

SUMMER

2026



THE WILLIAMSBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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IN HER OWN WORDS...

A LIFE SHAPED BY FAMILY, FAITH, DESIGN, AND MUSIC

MEET ANNETTE CALDWELL!
Patron and Event Services Manager

Growing up, my address may have been in a small town in southern New Jersey, but home was really the short walk between two houses, ours, and my grandparents', just steps away. That's where I learned what family meant. My parents, who'd been high school sweethearts, raised six of us, three boys and three girls (me being the youngest), on land my grandparents had owned for years.

My grandfather was from Portugal. My grandmother, from Virginia. Between the two houses, with our extended family included, we had our own little cultural exchange program.

I had five siblings as built-in playmates, and parents who thought nothing of loading all of us into the car for cross-country vacations. We saw nearly every state in the country that way. Looking back, our hometown wasn't so different from Williamsburg, steeped in history, shaped by a strong military presence, and full of cultures blending into one community.

My father earned his master's in education and spent his life as both a teacher and a pastor, taking mission trips overseas to help build churches. The stories he brought home shaped how our whole family saw the world. My mother worked as an administrative assistant, though I've always said her real graduate degree was in raising six children into six thriving adults.

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ANNETTE CALDWELL

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Annette's family



Annette's parents on their wedding day



Annette & her Yorkie, Breuno



Annette in her design element

Music lived in our house as a constant presence (and still does), woven into daily life to the extent that you almost took it for granted. After church on Sundays, once the congregation had cleared out, my mother would sit at the piano and my father at the organ, playing together just for us. It became our own private concert, and we thought it was the sweetest thing in the world.

The church I grew up in taught me that kindness isn't a value you talk about, it's one you live. I watched my parents open our home to the widow of our former pastor for nearly a year while she waited for her new house to be finished. She became part of our family, and I still think about the dignity they gave her. It shapes how I try to treat people today. My mother, who turns 88 this August, still lives by exactly that example and is the most amazing person in our lives.

I started college at Rutgers studying business administration, but some part of me already knew it wasn't where I belonged. When my father passed away suddenly at 49 years old, so much in our lives changed. When I was finally ready, I went back to school for what had always been a passion, interior design. I earned my interior design degree in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, and design stopped being an instinct and became a discipline, one built on creativity, technical skill, and planning most people never see.

For more than twenty years, I've built a career around a simple question, "how do you want a space to feel?" These days, I ask that question on behalf of the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra, where I help shape the patron experience through Patron Services and Events.

The music is always the reason people come. But everything that happens around it shapes how they experience it, how people are welcomed, how they move through the evening, whether their needs are anticipated before they even realize they have one. None of that happens by accident. It's design, applied to hospitality and purpose.

My first Williamsburg Symphony concert still leaves me with just one word: surreal. My father loved classical music and listened to it often. He'd played bass fiddle himself in his younger years, though back then it was just the soundtrack to my childhood, background noise, the way a film score is until you actually listen. Hearing the orchestra live that night, watching the musicians work, I finally understood what he'd been hearing all along.

That's what I want for anyone coming to their first Williamsburg Symphony concert: for the music to grab them the way it grabbed me, and to leave thinking, this belongs in my life. Classical music isn't reserved for people who can name every composer. It's for everyone, sometimes people just don't know yet that they're missing it.

There's something rare about sitting among strangers, watching the same music move through a room in different ways, and knowing that for those two hours, whatever separates us in daily life falls away. Live music does that without even trying.

What excites me most is what's ahead. Making the Williamsburg Symphony an even bigger part of this community's fabric, reaching young people, welcoming lifelong music lovers, and introducing the symphony to people who never imagined it was for them. Preserving something extraordinary while making room for absolutely everyone in the room with it. That's the work I get to be part of, and I wouldn't trade it. 🎭

OWN YOUR OWN ORCHESTRA

Through Own Your Own Orchestra (OYOO), you can support the orchestra by making a donation in honor of your:

- Favorite musician
- Favorite instrument
- Favorite orchestra section

Your generous support, which was previously provided through the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra League, continues to help sustain the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra and its mission of bringing outstanding live orchestral music to our community.

As a special thank-you, your name will be recognized in the Own Your Own Orchestra section of each concert program during the 2026–2027 season. Best of all, 100% of your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

NEW THIS SEASON: SECTION CHALLENGE!

This year, we're adding a little friendly competition! Every orchestra section will compete to earn the most support from our patrons.

- Every \$1 donated = 1 point for the section you choose.
- Donations made in support of a musician within a section count toward that section's total.
- Throughout the season, we'll keep track of the standings and celebrate our supporters and musicians together.

At the conclusion of the concert season, we'll host a special reception with the musicians to celebrate the campaign's success and the generosity of our community.

Choose your favorite. Cast your vote. Support the music.

Own Your Own Orchestra—because every gift helps keep the music playing.

Please note: Your gift to "Own Your Own Orchestra" (OYOO) helps support The Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra for the 2026–2027 season only.

Gifts for OYOO are not an endowment fund. Should you wish to endow a chair, please contact the symphony office at (757) 229-9857.





OYOO FUNDRAISER FORM

Check your selection below and return this form with your method of payment to:

The Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra
P.O. Box 400
Williamsburg, VA 23187

Please print your name here as you would like it to appear in the program.

- ☐ 1. Music Director & Conductor... **\$1,200**
- ☐ 2. Concertmaster... **\$750**
- ☐ 3. Principal Instrument (1st chair)... **\$500**
- ☐ 4. String Section... **\$300**
- ☐ 5. Wind Section... **\$300**
- ☐ 6. Brass Section... **\$300**
- ☐ 7. Percussion Section... **\$250**
- ☐ 8. Keyboard/Harp... **\$150**
- ☐ 9. One Individual Instrument of Your Choice... **\$100**
Please specify instrument _____
- ☐ 10. Conductor's Baton... **\$100**
- ☐ 11. String Player's Bow... **\$50**

Please print name clearly exactly as it appears on the credit card.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ By check, payable to: The Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard Security Code: _____

Credit Card No: _____ Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

A \$3 administrative charge will be added to all credit card payments.

BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION

The close of our fiscal year on June 30, 2026, marked the term departure of three outstanding Trustees from our Board. These individuals have served the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra faithfully and diligently over many years, and they will be greatly missed. In recognition of their dedicated service, each was honored for their years of commitment to the Board.



The Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra has a long tradition of Trustees who give generously their time, talents, and leadership in service to our organization and our community. Their willingness to serve in nearly every aspect of the organization has helped shape the Symphony into what it is today. We are deeply grateful for their dedication, commitment, and lasting contributions.



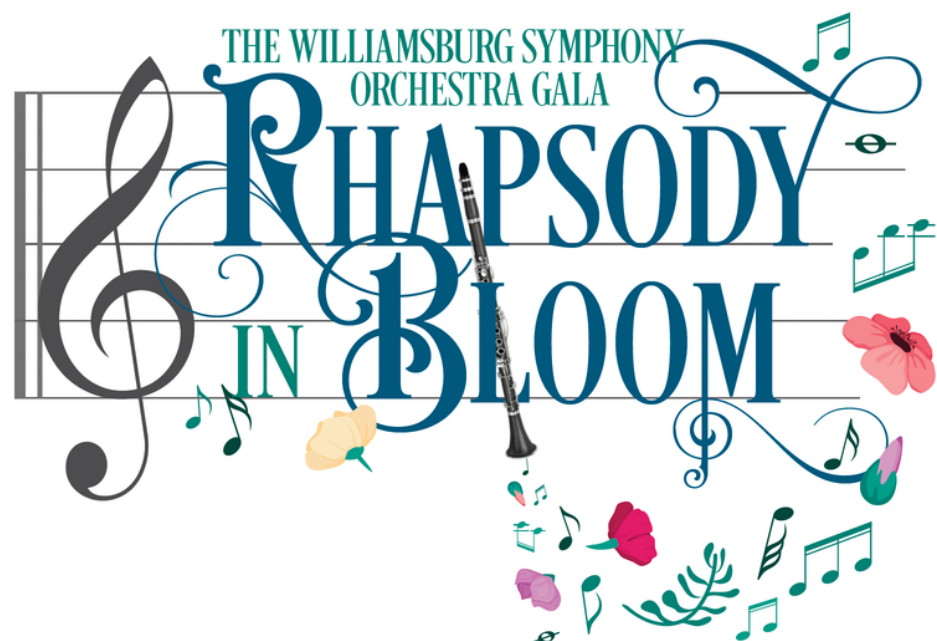
To Paul Try, Roy Femenella, and Linda T. Baker—thank you for your extraordinary service. Your impact on the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra will be felt for years to come.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, March 6,
2027

5:30pm - 9:30pm

Two Rivers
Country Club



williamsburgsymphony.org

Single Tickets
and Season
Subscriptions on
sale NOW!

Click [HERE](#) to
purchase

2026/2027 SEASON

DAZZLING. DYNAMIC. DARING.

MASTERWORKS CONCERT SERIES

at Williamsburg Community Chapel

SEPTEMBER

A NIGHT OF FIRE AND FANTASY

September 22, 2026 (Tues.) 7:30 p.m.

Guest Artist: Evren Ozel, piano

Clyne – PIVOT

Stravinsky – *Petrushka*

Rachmaninoff – Piano Concerto No. 2

OCTOBER

SONIC PORTRAITS

October 13, 2026 (Tues.) 7:30 p.m.

Guest Artist: Rachel Barton-Pine, violin

Simon – *The Block*

Hindemith – *Mathis der Maler* Symphony

Brahms – Violin Concerto

NOVEMBER

SERENADE TO MUSIC

November 10, 2026 (Tues.) 7:30 p.m.

Guest Artist: Johannes Moser, cello

Vaughan/Williams – *Serenade to Music*

Haydn – Symphony No. 104 ("London")

Elgar – Cello Concerto

FEBRUARY

BONUS CONCERT INCLUDED IN THE SERIES

RICK STEVES' EUROPE: A SYMPHONIC JOURNEY

February 16, 2027 (Tues.) 7:30 p.m.

APRIL

BEETHOVEN REIMAGINED

April 13, 2027 (Tues.) 7:30 p.m.

Guest Artist: Claire Huangci, piano

Beethoven – Piano Concerto, Op. 61a

Beethoven – Symphony No. 7

MAY

LEGENDS, DREAMS, AND NEW VOICES

May 4, 2027 (Tues.) 7:30 p.m.

Guest Artist: Mak Grgic, guitar

Wagner – *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*

Wintory – Interactive Game Concerto

Rimsky-Korsakov – *Scheherazade*

SPECIALTY CONCERTS

HOLIDAY POPS

December 5 & 6, 2026 (Sat./Sun.) 1:30 & 3:00 p.m. daily Kimball Theatre

CABARET & COCKTAILS WITH STELLA COLE

January 24, 2027 (Sun.) 8:00 p.m. Williamsburg Lodge

SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH WILLIAMSBURG YOUTH ORCHESTRA

May 2, 2027 (Sun.) 4:00 p.m. Williamsburg Community Chapel



GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

For tickets and concert details, scan the QR code, visit WSO website or call (757) 229-9857.

TWO FRIENDS
OF MUSIC



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VA250

williamsburgsymphony.org



AMERICAN MOSAIC: RECAP

We were honored to present four performances of our newly co-commissioned work, American Mosaic, by composer Peter Boyer, featuring the breathtaking photography of Joe Sohm.

Created in celebration of America's 250th birthday, this inspiring work was performed for nearly 1,000 Williamsburg-James City County fifth graders, featured in our regular concert series, presented outdoors at Colonial Williamsburg, and served as the capstone performance of the Sail Yorktown Festival.

Narrators Barry Bostwick and Raymond Jones brought our nation's story to life, guiding audiences through the rich history of America with warmth and insight.

It was a privilege to welcome both Peter Boyer and Joe Sohm to Williamsburg for these performances. We are deeply grateful to our partners at Colonial Williamsburg and Yorktown for helping make these memorable events possible.





UPCOMING SCHEDULE

October 25, 2026	CONCERTO COMPETITION (4:00 PM) Williamsburg Presbyterian Church
November 8, 2026	FALL CONCERT (2:00 PM AND 5:00 PM) William & Mary Music Arts Center
February 7, 2027	WINTER CONCERT (2:00 PM and 5:00 PM) William & Mary Music Arts Center
March 21, 2027	WYO CHAMBER CONCERT (4:00 PM) King of Glory
April 25, 2027	SPRING CONCERT for CONCERT BAND and STRING ORCHESTRA (2:00 PM) William & Mary Music Arts Center
May 2, 2027	SIDE BY SIDE CONCERT with WILLIAMSBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (4:00 PM) Williamsburg Community Chapel

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