



17/18 Season

Year in Review

For more than a century, the San Francisco Symphony has been committed to bringing culturally meaningful contributions to the Bay Area and around the globe. In the wake of the devastating 1906 earthquake and fire, San Francisco's civic leaders set about creating a permanent orchestra in our music-loving city. In December 1911, the orchestra gave its first concerts, rekindling the city's cultural life.

Since then, the Symphony has continued to fulfill its mission of creating music of the highest artistic excellence, celebrating creativity and innovation, fostering a growing and engaged local and global audience, and reflecting the spirit and cultures of San Francisco for its people.

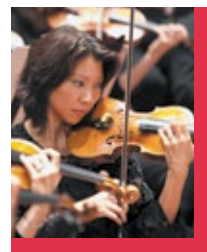
Our Mission

To set the highest possible standard for **excellence in musical performance** at home and around the world.

To **enrich, serve, and shape cultural life** throughout the spectrum of Bay Area communities.

To **maintain financial stability and gain public recognition** as a means of ensuring its ability to fulfill its mission.

Artistic Excellence



108
of the world's
finest musicians

150+
SF Symphony commissioned works by
composers around the globe

450,000
audience members reached through
live concerts and nearly 40 million
global listeners each year

15
Grammy
Awards



24
years of acclaimed artistic
partnership with Music Director
Michael Tilson Thomas

Education & Community

100%
of SF public elementary school students, Grades 1-5,
receive free music education through the *Adventures in Music*
(AIM) program

802
in-school AIM performances
are provided across all SFUSD
public elementary schools

100+
Youth Orchestra musicians
receive the finest orchestral
training each year, tuition free

4,000+
children, teachers, and chaperones
attend the annual *Deck the Hall*
Community Day concerts, free
of charge

4,650
public middle and high school instrumentalists
benefit from *Music and Mentors*, a program
that provides coaching, instrument purchase
and repair, and complimentary San Francisco
Symphony concert tickets

1,800+
volunteers giving their time—more than
25,000 hours—to the SFS each year

130+
classrooms in 48 schools are visited by
Concerts for Kids Education Docents, to
prepare 3,000+ students to take part in
the *Concerts for Kids* program

Did You Know?

1926
First major US orchestra to produce
regular radio broadcasts

1930
First woman to conduct the SFS,
conductor Antonia Brico

1980
Inaugural *Deck the Hall* celebrations,
the Symphony's holiday party
for children

1988
Launch of *Adventures in Music*,
the longest-running and most
comprehensive music education
program of its kind among
US orchestras

17/18 Season Highlights



Opening Night Gala
features renowned
cellist Yo-Yo Ma



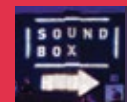
Russian pianist
Daniil Trifonov's
season-long residency



West Coast tour with
violinist Gil Shaham



New semi-staged
production of
Mussorgsky's epic
political opera
Boris Godunov



Fourth season of sold
out SoundBox shows



SFS presents a Symphony
Relief Benefit Concert for
the North Bay fires

SFS celebrations



Charles Wuorinen's
80th birthday



Leonard Bernstein
at 100



SF Symphony
Youth Orchestra's
35th anniversary



SFS's groundbreaking
education program, AIM,
celebrates 30 years

Premieres

▶ World premiere of an
SFS commission by former
SFS Composer-in-Residence
Charles Wuorinen

▶ SF Symphony first
performances of works
by leading contemporary
composers, including
Andrew Norman, Brett Dean,
Guillaume Connesson, and
Esa-Pekka Salonen

SFS Media turns 16



Two-CD box set release
of Schumann's complete
symphonies



Digital release of
Tchaikovsky's Symphony
No. 6, *Pathétique*



Charles Ives's Symphonies
Nos. 3 and 4

1993

Launch of *Music for Families* series

2001

SFS's first Chinese New Year concert

2008

SFS's first *Día de los Muertos* concert



**SAN FRANCISCO
SYMPHONY**
MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR

Do you have an interesting fact to share with us about the SFS?
Email us your thoughts at the address below.

For more information, please visit [SFSYMPHONY.ORG/GIVE](https://www.sfsymphony.org/give)
or contact us at:



415-503-5444



support@sfsymphony.org

ON THE COVER: Michael Tilson Thomas Music Director, *Día de los Muertos* Community Concert,
Helen Kim Associate Principal Second Violin

ON THE BACK COVER: Jacob Nissly Principal Percussion, Eliot Lev Second Violin