Harris Michelle Byrd Harry Cecil Beverly Charisse* Denise Clothier Doris Coleman* Vernetta Cox Cynthia Davis Reginald Davis Janet L. Dickerson Charita A. Dones Maggie Dorsey* Elaine P. Dowdle Darrius K. Duncan* Kim H. Durr Isaac Edwards Glenn H. Ellis Michael Engelhardt Duane Foster Beth Enloe Fritz Grace Lee Fulford Maggie Gann Ruth A. Gilliam*	Cassandra Gilyard Gregory Green Deborah Grupe Leslie Hanlin Cherise Harris Carol D. Henley Jared Hennings Dorothy T. Heyward Natalie Hill Veda Hill-Guyse Sarah Hath Lawrence Hudson-Lewis Carole A. Hughes* Don Hutcherson Annie M. Jackson* Nathaniel Jackson Pearline Jamison Joyce Jefferson La'Matra Johnson Lisa Johnson Stanley R. Johnson Jr. Barrie C. Jones* Jennifer L. Kelley Patricia Land Anton Lane	Brenda Lane Ronya Lawrence Julie Lynch Nadia Maddex* Margaret Ann McCabe Tiffany McClenton Daniel McRath* Vickie Minter Montel Moore* Mary Moorehead Harry V. Moppins Jr. Calvin Parker Kimberly Payne Diane J. Peal* Harry A. Penelton III Patricia Penelton* Eric W. Pitts John Reed Adrian Rice Wilatrell B. Rice Linda S. Richie* Tiara Rooks-Thomas Kathleen Schroeder Christopher Scott Teresia Simmons	Denise Sleet Dwyane Smith Shawanda Smith Diane Smoot Charles D. Stancil Bridget Stegall* Wynton Stuart Althelia Powell-Thomas* Karen Thomas-Stuart Sharon Thurman Lisha Tucker Gracie Ward Kelly Ward Martyl Webster Gwendolyn Wesley* Elsa Whitfield Edward Whittington Eric Williams* Glen E. Williams* Michele Sue Williams	* <i>Charter Member</i> * <i>Young Artist</i>
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# St. Louis Symphony Orchestra | 140th Season | 2019/2020

<b>Stéphane Denève</b> <i>Music Director</i>	<b>SECOND VIOLINS</b> <b>Alison Harney</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Dr. Frederick Eno Woodruff Chair</i>	<b>DOUBLE BASSES</b> <i>Underwritten in part by a generous gift from Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefeld</i>	<b>BASS CLARINET</b> <b>Tzuying Huang</b>	<b>TUBA</b> <b>Derek Fenstermacher</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Lesley A. Waldheim Chair</i>
<b>Gemma New</b> <i>Resident Conductor and Director of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra</i>	<b>Kristin Ahlstrom</b> <i>Associate Principal</i> <i>Virginia V. Weldon, M.D. Chair</i>	<b>Erik Harris</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Henry Loew Chair</i>	<b>E-FLAT CLARINET</b> <b>Jaewon Kim**</b>	<b>TIMPANI</b> <b>Shannon Wood</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Symphony Volunteer Association Chair</i>
<b>Amy Kaiser</b> <i>Director of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus</i> <i>AT&amp;T Foundation Chair</i>	<b>Eva Kozma</b> <i>Assistant Principal</i>	<b>Alek Belcher</b> <i>Associate Principal</i>	<b>BASSOONS</b> <b>Andrew Cuneo</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Molly Sverdrup Chair</i>	<b>Thomas Stubbs</b> <i>Associate Principal</i> <i>Paul A. and Ann S. Lux Chair</i>
<b>Kevin McBeth</b> <i>Director of the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus</i>	<b>Andrea Jarrett</b>	<b>Christopher Carson</b> <i>Assistant Principal</i>	<b>Andrew Gott</b> <i>Associate Principal</i>	<b>PERCUSSION</b> <b>William James</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch Foundation Chair</i>
<b>Leonard Slatkin</b> <i>Conductor Laureate</i>	<b>Rebecca Boyer Hall</b>	<b>David DeRiso</b>	<b>Felicia Foland</b>	<b>Alan Stewart</b> <i>Associate Principal</i> <i>Alyn and Marlyn Essman Chair</i>
<b>Jean-Yves Thibaudet</b> <i>Artist-in-Residence</i>	<b>Nicolae Bica</b>	<b>Brendan Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Vincent Karamanov</b>	<b>CONTRABASSOON</b> <b>Vincent Karamanov</b>
<b>FIRST VIOLINS</b> <b>David Halen</b> <i>Concertmaster</i> <i>Eloise and Oscar Johnson, Jr. Chair</i>	<b>Janet Carpenter</b>	<b>Ronald Moberly</b>	<b>HARP</b> <b>Allegra Lilly</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Elizabeth Eliot Mallinckrodt Chair</i>	<b>HORNS</b> <b>Roger Kaza</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>W.L. Hadley and Phoebe P. Griffin Chair</i>
<b>Heidi Harris</b> <i>Associate Concertmaster</i> <i>Louis D. Baumont Chair</i>	<b>Lisa Chong</b>	<b>Ling Ling Guan</b>	<b>Asako Kuboki</b>	<b>Thomas Jöstlein</b> <i>Associate Principal</i> <i>Herbert C. and Estelle Claus Chair</i>
<b>Celeste Goden Boyer</b> <i>Second Associate Concertmaster</i>	<b>Ling Ling Guan</b>	<b>Asako Kuboki</b>	<b>Wendy Plank Rosen</b>	<b>Christopher Dwyer</b>
<b>Erin Schreiber</b> <i>Assistant Concertmaster</i>	<b>Jonathan Chu</b> <i>Assistant Principal</i>	<b>Andrew Francois</b>	<b>Shawn Weil</b>	<b>Tod Bowermaster</b>
<b>Dana Edson Myers</b> <i>Justice Joseph H. and Maxine Goldenhersh Chair</i>	<b>Michael Casimir</b>	<b>Susan Gordon</b>	<b>Hannah Ji**</b>	<b>Julie Thayer</b>
<b>Jessica Cheng</b> <i>Margaret B. Grigg Chair</i>	<b>Andrew Francois</b>	<b>Leonid Plashinov-Johnson</b>	<b>VIOLAS</b> <b>Beth Guterma Chu</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Ben H. and Katherine G. Wells Chair</i>	<b>Victoria Knudtson</b>
<b>Ann Fink</b>	<b>Susan Gordon</b>	<b>Chris Tantillo</b>	<b>Jonathan Chu</b> <i>Assistant Principal</i>	<b>KEYBOARD INSTRUMENTS</b> <b>Principal*</b> <i>Florence G. and Morton J. May Chair</i>
<b>Emily Ho</b>	<b>Leonid Plashinov-Johnson</b>	<b>Shannon Farrell Williams</b>	<b>Michael Casimir</b>	<b>Thomas Stubbs</b>
<b>Silvian Iticovici</b> <i>Second Associate Concertmaster Emeritus</i>	<b>Chris Tantillo</b>	<b>Xi Zhang</b>	<b>Andrew Francois</b>	<b>KEYBOARD INSTRUMENTS</b> <b>Principal*</b> <i>Florence G. and Morton J. May Chair</i>
<b>Joo Kim</b>	<b>Shannon Farrell Williams</b>	<b>Linda Numagami**</b>	<b>Andrea Kaplan</b> <i>Associate Principal</i>	<b>Thomas Stubbs</b>
<b>Melody Lee</b>	<b>Xi Zhang</b>	<b>CELLOS</b> <b>Daniel Lee</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Frank Y. and Katherine G. Gladney Chair</i>	<b>Jennifer Nitchman</b>	<b>KEYBOARD INSTRUMENTS</b> <b>Principal*</b> <i>Florence G. and Morton J. May Chair</i>
<b>Xiaoxiao Qiang</b>	<b>Linda Numagami**</b>	<b>Melissa Brooks</b> <i>Associate Principal</i> <i>Ruth and Bernard Fischlowitz Chair</i>	<b>Ann Choomack</b>	<b>KEYBOARD INSTRUMENTS</b> <b>Principal*</b> <i>Florence G. and Morton J. May Chair</i>
<b>Angie Smart</b> <i>Mary and Oliver Langenberg Chair</i>	<b>CELLOS</b> <b>Daniel Lee</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Frank Y. and Katherine G. Gladney Chair</i>	<b>David Kim</b> <i>Assistant Principal</i>	<b>PICCOLO</b> <b>Ann Choomack</b>	<b>TRUMPETS</b> <b>Karin Bliznik***</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Symphony Volunteer Association Chair</i>
<b>Hiroko Yoshida</b>	<b>Melissa Brooks</b> <i>Associate Principal</i> <i>Ruth and Bernard Fischlowitz Chair</i>	<b>Elizabeth Chung</b>	<b>OBOES</b> <b>Jelena Dirks</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Morton D. May Chair</i>	<b>Thomas Drake</b> <i>Associate Principal</i>
<b>Jecoliah Wang**</b>	<b>David Kim</b> <i>Assistant Principal</i>	<b>James Czyzewski</b>	<b>Philip Ross</b> <i>Associate Principal</i>	<b>Jeffrey Strong***</b>
	<b>Elizabeth Chung</b>	<b>Jennifer Humphreys</b>	<b>Cally Banham</b>	<b>Michael Walk</b> <i>David J. Hyslop Chair</i>
	<b>James Czyzewski</b>	<b>Alvin McCall</b>	<b>Xiomara Mass**</b>	<b>Austin Williams**</b>
	<b>Jennifer Humphreys</b>	<b>Bjorn Ranheim</b>	<b>ENGLISH HORN</b> <b>Cally Banham</b>	<b>TROMBONES</b> <b>Timothy Myers</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Mr. and Mrs. William R. Orthwein, Jr. Chair</i>
	<b>Alvin McCall</b>	<b>Yin Xiong</b>	<b>CLARINETS</b> <b>Scott Andrews</b> <i>Principal</i> <i>Walter Susskind Chair</i>	<b>Amanda Stewart</b> <i>Associate Principal</i>
	<b>Bjorn Ranheim</b>		<b>Diana Haskell</b> <i>Associate Principal</i> <i>Wilfred and Ann Lee Konneker Chair</i>	<b>Jonathan Reyecraft</b>
	<b>Yin Xiong</b>		<b>Tzuying Huang</b>	<b>BASS TROMBONE</b> <b>Gerard Pagano</b>
			<b>Jaewon Kim**</b>	




**St. Louis Symphony  
Orchestra**  
stéphane denève : music director

