

2026 Education Concerts

January 28 - 29, 2026
McAllen Performing Arts Center

Themes from

STAR WARS

and

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE

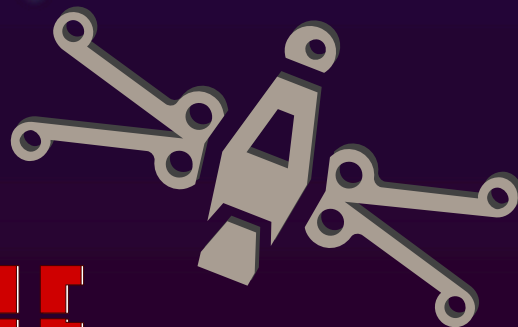
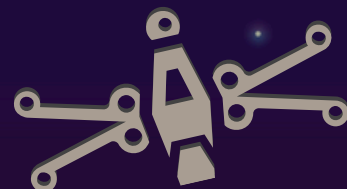
plus

Beethoven

Coriolan Overture

Márquez

Conga del Fuego Nuevo



All seats
only \$6!

Performances at
10am & 1pm
plus 7pm on Jan 29

Book by
November 21, 2025!

For more information contact
catherine@valleysymphony.org



EDUCATION CONCERTS JANUARY 2026

FAQ SHEET

The Valley Symphony Orchestra is pleased to invite you to the 25th ANNUAL STUDENT EDUCATION CONCERTS! We will feature concerts for K-12 students, as well as an evening educational concert open to the public.

The program is hosted by Maestro Dabrowski and features musical selections that highlight each section of the orchestra. Maestro will share remarks on music theory, instrumentation, and other musical concepts illustrated by the concerts. Visit www.valleysymphony.org for more information.

WHEN

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 | 10am, 1pm

Thursday, January 29, 2026 | 10am, 1pm, 7pm

**Please note that 10am and 1pm performances are geared toward a younger audience (elementary age), while the 7pm concert will accommodate more advanced students, as well as a public audience.*

WHERE

All performances take place at the McAllen Performing Arts Center and are approximately 40-50 minutes in length.

REPERTOIRE

Schifrin/Custer - Mission Impossible Theme

Beethoven - Coriolan Overture, Op. 62

Williams - Selections from Star Wars

Márquez - Conga del Fuego Nuevo

Mancini - Pink Panther Theme (7pm only)

WHO CAN ATTEND

All level educational, homeschool, and extra curricular groups are welcome at the education concerts. Please make your reservations early as we do expect seating to fill. The 7pm performance on Thursday, January 29 will also be open to the public, with tickets for non-registered groups available that evening at the box office.

WHAT IS THE COST

Because of the generosity of sponsors, the VSO is able to offer tickets at \$6 per attendee (students and teachers). \$10 tickets are available to adults who wish to attend the 7pm concert on January 29.

HOW CAN I RESERVE SEATS

To reserve seats, visit the education section of our website at: www.valleysymphony.org and register online (preferred), or fill out the attached form and email it to catherine@valleysymphony.org

PAYMENT

Payment can be submitted via check, purchase order, or by credit card over the phone (956) 661-1615. If a different payment option is needed please send an email to catherine@valleysymphony.org

CANCELLATION POLICY

The deadline to cancel or alter your reservation is January 16, 2026. After that date, the VSO cannot guarantee reservation alterations or issue refunds. In order to meet all schools' needs and successfully accommodate as many students as possible, your cooperation and understanding are appreciated.

HAVE A QUESTION

Email: catherine@valleysymphony.org

VSO EDUCATION CONCERTS | JAN 28 - 29, 2026

McAllen Performing Arts Center, 801 Convention Center Blvd.

Elementary 10am & 1pm | Secondary & Public 7pm

RESERVATION INFO

SCHOOL NAME: _____

CONTACT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

CONCERT SELECTION

Please indicate your first and second date/time choice and the VSO will make every effort to accommodate your school. A completed reservation form and payment commitment before the deadline of November 21, 2025 guarantees your registration. Availability is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We expect the 2026 education concerts to be fully booked!

Schools must select 1st and 2nd preferred concert DATE and TIME from the following:

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Elementary 10am, 1pm | Secondary & Public 7pm

Thursday, January 29, 2026

Elementary 10am, 1pm | Secondary & Public 7pm

1st Choice DATE: _____

1st Choice TIME: _____

2nd Choice DATE: _____

2nd Choice TIME: _____

STUDENT INFO

Total Number Students _____

Teachers/Professional Aides _____

Chaperones _____

GRADE LEVEL (Circle any that may apply):

3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th+

OTHER (please specify) _____

Total # Students/Teachers/Chaperones _____ X **\$6.00 PER PERSON** = \$ _____

Number of buses expected _____ Other method of transportation _____

ACCESSIBILITY

Accessible Seating ____ Yes ____ No If yes, how many wheelchair spaces do you require _____

(Indicate any special seating requirements) _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Valley Symphony Orchestra and send to PO BOX 2832, McAllen, TX 78502

RETURN FORM TO: catherine@valleysymphony.org

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FOR VSO OFFICE USE ONLY:

INVOICE SENT: _____

PAYMENT RCVD: _____

Education Opportunities 2025-2026

EDUCATION CONCERTS

On January 28 & 29, 2026 the Valley Symphony Orchestra presents the 25th annual Education Concerts!

For only \$6 per ticket students can enjoy a full symphonic concert at the McAllen Performing Arts Center during the school day or as an after school activity. Registration is open now - act fast as space is limited!

Elementary @ 10am and 1pm
Secondary and public @ 7pm

Reservation Deadline
November 21, 2025

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

The generous support of donors and sponsors makes it possible for the VSO to offer deeply discounted tickets to students and their chaperones! Student groups of 10 or more receive \$13 tickets (inclusive of fees) to our masterworks concerts.

STUDENT CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

The Valley Symphony Orchestra *Student Chamber Spotlight* provides student groups a unique opportunity to perform in the McAllen Performing Arts Center lobby prior to our masterworks concerts and to attend the concert as well!

SINGLE TICKET DISCOUNTS

Students & Educators!

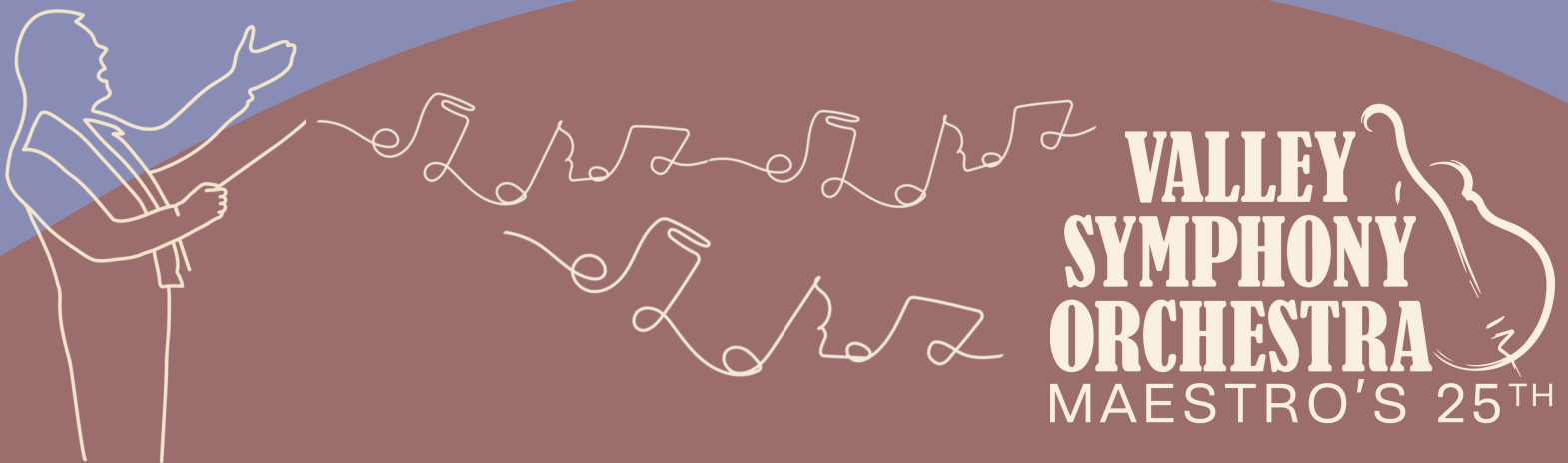
Discounted tickets (\$20 + fees) can be purchased at the MPAC Box Office with a valid school ID

Limit two per person

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website at
www.valleysymphony.org

See reverse for 25-26 concert dates



November 7, 2025

Sibelius - Finlandia, Op. 26

Mozart - Piano Concerto No. 21, C Major, K467

Gabriela Martinez, piano soloist

Hindemith - Symphonic Metamorphosis

MUSIC OF THE GREATS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2025
McAllen Performing Arts Center



Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 21* opens the season in iconic fashion along with Hindemith's colorful *Symphonic Metamorphosis*.

Featuring Gabriela Martinez, piano soloist.

December 5, 2025

Full program TBA

A TOUCH OF FROST

Featuring the VSO Chorale
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025
McAllen Performing Arts Center



Our winter celebration with the VSO Chorale is full of festive and heartwarming music to ring in the holiday season.

February 6, 2026

Beethoven - Coriolan Overture, Op. 62

Bogdanov - Piano Concerto No. 2 for Four Hands

Schiffrin/Custer - Mission Impossible Theme

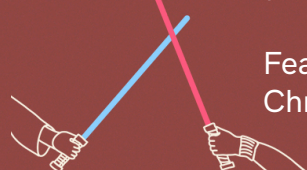
Williams - Theme from Jurassic Park

Mancini - Pink Panther

Williams - Star Wars

STAR WARS+ FOUR HANDS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026
McAllen Performing Arts Center



A sonic galaxy awaits.... Iconic movie moments and a dazzling four-hand piano concerto from Bogdanov (North American premiere).

Featuring Haysun Kang & Christopher Guzman, piano soloists.

March 6, 2026

Copland - Hoe Down from Rodeo

Rutter - Feel the Spirit

Márquez - Leyenda de Miliano

Lennon/McCartney/Mancini - Portrait of the Beatles

THE BEATLES & RUTTER SOUL

Featuring the VSO Chorale
FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026
McAllen Performing Arts Center



The Fab Four are back on stage! Plus a soulful journey with the VSO Chorale on Rutter's *Feel the Spirit*.

Featuring Karmesha Peake, mezzo-soprano soloist.

April 10, 2026

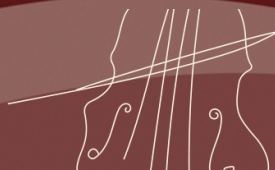
Shostakovich - Festive Overture

Greig - Peer Gynt Suite

Beethoven - Symphony No. 8, F Major, Op. 93

LEGACY OF SOUND

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026
McAllen Performing Arts Center



Close the season with a powerful tribute to Maestro Dabrowski's enduring impact and 25 years of unforgettable music and memories.

Know before you go...

The Valley Symphony Orchestra is pleased to invite you to the 2025-2026 Concert Season!

WHAT

Our Partners in Education (PIE) initiative provides deeply discounted tickets to middle school and high school student groups to attend our Masterworks concerts at the McAllen Performing Arts Center. Through donor generosity, the VSO is able to provide formative arts experiences and memories that last a lifetime.

WHEN

Friday, November 7, 2025 | 8PM Music of the GREATS

Friday, December 5, 2025 | 8PM A Touch of Frost

Friday, February 6, 2026 | 8PM Star Wars + Four Hands

Friday, March 6, 2026 | 8PM The Beatles & Rutter Soul

Friday, April 10, 2026 | 8PM Legacy of Sound

WHERE

All performances take place at the McAllen Performing Arts Center.

REPERTOIRE

Visit our website for detailed programming: www.valleysymphony.org

WHO CAN ATTEND

Middle School and High School student groups and chaperones of 10 or more are welcome at the Masterworks concerts.

WHAT IS THE COST

Because of the generosity of donors, the VSO is able to offer tickets at \$13 per attendee (students and teachers/chaperones) for student groups of 10 or more. This price is inclusive of all fees.

HOW CAN I REGISTER TO ATTEND

To make a reservation, fill out the form at: www.valleysymphony.org/education/pie-program

PAYMENT

Payment can be submitted via check, cash, purchase order, or by credit card over the phone (956.661.1615).

TICKETS

Printed tickets can be acquired at the Box Office located outside the McAllen Performing Arts Center after 10am on the day of the concert. Please designate one person to pick up the tickets for distribution.

CONCERT NIGHT

Get dressed up for a night out at the symphony! Please arrive 45 minutes before the concert. This will give you adequate time to meet up with your group, distribute tickets, go through security, and locate your seats. For more information, go to: <https://www.valleysymphony.org/plan-your-visit>

HAVE A QUESTION?

Email Catherine Norquest, Education Coordinator: catherine@valleysymphony.org



Partners In Education

Attend
symphony
concerts!

ARTS EDUCATION & EXPERIENCES THROUGH DONOR GENEROSITY

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\$13 per seat
inclusive of
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Scan or click
[HERE](#)
to register
today!



**Middle and High School Student Groups of 10 or more*
See reverse for concert dates!

See you at the Symphony!

VSO Student Chamber Spotlight

The Valley Symphony Orchestra Student Chamber Spotlight provides student groups a unique opportunity to perform in the MPAC lobby prior to a masterworks concert and to attend the concert as well!

Visit our website for more information or to sign up for a performance slot. Thank you!

Catherine Norquest, Education Coordinator: catherine@valleysymphony.org

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December 5, 2025

Seasonal favorites, with the Chorale, including Randal Bass Christmas Ornaments, Leroy Anderson holiday classics, as well as the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah and more!
Full program TBA

A TOUCH OF FROST

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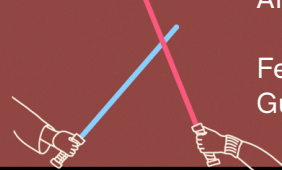
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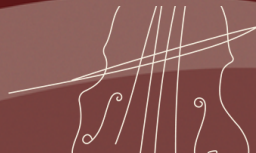
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GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS

GRANT SEARCH AND APPLICATION TIPS

Consider project scope: It's important to determine if funding is needed for supplies, professional development, a new program, or an immersive experience like a field trip.

Contact state agencies: State education and arts agencies can provide information on state-specific opportunities and help navigate federal grants.

Review eligibility requirements: Pay close attention to who can apply (teachers, districts, nonprofits) and specific criteria like Title I status or geographical location.

Texas-Specific Grants

- **Texas Cultural Trust – Arts Inspire Grant:**

Supports artist visits, **field trips**, and arts experiences for Title I schools. Up to \$1,000. TEA-certified arts teachers at Title I schools may apply.

More info: [Texas Cultural Trust - Arts Inspire](#)

- **Texas Cultural Trust - First Year Teacher Grant:**

Support highly qualified arts teachers in providing quality arts education access to Title 1, rural, low arts access communities. One-time grant of \$1,500. These grants can fund professional development, classroom enrichment, school supplies, **field trips** and additional resources to enhance the quality of arts education.

More info: [Texas Cultural Trust - 1st Year Teacher](#)

National & Foundation Grants

- **NEA Foundation – Student Success Grants:**

Supports innovative classroom projects (arts, project-based learning, access programs). Up to \$5,000.

More info: [Student Success Grants - NEA Foundation](#)

- **Give a Note Foundation:**

Supports innovative music education projects. Typical awards: \$1,000–\$10,000.

More info: [Give A Note Foundation](#)

- **VH1 Save the Music Foundation:**

Provides instruments and resources to schools. Donations approx. \$40,000 per school.

More info: [Save the Music Foundation](#)

- **Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation:**

Provides instrument donations to underfunded schools.

More info: [Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation](#)