



CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

2026-27
SEASON

CONCERT SERIES



About the Cleveland Institute of Music

The Cleveland Institute of Music empowers the world's most talented classical music students to fulfill their dreams and potential. Its alumni command hallowed stages across the globe as soloists, opera leads, chamber musicians, and ensemble members; compose meaningful, award-winning music; produce Grammy Award-winning recordings; and are highly sought-after teaching artists, administrators, and thought leaders. CIM's faculty likewise hail from around the country and across the world, giving students "The CIM Advantage" as they embark on professional careers. The school's increasingly diverse collegiate and pre-college student bodies benefit from access to world-renowned visiting artists and abundant performance and outreach opportunities. A leader among its peers, CIM is the largest presenter of free performances, masterclasses, and community concerts in the Midwest, hosting hundreds of events each year on campus and at locations nationwide. Explore cim.edu to learn more.



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At CIM, students don't just prepare for performances—they prepare for careers. Through world-class training, mentorship, and real-world performance opportunities, they develop the artistry, leadership, and 21st-century skills to thrive in today's evolving musical landscape.

This is the **CIM Advantage**: transforming talent, dedication, and ambition into lifelong success on stage, in the community, and beyond. Your support helps make that journey possible.

Champion the future of classical music by making a gift to CIM's Annual Fund at:

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CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

CIM ORCHESTRA

Friday, October 16, 2026

7:30pm | Kulas Hall

CIM Orchestra

Sarah Ioannides, conductor

Kulas Foundation Visiting Artist

Louise Farrenc
(1804–1875)

Overture No. 2 in E-flat, Op. 24

Elfrida Andrée
(1841–1929)

Varför och därför
U.S. premiere

Elfrida Andrée

Overture in G minor

Intermission

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809–1847)

Symphony No. 5 in D minor, Op. 107,
“Reformation”

Andante – Allegro con fuoco

Allegro vivace

Andante

Andante con moto

CIM ORCHESTRA

Tito Muñoz, Director & Principal Conductor
Anthony Parnther, Principal Guest Conductor
Nathaniel Hill, Student Conductor

FIRST VIOLIN

Blake Armstrong, concertmaster
Norfolk, VA

Yilin Li, assistant concertmaster
Cleveland, OH

Bangjun Xia
Astoria, NY

Ronnie Arbitman
Kiryat Mozkin, Israel

Yu-Chi Tsui
Taipei, Taiwan

Harry Li
Oslo, Norway

Tian Tian
Boston, MA

Kieun Lee
Ridgewood, NJ

Mariel Bochner
Littleton, CO

Yi Xu
Beijing, China

SECOND VIOLIN

Brooke Lafontant, principal
Ardmore, TN

John-Paul Hernandez, assistant
principal
Farmville, NC

Sam Meyer
Boulder, CO

Asher Milman
Tigard, OR

Sasha Varchenko
Chapel Hill, NC

Yadan Zheng
Urumqi, China

Yu-Chen Chou
Cleveland, OH

Felix Chen
Montreal, Canada

Marlie Colness
Sycamore, IL

Alisa Berenshtein
River Vale, NJ

VIOLA

Samuel Dionisio, principal
Philadelphia, PA

Emma Welsh, assistant principal
Lenexa, KS

Ian Hall
Columbia, SC

Jaylin Williams
Indianapolis, IN

Alejandro Mendez
Miami, FL

Jae Mo Ahn
Gyeonggi-Do, South Korea

Karlis Graufelds
Lansdale, PA

Quincy Tran
Orlando, FL

CELLO

Thomas Song, principal

Aliso Viejo, CA

Simone Pierpaoli, assistant
principal

Rockville, MD

Wan-Hsin Lin

Taichung, Taiwan

Ding Ding

Qingdao, China

Jaden Mills

Cleveland, OH

Jackson Devine

Keller, TX

Aiden Deir

Virginia Beach, VA

Benjamin Lewis

Las Vegas, NV

Dongqin Xu

Hangzhou, China

Canming Cui

Flushing, NY

DOUBLE BASS

Ben Hornacek, principal

Cleveland Heights, OH

John Foley, assistant principal

West Chester, PA

Yusef Henry

Smyrna, GA

Andrew Bowles

Roeland Park, KS

FLUTE

Kyuwon Baek @ &

Seoul, South Korea

Hope Calhoun ^

Schertz, TX

Bomi Johnson

Brooklyn, NY

Jake McQuaid *

North Canton, OH

Ziyi Wang

Beijing, China

OBOE

Michal Cieslik @ *

Miami, FL

Hudson Hackley ^ &

Pittsburgh, PA

CLARINET

Robin Seo @ ^ &

New York, NY

Shenrui Yin *

Taiyuan, China

BASSOON

Lucas Black @ *

Auburn, GA

Jiaming Liu

Cleveland, OH

Enoch Shu ^ &

Shanghai, China

CONTRABASSOON

Jiaming Liu

Cleveland, OH

HORN

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Fairport, NY

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TIMPANI

Livi Keenan
Cincinnati, OH

@ principal on Farrenc
& principal on Andrée Varför och
därför

^ principal on Andrée Overture in
G minor

* principal on Mendelssohn

ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR

Described by *The New York Times* as a conductor with “unquestionable strength and authority...and magic,” **Sarah Ioannides’** dynamic presence on the podium has won praise from audience and critics internationally. The *LA Times* wrote of Ioannides as “one of six female conductors breaking the glass podium.”

Recent debuts include orchestras such as the Orchestre Symphonique de Québec, Konzerthaus Orchester Berlin, Sarasota Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony, and Phoenix Symphony. After stepping in on a few hours notice, she replaced a conductor with the Calgary Philharmonic and returned as guest later that season.

In Europe, engagements have included the Tonkünstler Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO), Orchestre Nationale de Lyon, Transylvanian Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Wuttenbergisches Kammerorchester. Upcoming engagements include Cleveland Institute of Music, Iceland Symphony, and the WDR Funkhaus Orchestra.

Since commencing her career with the Cincinnati Symphony, Ioannides was the first woman appointed to the full-time conducting staff. Ioannides has also led the Buffalo Philharmonic, Charleston Symphony, Hawai'i Symphony, Louisville Orchestra, New West Symphony, and Rochester Philharmonic, amongst many others. With a commitment to education Ioannides has appeared at the world's top conservatories and youth orchestras. She was recently appointed Director of Orchestras at Boston University, Associate Professor and Chair of Orchestral Conducting.

Ioannides' passion for new music has led her to conduct and curate over 60 world, North American, and European orchestral premieres. She has recorded and produced many original videos for live orchestral multimedia performances and digital productions. Ioannides was invited to prepare and conduct the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra and Flemish Radio Orchestra by composer/conductor Tan Dun and to conduct his *Water Passion After St. Matthew* at the Perth International Arts Festival and the Metamorphosis Festival in Athens, Ioannides branched out into visual arts performances in combination with live orchestral performances.

On disc, Ioannides has recorded multiple world premieres including the works of Hindson, Corigliano, and Samuelsson with the RPO,

Nordic Chamber Orchestra, and Malmö Symphony Orchestra. She will continue her output in 2026 with works by 19th century composer, Elfrida Andrée.

Former music director with the El Paso Symphony (2005-11) and Spartanburg Philharmonic (2005-17), Ioannides was instrumental in the awarding of ArtWorks grants from the National Endowment for the Arts for the U.S. government. Since 2025 she has been a founding member of the League of American Orchestras Council.

In 2025 Ioannides was awarded the Les & Estelle Reid Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her bold artistic leadership, vision, and extraordinary contribution to Symphony Tacoma. At the conclusion of her tenure from Symphony Tacoma, she became Symphony Tacoma's first music director laureate.

Founding artistic director of Cascade Masterclass for conductors and composers, Ioannides gives regular masterclasses internationally and appears on advisory boards, as an adjudicator, public speaker, and educator. She has served as NEA panelist for the U.S. government. Ioannides was welcomed to the community of The Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute as Distinguished Artistic Partner for the 2026-27 season.

With master's degrees from Oxford University and The Juilliard School, Ioannides attended the Curtis Institute of Music as a Fulbright Scholar becoming the assistant to the late Otto-Werner Mueller. Recipient of the Nordell Prize she received an Advanced Certificate in Conducting from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 29

7:30pm | *Mixon Hall*

Fire & Grace

Edwin Huizinga, violin

William Coulter, guitar, *Kulas Foundation Visiting Artist*

Amanda Powell, voice, *Kulas Foundation Visiting Artist*

Experience the exhilarating meeting of classical, folk, and contemporary traditions from around the world in a performance that crosses musical borders with infectious energy. Fire & Grace brings together violin, guitar, and voice in a vibrant celebration of connection, tradition, and improvisation.

Wednesday, November 4

7:30pm | *Mixon Hall*

The U.S. Army String Quartet, *Kulas Foundation Visiting Artists*

Patrick Lin (MM '18), violin

Allison Smith, violin

Julia Clancy (BM '14), viola

Ben Wensel (BM '99), cello

Experience the precision, artistry, and musical excellence of the U.S. Army String Quartet in a performance that blends timeless masterworks with the unmatched discipline of one of America's premier military ensembles.

Friday, November 6

7:30pm | *Kulas Hall*

Sunday, November 8

3pm | *Kulas Hall*

CIM Opera Theater

Alison Moritz, guest director

Kulas Foundation Visiting Artist

Harry Davidson, conductor

CIM Orchestra

CATÁN *Florencia en el Amazonas*

Tickets: \$25-\$35

CIM Opera Theater is supported by a grant from the John P. Murphy Foundation and a generous gift from Michael Frank and the late Pat Snyder.

Tuesday, November 10

7:30pm | Kulas Hall

Jazz Lab Final Concert

Featuring original compositions and arrangements by students, including the music of George Gershwin, Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, and more.

Friday, November 13

7:30pm | Mixon Hall

Sibbi Bernhardsson, violin

Chad Hoopes (YAP '13), violin

Eun-song Koh (BM '16), violin

Igor Pikayzen, violin

Sheila Browne, viola

Michael Klotz, viola

Tom Landschoot, cello

Jeffrey Lastrapes, cello

Meet the newest members of the CIM faculty in a concert showcasing the artistry, experience, and extraordinary talent they bring to the Conservatory. Join us in welcoming these new voices to our community of artists and educators whose collective creativity and collaboration are shaping the future of classical music.

Sunday, November 15

4pm | Mixon Hall

Composition Department Recital

New music by CIM student composers

Friday, November 20

7:30pm | Kulas Hall

CIM Orchestra

Anthony Parnther, conductor

Relive the magic of *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial* on the big screen, accompanied by a magnificent, live performance of the CIM Orchestra.

Reserve free seating passes, watch livestreams, and find more upcoming concerts at [**cim.edu/events**](https://cim.edu/events).

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JoAnn Falletta
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As of July 7, 2026



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