

Kingston
Symphony

On Stage and in
the Community

Kingston Symphony Association
2024-2025 Season



Our Purpose

The Kingston Symphony Association provides exceptional musical experiences and programs of the highest calibre for the enjoyment and education of our audiences. Within the broader orchestral and choral repertoire, we proudly support and showcase diverse Canadian and contemporary content, artists and composers. The Kingston Symphony is a cornerstone of cultural life in our community, striving to be a vibrant, versatile and highly skilled musical resource, accessible to all.

Strategic Priorities

The Kingston Symphony is inspired by a vision of:

Exceptional Music

We offer consistently exhilarating musical experiences provided by professional musicians and staff. We never stop striving for artistic excellence, audience development and ongoing renewal of the orchestra and member ensembles.

Community Impact

The Kingston Symphony Association is a vibrant cornerstone in the cultural life of the region and offers opportunities for music performance - by youth, students, members of the community and professional musicians. We also nurture the role of music in the lives of children and youth.

Innovation, Exploration and Growth

As demand and interest grow, our orchestra will also grow and develop the capacity to explore new series, plus take on more ambitious projects. We will continue to exploit new technology to best accomplish our mission.

Organizational Development

As an organization, we keep a close eye on our long-term financial sustainability. We are lean, agile, and supported by robust fundraising and volunteer programs. In all our actions, we are guided by a commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, anti-racism and reconciliation.



Live Concerts

The Kingston Symphony's 2024-2025 season was filled with one-of-a-kind concerts that could not be found anywhere else. From the live premiere of Austin Wintory's *Traveler - A Journey* Symphony to John Burge's newly commissioned Violin Concerto to our thrilling Symphonic Speedruns show, the Kingston Symphony was proud to present innovative programming for the entire family.

Our Season by the Numbers

16 Main Series Concerts

3 Premieres of New Works

4 Symphony Education Partnership Concerts

3 Guest Conductors

8 Guest Artists





Our Audience

In 2024-2025, our audience base continued to develop, with many new faces joining the crowd. Our subscribers continue to make up the majority of audience members for our Sunday Masterworks performances, many of which were sold out this season. Membership in the Classically Hip Club, which offers discounted tickets for people aged 35 and under, also grew this season.

Our Audience by the Numbers

7,016 Tickets Sold

296 Subscribers

896 New Ticket Buyers

977 Members of the Classically Hip Club

Online Reach

Through our online reach, the Kingston Symphony Association shares the power of music with people all over the world. From our children's video series Harmon in Space to Maestro Evan's Classical Countdowns, we are proud to share educational content with thousands of followers and subscribers.

Social Media Followers



YouTube Views



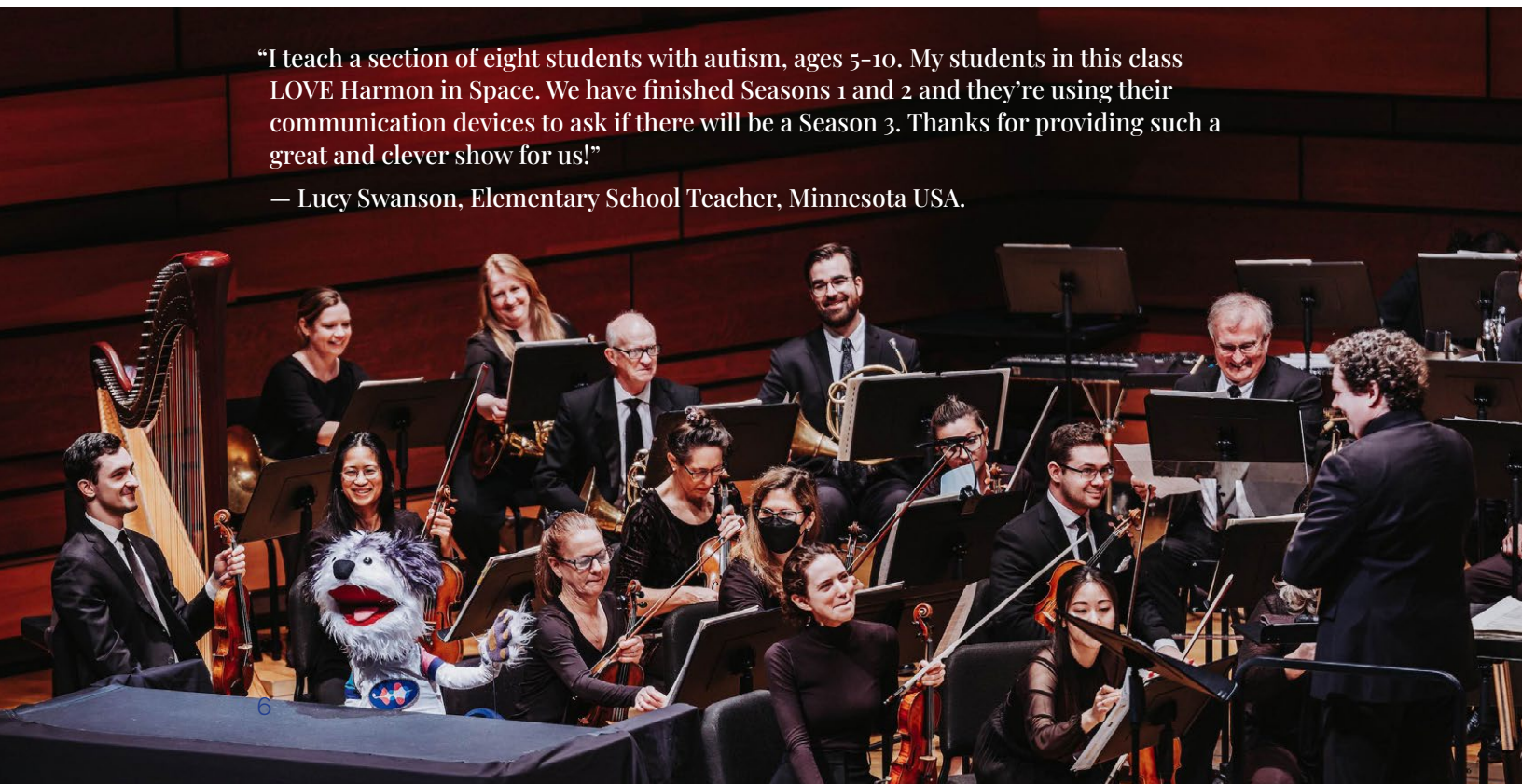
Website Visits



Harmon Returns
Family Concert,
March 2023.

"I teach a section of eight students with autism, ages 5-10. My students in this class LOVE Harmon in Space. We have finished Seasons 1 and 2 and they're using their communication devices to ask if there will be a Season 3. Thanks for providing such a great and clever show for us!"

— Lucy Swanson, Elementary School Teacher, Minnesota USA.



Community Access

We are dedicated to increasing access to our programming and making the performing arts accessible to all. This past season, we were proud to continue our longstanding outreach program, Share the Music, which donates tickets to individuals who otherwise could not afford to attend a performance. For the first time since 2019, we relaunched our Discover the Symphony program, bringing free children's concerts to public libraries.

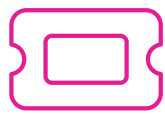
We also launched two new outreach programs this year: our Harmony at Home program in retirement and long-term care homes, and relaxed performances for people in the Disability and Neurodiverse communities.

“When they [Kingston Symphony musicians] were here two weeks ago, I happened to walk into the building and I heard the violins. I just thought, this is the greatest place to walk into work! It was beautiful – I felt like I was going to weep.”

— Janice Hicks, Normandy Retirement Living

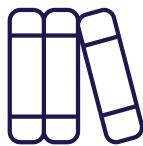
Our Outreach by the Numbers

500



Tickets donated through our Share the Music program

2



Children's Concerts in Libraries

8



Concerts in Retirement and Long-Term Care Homes

305



Attendees at our Relaxed Performance

Discover the Symphony Workshop, Kingston Frontenac Public Library, March 2025



Violinists Katya Poplyansky and Julia McFarlane perform at Trillium Ridge Retirement Living, April 2025

Music Education

Music education remains one of the cornerstones of our work at the Kingston Symphony Association, as we inspire and mentor the next generation of musicians and music lovers in our city.



Cellist Ronan
Hendry performs at
the Music Awards,
April 2025.



The Kingston Youth
Orchestra's Spring
Spectacular Concert,
May 2025

“Being part of the Kingston Youth Orchestra is rewarding when all the instruments come together and make something more magical than I could do on my own! Mr. J., the conductor, has great energy and he creates a fun environment for all the musicians. It’s a time of the week I look forward to!

— Chloë, Kingston Youth Orchestra Participant



Music Education by the Numbers

2,094 attendees from **41** Kingston-area schools at our four Symphony Education Partnership concerts

38
students in the
Kingston Youth
Orchestra

20
students in
the Kingston
Youth Strings

5
students in
the Kingston
A-Strings

3 Kingston Youth Orchestras
Concerts: Ode to Joy Festival,
The Marriage of Figaro, and
Spring Spectacular

9 prizes awarded through the Kingston
Symphony Volunteers Music Awards
program, totalling \$4,500

8 additional awards
distributed through the
Kiwanis Music Festival

Danielle Lennon
conducts the
Kingston Youth Strings,
May 2025



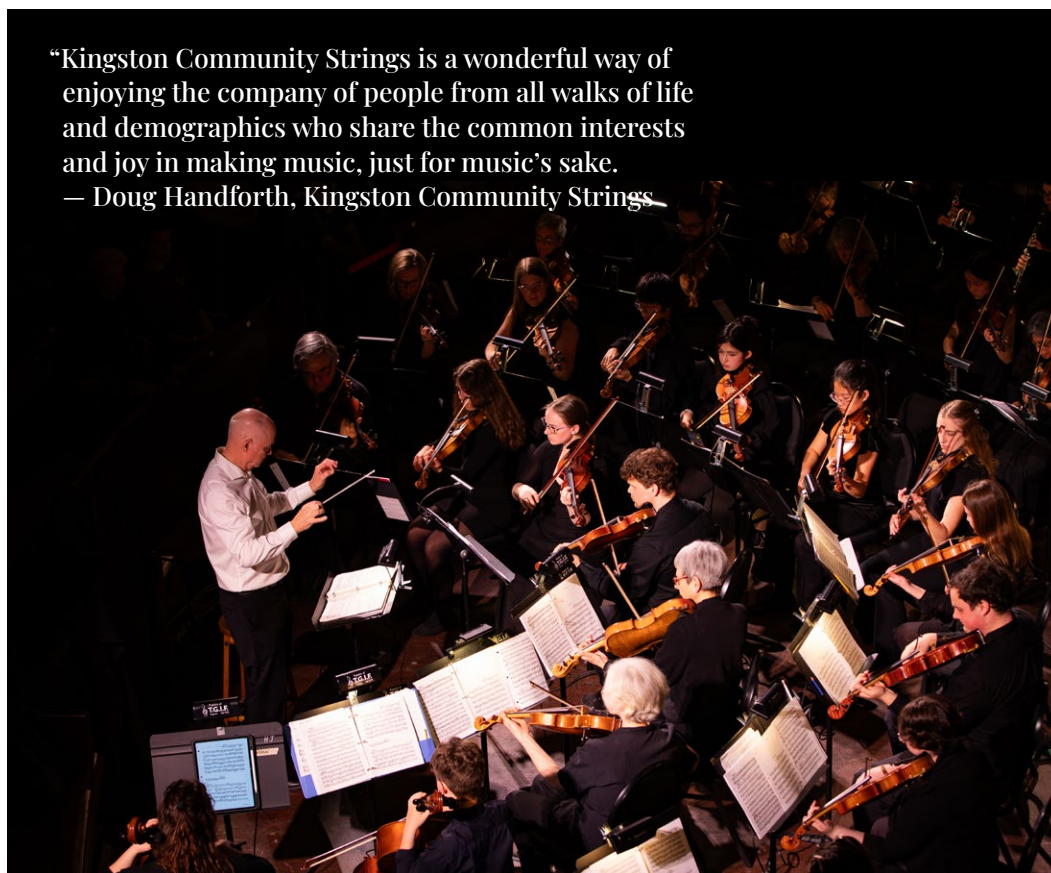
Kingston Community Strings and Kingston Choral Society

The Kingston Choral Society performs their first concert of the season, *Winter's Grace*, November 2024.

The Kingston Community Strings and Kingston Choral Society both had very busy seasons with exciting performances. The Kingston Community Strings presented three concerts, including a special staging of the *Marriage of Figaro* alongside the Kingston Youth Orchestra, a program of music from the 60s, and another concert featuring women composers throughout history.

The Kingston Choral Society joined the Kingston Symphony for three nights of sold-out Candlelight Christmas performances, rang in the holiday season with their annual *Messiah* sing-along, and presented two other fantastic programs of choral music. A smaller group from this ensemble, the Kingston Choral Society Chamber Choir, even went on a road trip to perform in Perth, Ontario.

"Kingston Community Strings is a wonderful way of enjoying the company of people from all walks of life and demographics who share the common interests and joy in making music, just for music's sake."
— Doug Handforth, Kingston Community Strings



Members of the Kingston Community Strings and Kingston Youth Orchestra perform the *Marriage of Figaro*, March 2025.

Our Volunteers

We are so grateful for our amazing and hardworking volunteers! Throughout the year, the volunteers raise funds for the Kingston Symphony Association through their Book Sales, Vinyl Record Sales, and All Things Christmas and Art Sale. This season, their sales were record-breaking and contributed \$95,000 to support the Kingston Symphony Association.



Our Volunteers by the Numbers

200+ volunteers

3,806 hours donated by
volunteers in 2024-2025

\$95,000
contributed to the
KSA in 2024-2025

\$5,000
raised to support 17 young musicians
through the Music Awards program
and the Kiwanis Music Festival

To learn about becoming a volunteer, please contact the Kingston Symphony Volunteers at volunteers@kingstonsymphony.ca.

Thankful for You!

On behalf of all of us at the Kingston Symphony Association, thank you so much for your support this season. Whether you are a donor, subscriber, volunteer, or audience member, your generosity has helped to bring incredible performances to our region. We look forward to sharing many more musical moments together in the coming year!

The Kingston Symphony Association gratefully acknowledges the support of our government funding agencies, corporate and foundation partners, and individual donors.



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