



TEN



"We made lots of memories along the way and I can't wait to embark on our next decade together." - Dirk Meyer



Time flies, if you're having fun. Looking back at 10 years with the DSSO, it seems that I just started working here yesterday! It has been an incredible honor and privilege to lead this wonderful orchestra over the past decade. Together we have performed over 200 works – on our Masterworks Series alone. We made lots of memories along the way and I can't wait to embark on our next decade together. One thing is for certain: More great music will find its way to us and enrich our lives, beginning with our 2023/24 Season:

As we continue our efforts to make underrepresented voices heard, we focus our attention on works written by female composers. From composers with a romantic voice, like Clara Schumann and Amy Beach, to more modern voices, like Anne Clyne and Joan Tower: This season we explore rich and powerful compositions, written by strong women around the globe. We are thrilled to even include a world premiere, a new work written for the DSSO by Duluth composer Wendy Durrwachter.

Our second focus this season is to celebrate our past 10 years together. What better way to do so than with audiences' and musicians' favorites. Last season we asked all of you to submit your favorites from the past decade. For the audience the clear winner was *Carmina Burana*, while the musicians voted Gustav Mahler as their favorite. With these blockbusters bookending the season, we complete our Masterworks Series with beloved composers like Mozart, Sibelius and Brahms. While, at the same time, presenting amazing works by lesser known masters, like Wieniawski, Walton and Weill.

In our Pops Series we bring back our Holiday tradition and taking a stroll back through the Pops classics. This promises to be one of our most exciting and fun seasons ever. A great way to ring in the next decade!

Dirk Meyer, Music Director

SPOTLIGHTSPONSORS

This season, each concert on our Masterworks Series features a “Spotlight Sponsor”. We want to create lasting partnerships with local businesses and strengthen our community through mutual support. At the DSSO we focus on inclusiveness, togetherness and local community.

Hand in hand with our partners, we are presenting a social contest and giveaway for each Masterworks concert, that will include a gift from our Spotlight Sponsor and tickets to the upcoming performance.

We stand together and support each other as we help our neighboring businesses and continue to support community growth and awareness.

Thank you to all the Spotlight Sponsors for participating in our 2023/24 season.

202324

SEASON

MASTERWORKS SERIES

ONE	MW ₁	September 16, 2023
TWO	MW ₂	October 7, 2023
THREE	MW ₃	November 4, 2023
FOUR	MW ₄	February 24, 2024
FIVE	MW ₅	March 16, 2024
SIX	MW ₆	April 13, 2024
SEVEN	MW ₇	May 4, 2024

POPS SERIES

EIGHT	POPS ₁	December 2, 2023
NINE	POPS ₂	February 10, 2024

CHAMBER

TEN | An intimate chamber performance conducted by Maestro Dirk Meyer to be held at the Depot Theatre. This is a non-subscription event and tickets will go on sale this summer.

BEYOND SYMPHONY HALL



Bridge Sessions are back in 2024! We are bridging the gap between music genres across the Twin Ports and couldn't be more excited about this year's line-up. For further details on upcoming events, please check out DSSO's Facebook page.

- June 3 | **Superior Siren**
July 15 | **Bill & Kate Isles**
August 5 | **Breanne Marie & the Front Porch Sinners**



GREAT LAKES AQUARIUM

Earth Rider Beer Garden presents small ensembles from the DSSO who perform at the Great Lakes Aquarium.

Thursdays in July and August | 6-8pm



DEPOT THEATRE



Dan Williamson / Duluth News Tribune

With DSSO's big move to the Depot, we will now be able to hold performances in the Depot's 280 seating theatre! Check our Facebook page for up-to-date schedules.

“The vision we have coming into it,” said DSSO Executive Director Brandon

VanWaeyenberghe, “will make this a very active and vibrant space as part of our downtown. We're looking for people to come in and help us create a tone for the space, whether it's through musical performances or small theater, or even things like lecture series, speakers, comedians,” stated Brandon during an interview with the Duluth News Tribune.

SEASON PARKING & BUS PASSES

This year, we have worked hard with our partners and are now able to offer both the DECC Parking Pass and the Annual DSSO Bus Pass available for sale with your subscription order.

The DECC Parking Pass is available for \$50 through June 30th from the DSSO, and for \$70 directly from the DECC thereafter.

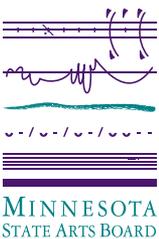
Due to rising fuel costs from our busing company, the DSSO has to raise its costs per bus trip from \$5 to \$8. DSSO Annual Bus Pass (all nine Concerts) will cost \$60, a \$12 discount and can be purchased by calling or visiting the DSSO office.

We are committed to keeping the service affordable and not passing along the full price of the \$10,000 annual expense.

As a reminder, donors who contribute \$1,000 or more get either a complimentary parking or bus pass!

**IN THIS BROCHURE, YOU'LL NOTICE DIFFERENT
COLORED PERFORMANCES IN THE REPERTOIRE.
HERE'S WHY!**

**PIECES IN ORANGE ARE BY FEMALE COMPOSERS.
PIECES IN BLUE WERE SELECTED BY
OUR AUDIENCES AND MUSICIANS THROUGH
OUR TOP 10 SURVEYS.**



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

MWIONE

Clyne
Grieg

PIVOT
Piano Concerto
Orion Weiss, piano
Gaelic Symphony

ACROSS THE NORTHERN SEA

With our 2023-24 Season focusing on works by female composers, we open our season with a delightful trip to Scotland by Anne Clyne. Her *PIVOT* was written for the Edinburgh Festival and features snippets of many recognizable Scottish melodies. Then we experience the first symphony to ever be performed and published by an American female composer: Amy Beach's *Gaelic Symphony*. This season we also mark the 10th anniversary of Maestro Meyer's tenure with the DSSO. To kick off the celebration we invite back the spectacular pianist Orion Weiss to perform the Grieg Piano Concerto with the orchestra – just as he did exactly 10 years ago for Maestro Meyer's very first concert as Music Director with the DSSO.

CONCERT SPONSOR



SEPTEMBER
16 SAT. 7:00 PM

SPOTLIGHT
OLIVER INN/RATHSKELLER

Mahler

Symphony No.3

Blythe Gaissert, mezzo-soprano

DSSO Chorus (women)

MW2TWO

EPIC TALES

Gustav Mahler didn't concern himself with the small things. He liked to think big! And one of the most ambitious works of art ever created is his Symphony No.3. Mahler's goal for this work was nothing less than to capture, in sound, every living being – from flowers to animals, from humans to angels. This truly incredible music is everything you can imagine: It is heartwarming and heartbreaking, it is upbeat and it is sad, nostalgic yet modern. And while it is truly epic in proportions, it just flies by without ever dragging on. With Blythe Gaissert as our alto soloist and the women of the DSSO Chorus, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience one of the greatest achievements of the human spirit ever created.



SPOTLIGHT
BENT PADDLE BREWING CO.

OCTOBER
7 SAT. 7:00 PM

MW3THREE

Durrwachter **Laurentia**
(World Premiere)

Wieniawski Violin Concerto No.2
Erin Aldridge, violin

Sibelius **Symphony No.2**

NORDIC IMAGES

After years of preparation, we are excited to be commissioning a new work from Duluth composer Wendy Durrwachter, focusing on the waterways of our region, especially Lake Superior. Our wonderful concertmaster, Erin Aldridge, will then be joining us for the beautiful, yet seldom performed, Violin Concerto No.2 by Henryk Wieniawski. Finally, by popular demand, we bring back Sibelius's wonderful Symphony No.2, which both audiences and musicians indicated as a favorite.

CONCERT SPONSOR



NOVEMBER
4 SAT. 7:00 PM

SPOTLIGHT
SIR BENEDICT'S TAVERN
ON THE LAKE

Grieg
 Dvořák
 Shaw
 Mozart

Two Melodies, op.53
 Serenade for Strings
 Entr'acte
 Vesperae solennes de confessore
 DSSO Chorus
 Lacy Sauter, soprano
 Sadie E. Cheslak, mezzo-soprano
 Nicholas Huff, tenor
 Thomas Glass, baritone

REFLECTIONS

Sometimes a moment of peace and reflection is all we need! That is what this beautiful concert offers. Grieg's *Two Melodies* sets the stage for a first half that is dominated by the sound of the strings. Dvořák's *Serenade for Strings* offers lush melodies, before Caroline Shaw's *Entr'acte* takes us on a meditative journey. Finally, we are joined by the DSSO Chorus for one of Mozart's great choral works, his *Vesperae solennes de confessore*.



Sauter



Cheslak



Huff



Glass



SPOTLIGHT
 DULUTH'S BEST BREAD

FEBRUARY
24 SAT. 7:00 PM

MW5FIVE

Errollyn Wallen
Brahms

Mighty River

Concerto for Violin and Cello
Geneva Lewis, violin and
Gabriel Martins, cello
Symphony No.1

Walton

SURVIVE & THRIVE

Errollyn Wallen is one of today's preeminent British composers. Her *Mighty River* explores themes of slavery and freedom and combines spirituals and contemporary classical techniques. We are then joined by two friends of the Symphony, Geneva Lewis and Gabriel Martins, both of whom have soloed with the orchestra in recent years. Not just a couple on stage but also in real life, the two of them will bring their wonderful musicality to Brahms' famous Concerto for Violin and Cello. For the second half of the concert we return to the British Isles with William Walton's incredible (but seldom performed) Symphony No.1.



MARCH
16 SAT. 7:00 PM

SPOTLIGHT
DULUTH COFFEE CO.

Smetana Vysehrad
C. Schumann Piano Concerto
 Anna Shelest, piano
 Tchaikovsky Romeo and Juliet Overture
Smetana The Moldau

SLAVIC SOUL

In March 2024 we celebrate Bedřich Smetana’s 200th birthday. The Czech composer is best known for his cycle of tone poems called *Má Vlast* (My Fatherland). Our concert, *Slavic Soul*, will feature two of these tone poems, the grand musical description of Prague’s famous castle *Vysehrad* as well as the most beloved *Vltava* (The Moldau). Completing the program are Tchaikovsky’s hyper-romantic *Romeo and Juliet* as well as Clara Schumann’s beautiful Piano Concerto, performed by Ukrainian-American pianist Anna Shelest.



SPOTLIGHT
 THE SPICE & TEA EXCHANGE

APRIL
13 SAT. 7:00 PM

Tower **Fanfare to the Uncommon Woman**
Weill **Symphony No.2**
Orff **Carmina Burana**
DSSO Chorus
Lake Superior Youth Chorus
Alice Pierce, soprano
Brian Wallin, tenor
Mark Billy, baritone

EMPRESS OF THE WORLD

Our season finale opens with Joan Tower’s powerful miniature *Fanfare to the Uncommon Woman*. Then we present another severely underperformed work: Kurt Weill’s *Symphony No.2*. Mostly known for his contributions to the American musical theatre (think *Three-Penny Opera* or *Street Scene*), Kurt Weill also wrote many purely orchestral works which are simply masterful. His *Symphony No.2* is rich in its melodic and harmonic language and simply a pleasure to listen to. We close our season with the indisputable winner of our “Audience-Favorite” poll from last season: Carl Orff’s *Carmina Burana*. Joined by vocal soloists, the DSSO Chorus, and the Lake Superior Youth Chorus, the DSSO’s stage will be bursting at the seams as we wrestle with “Fate”, the *Empress of the World*.



MAY
4 SAT. 7:00 PM

SPOTLIGHT
BAILEY BUILDS

HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

It's that time of year when twinkling lights and hot cocoa comfort us through winter. Enjoy your favorite holiday tunes performed by the DSSO! You can even join the orchestra in a sing-along (no audition required). Bring your family to ours and experience the wonders of the holiday season with the DSSO.

CASUAL CONCERT

2pm at DECC Symphony Hall

Children 17 and younger are free | Adults \$10*

General Admission | Not included in subscription

**fees not included*



DECEMBER
2 SAT. 2:00 & 7:00 PM

POPS2NINE

AN EVENING AT THE POPS

Join the orchestra for a night of classical pops fun! Ride with the Lone Ranger in Rossini's "William Tell Overture" and dance with royalty in Strauss' *Emperor Waltz*. The *Sound of Music* will surely enchant you as we dream with Debussy's *Claire de Lune*.

CASUAL CONCERT

2pm at DECC Symphony Hall

Children 17 and younger are free | Adults \$10*

General Admission | Not included in subscription

**fees not included*



FEBRUARY

10 SAT. 2:00 & 7:00 PM



Duluth Superior Symphony Youth Orchestras

Please keep up-to-date via

 @duluthsuperiorsymphonyorchestra
 @dssomn



SUPPORT OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS

Since 1940, young musicians throughout the Northland have found inspiration and expanded their musical talent in the Duluth Superior Symphony Youth Orchestras program. Members of the DSSYO work side by side with DSSO conductors and musicians in rehearsals, sectionals and performances throughout the season. For more information visit dssomn.com/youthorchestras



CASUAL CONCERTS

Bring your family to ours!

Come as you are and enjoy a sample of the DSSO with this relaxed and casual afternoon concert experience for all ages.

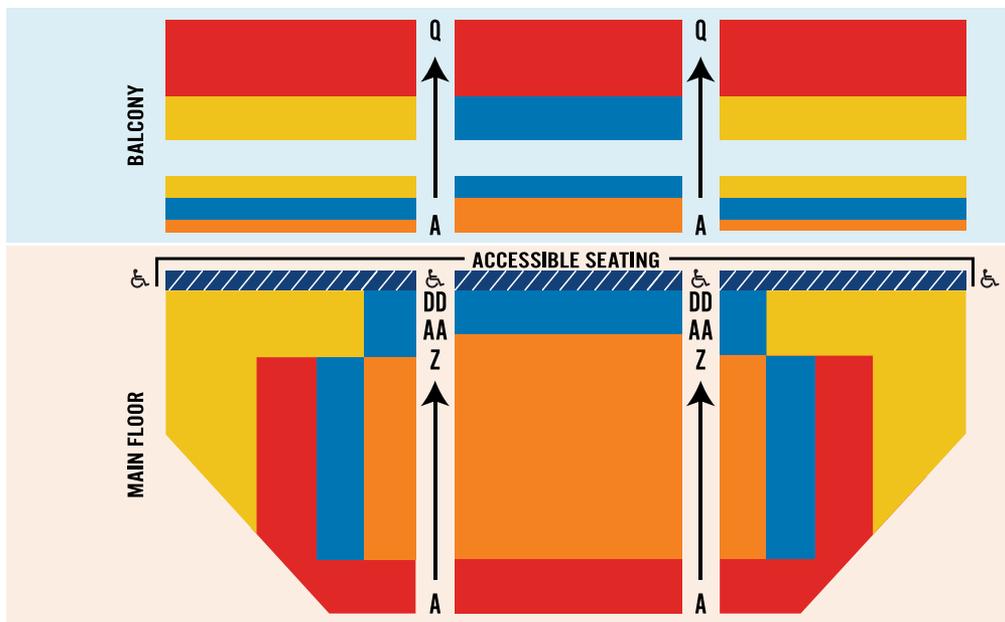
Ages 17 and under are free for these performances and adult tickets are only \$10 each.

For more information visit dssomn.com



ZENITH CITY
PHOTOGRAPHY
BY STEVE MATTSON

A special thank you to Steven Mattson of Zenith City Photography for all the wonderful photography used throughout this brochure!



FULL SEASON PACKAGE ALL 9 CONCERTS (POPS & MASTERWORKS)

	Price 1	Price 2	Price 3	Price 4	Military/Student
Early Bird	\$432	\$324	\$252	\$144	-
Regular	\$459	\$345	\$268	\$153	\$90



Save 20%* off regular single ticket pricing when you purchase a full season package by the Early Bird deadline of May 26, 2023 @ 4pm.

MIX & MATCH 3 OR MORE CONCERTS, PRICE PER TICKET

	Price 1	Price 2	Price 3	Price 4	Military/Student
Early Bird	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$17	-
Regular	\$52	\$42	\$32	\$18	\$10

REGULAR SINGLE TICKETS ON SALE AUGUST 1, 2023 @ 10AM

	Price 1	Price 2	Price 3	Price 4	Military/Student
Adult	\$60	\$45	\$35	\$20	\$10

*Returning members enjoy priority seating. New members seated starting in July. Ticket pricing does not include handling fee. Early Bird offer expires May 26, 2023. Some restrictions apply. All sales are final. Programs and artists subject to change. All season tickets will be mailed out at least 2 weeks prior to the first concert.

TO ORDER TICKETS: 218.623.3776 • DSSO.COM