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Expanded
Education

Concert Program

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The background of the entire image is a photograph of a grand, ornate concert hall. The ceiling is a complex, multi-tiered coffered structure with recessed lighting. The walls are covered in dark wood paneling. At the far end of the hall, a large, multi-manual pipe organ is mounted on a raised platform. In the center of the stage, a grand piano sits on a light-colored wooden floor. The audience seating, visible in the foreground and on the sides, consists of rows of dark seats with red upholstered backs.

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NEC Preparatory School

Youth Symphony

Steven Karidoyanes
Conductor

Benjamin Choi
Piano

Thursday, May 8th, 2025
7:30 PM
New England Conservatory - Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

Piano Concerto No.2 in A Major, S. 125
In One Movement

Benjamin Choi, *Piano*

~ INTERMISSION ~

Howard Hanson
(1896-1981)

Symphony No. 2 "Romantic," Op. 30
Adagio - Allegro moderato
Andante con tenerezza
Allegro con brio

NEC Youth Symphony

Steven Karidoyanes, *Music Director*
Rohan Miovic, *Student Manager*

First Violin

Jihye Yun+
Nathan Chun-
Gavin Armstrong
Jovana Zivanovic
Betty Ma
Nileya Liu
Isabella J. Kim
Emily Chen
Sophia Ai Guo
Emily Zhou
Hannah Chen
Jasmine Gu
Annabelle Senatori
Kieran Eichler
Mari Kang
Emmy Yang
Elliott Ho

Second Violin

Audrey Tsai+
Josephine K. Arnold Mages-
Adrian Solomon
Viviette Hong
Daniel Liu
Jacob Wu
Joshua Bruno
Chloe Dimmick
Kyra Lee
Dylan Yang
Grace Nam
Amber Low
Kristin Kim
Daniel Xu
Yejin Choe
Yi Ling Sha
Ayaan Iyer
Vera Lin
Susanna Barouch
Maya Ramanathan
Sophia Wang
Alkmene Armoundas

Viola

Aritro Chatterjee+-
Abigail Tsai
Hanna Lee
Angelina Tang
Vasili Karanos
Jessica Tao
Yifan (Evan) Ding
Vivian Pan
Ella Li
Rachel Miller
Esther Song
Hanna Shimbori
Constantine Gay-Afendulis

Cello

Andrew Xia+
Gabriel Jojatu-
Gaven Fannon
Sunho Lee
Evan Wong
Olivia Zlabys
Victor Johnson
Nikolas Reuning
Stefan Ladendorf
YiYang Yu
Sophia Li
Grace Barnett
Nathan Zhang
Ethan Wright
Andrew Quinn
John Avery
Ruhan Iyer
Madeline Lytton

Bass

Sam Wright+-
Luca Vezza
Luka Rozgic

Flute

Michelle Sun+
Mobius Xiong-
Megan Chen

Oboe

Gavin Datta+
Alicia Wen-

English Horn

Katherine Filiss*

Clarinet

Aaron Velinzon+-
Carla Fortmann*

Bassoon

Hank Hicks+-
Dominic Panunto*

Horn

Nadia Hackbarth-Davis+-
Sylvie Kotsonis
Ashley Chiang*
Hsuan Chiu*

Trumpet

Daniel Geho+
Elena MacFadden-

Trombone

Timothy Han+-
Quinton Krull*
Jaewon Shim*

Tuba

Riley McMahon*

Harp

Chloe Cheung+

Timpani

Jordan Fajardo-Bird*

Percussion

Gustavo Barreda*
Erin Burke**

+ Principal player on Hanson

- Principal player on Liszt

* NEC College Musician

** Guest Artist

Piccolo

Meredith Daly*

Steven Karidoyanes

Music Director, Youth Symphony

As a conductor, composer, and broadcaster, Boston native Steven Karidoyanes brings a wealth of musical experiences to the podium. Since 2004, Mr. Karidoyanes has led the New England Conservatory Youth Symphony in their regular concerts in Jordan Hall, concerts in Symphony Hall, and in past concert tours of Italy, Greece, Costa Rica, Eastern Europe, Ireland, and Spain. He has also been the conductor of the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra, a professional orchestra on Boston's historic South Shore, since 1994. He became an understudy conductor for the Boston Pops Orchestra in 2008, covering rehearsals and performances in Boston's Symphony Hall, Tanglewood, runout performances, and the 2023 Tour to Japan. He made his Boston Pops conducting debut in Symphony Hall in December 2016.

Past international guest conducting engagements include Hungary's Savaria Symphony Orchestra in Hainburg, Austria, the Prague Symphony Chamber Orchestra, Costa Rica's National Music Institute Youth Symphony, and return engagements with the North Czech Philharmonic. Mr. Karidoyanes has also guest conducted the Knoxville Symphony, Syracuse Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, and orchestras in the Washington, D.C. region. Opera productions conducted include Cape Cod Opera's *Carmen*, *The Mikado* by the Bostonian Opera & Concert Ensemble [a.k.a. "The Bostonians"] and Opera-by-the-Bay's (MA) *Die Fledermaus*.

For a decade, Mr. Karidoyanes was Music Director of Boston's Masterworks Chorale, conducting choral/orchestral masterworks in Harvard University's Sanders Theatre. He has also held the posts of Music Director of the Boston College Symphony Orchestra, Associate Conductor of the Winston-Salem Symphony and Greensboro Symphony orchestras in North Carolina, and Assistant Conductor of the Rhode Island Philharmonic. He has served on the faculty of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute for ten seasons and on the conducting faculty of the New England Conservatory.

Complementing his performing activities, Mr. Karidoyanes is a composer and member of ASCAP. His composition, *Yerakina: Dionysian Dance for Orchestra*, was written for and premiered by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and has already been performed by the Boston Pops. His *Café Neon: Fantasy on Greek Songs and Dances* has been performed over forty times by two dozen orchestras coast to coast, plus Italy, Greece, and Australia. Also a classical music announcer/producer, Mr. Karidoyanes has worked for National Public Radio affiliates in Boston, North Carolina, and Indiana.

Steven Karidoyanes holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Boston University. He received training in orchestral conducting at the Canford School of Music in Dorset, England, where he studied with the renowned British conducting coach, George Hurst. Additional orchestral studies earned him the Outstanding Graduate Student Award for two consecutive years from Ball State University in Indiana.

Benjamin Choi

Soloist, Piano

Benjamin Choi has been a student at NEC Prep for five years and is currently studying under Natalia Harlap. He has been playing piano for seven years and is always looking for great music to learn. Recently, he has won prizes at various competitions and has attended numerous summer music programs. Going forward, he intends to continue studying piano and further develop his ear.

Congratulations to graduating Youth Symphony Seniors!

Grace Barnett
Susanna Barouch
Joshua Bruno
Gavin Datta
Costa Gay-Afendulis
Victor Johnson
Vasili Karanos
Hanna Lee
Vera Lin
Daniel Liu
Amber Low
Rachel Miller
Vivian Pan
Maya Arwyn Ramanathan
Sophia Xin Wang
Daniel Xu
Nathan Zhang

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and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.

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be seated at the discretion of management.

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