

Minnesota Orchestra

Osmo Vänskä, conductor
 The Steeles | Charles Lazarus, trumpet
 MacPhail Northside Youth Orchestra | Bucket Drummers
 Artists from Juxtaposition Arts

Common Chords

Saturday, January 26, 2019, 7 pm | North Community High School, Minneapolis

Program information for tonight's concert is provided in an insert.
 There will be one intermission.



Osmo Vänskä, conductor

A profile of Minnesota Orchestra Music Director Osmo Vänskä appears on page 6.



The Steeles

The Steeles—five siblings J.D., Fred, Jearlyn, Jevetta and Billy—have been singing together since they were children growing up in Gary, Indiana. They have recorded and performed with Prince as well as super producers Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, and they have shared the stage with Donald Fagen, Morgan Freeman, George Clinton, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Mavis Staples and the Blind Boys of Alabama, among many others, and performed on *A Prairie Home Companion*. The family has traveled around the world performing the acclaimed musical *The Gospel at Colonus*, including a Broadway run at the Lunt Fontanne theatre in 1988. Their heartfelt, melodic sounds have been shared throughout the U.S. and around the world. The Steeles have also contributed to several soundtracks including the award-winning documentary *Hoop Dreams*, *Graffiti Bridge*, *Blank Man*, *In The Meantime* on UpTV, and *Corrina, Corrina*. Collectively they have several Gold and Platinum albums and earned the Sally Award in Education. More: thesteelsmusic.com.

thank you

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Charles Lazarus, trumpet

Charles Lazarus has been a member of the Minnesota Orchestra since 2000. A soloist, composer and bandleader, Lazarus has created and starred in three original orchestral shows: *A Night in the Tropics*, *American Riffs*, and *Fly Me to the Moon*, as well as an annual holiday show, *Merry and Bright*, which features his jazz ensemble. In April 2018, he was featured in a new program entitled *Our Love is Here to Stay* in collaboration with The Steeles and the Minnesota Orchestra. Earlier this month he was the soloist with the Minnesota Orchestra in performances of Steve Heitzeg's *American Nomad*. He has soloed with dozens of orchestras and ensembles throughout North America and has performed and taught master classes in every U.S. state, and in Canada, South America and throughout Europe and Asia. Lazarus has released four solo recordings, and he serves on the faculty of the School of Music at the University of Minnesota. More: minnesotaorchestra.org.

MacPhail Northside Youth Orchestra

After several years of partnering with schools in North Minneapolis, in 2016 MacPhail Center for Music launched the MacPhail Northside Youth Orchestra (MNYO) in response to requests from current and past students in those partnership programs. Conducted by Tamara Gonzalez, MNYO is open to students in grades 7 through 12 and rehearses on Saturday afternoons in North Minneapolis. The orchestra is composed of students from various middle and high schools in the Twin Cities metro area. Students strengthen their musicianship through sectionals, group rehearsal, individual instruction, master classes, and rhythm execution through bucket drumming. More: macphail.org/mnyo.

Juxtaposition Arts

Tonight's performance incorporates the talents of artists from Juxtaposition Arts. Founded in 1995, Juxtaposition Arts (JXTA) is a youth employment center and community development social enterprise rooted in North Minneapolis. JXTA's programs offer college-level training to teens through a core program known as JXTALabs, which annually employs 70 youth ages 14 to 21 in five revenue-earning art and design micro-businesses. The JXTALabs offer a wide array of high-quality art and design services to local and regional clients, including logo designs, screen printed textiles and merchandise, large-scale public installations and murals. More: juxtapositionarts.org.

Sharing Common Chords

By the time of tonight's concert, the Minnesota Orchestra will be completing a weeklong Common Chords residency in North Minneapolis. During the week, Orchestra musicians are participating in about 30 events, including visits to students at several elementary and high schools and chamber performances at locations ranging from the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center, the Cora McCorvey Health and Wellness Center and La Doña Cervecería to Wilson's Image Barbershop and Sammy's Avenue Eatery. We invite you to visit the Orchestra's website at minnesotaorchestra.org and our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages to follow or look back on the week's activities.

We also invite you to share your photos and selfies from tonight's concert on social media using the hashtag #MNorch, and you may see them shared in future issues of the Minnesota Orchestra's program magazine. We at the Minnesota Orchestra thank you for attending tonight's concert and look forward to continuing the many connections made this week.