

Fall 2025 Main Concert

THE GAMER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

at the University of Maryland



Dekelboun Concert Hall
Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center

Wednesday February 11th, 2026
7:00 PM

Robert Morris, Conductor
Oscar Krug, Conductor
Theresa Menna, Choir Director
Neel Sanghvi, Choir Director

umd.gamersymphony.org

About the Gamer Symphony Orchestra

In Fall 2005, student violist Michelle Eng sought to create an orchestral group that played the music of video games. With a half-dozen others who shared a love of video game music, she founded the Gamer Symphony Orchestra to achieve that dream. By the ensemble's first public performance in Spring 2006, its size had quadrupled.

Today, the Gamer Symphony Orchestra provides a musical and social outlet to 100+ members. It is the world's first college-level ensemble to draw its repertoire exclusively from the soundtracks of video games. The ensemble is entirely student-run, which includes conducting and musical arranging.

In addition to semesterly concerts at the University of Maryland campus, the GSO has performed in a number of special concerts throughout the years. In February 2011, the GSO's arrangement of "Korobeiniki" from Tetris was performed in collaboration with Video Games Live and the National Philharmonic to two sold-out houses at the Strathmore in Bethesda, MD. In May 2012 and 2015, as a part of the Art of Video Games Exhibit, the GSO performed at the American Art Museum in Washington, D.C. in the central atrium. Most recently, in March 2018, the GSO performed on the Millennium Stage of the Kennedy Center in a concert titled "From Bits to Brass: A Symphonic Adventure Through Video Game Music," as a part of the Kennedy Center's "Direct Current" event. The concert was played to a packed house, and served as a celebration of musical masterpieces across the video game repertoire for gamers, musicians, and enthusiasts alike.

Aside from its concerts, the GSO also holds the charity gaming tournament "Gaming 4 Life" twice a year. All proceeds from this multi-hour long video game tournament and social event benefit the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

2025-26 Officers

<i>President</i>	Cynthia Xi
<i>Vice President</i>	Lauren Rabe
<i>Treasurers</i>	Om Duggineni Norah Vanderpool
<i>Secretary</i>	Ella Valentine
<i>Music Director</i>	Claire Huang
<i>Orchestra Manager</i>	Serena Alamina
<i>Social Director</i>	Christopher Assiryani
<i>Officers-At-Large</i>	Ian Jackson Archita Naik
<i>Conductors</i>	Oscar Krug Robert Morris
<i>Choral Directors</i>	Theresa Menna Neel Sanghvi
<i>PR Directors</i>	Stella Garner Shiham Siddiqui
<i>Fundraising Directors</i>	Simon Bailey Garrett Peters
<i>Tech Directors</i>	Quinlan Ngo Jack Wethington Saanvi Verma
<i>Webmasters</i>	Charu Mehta Silas Rager

Orchestra Members

**Concertmaster **Section Leader*

Violin I

Sophia Chen
Ethan Chou
Samwit Dangol
Minsi Hu *
Gyuseok Kang
Ian Koo
Lillian Ma
Garrett Peters
Sofia Villani
Cynthia Xi *
Esther Yu
Kevin Zhang

Violin II

Jaden Chen
Justin Chen
Edith Corey **
Avery Chupka
Allison Harlan
Ian Jackson
Vincent Jung
Derek Ngombu
Anna Phan
Caroline Tanner
Evelyn Wang
Alexandre Woodworth
Nina Xie

Viola

Elizabeth Barski
Evangeline Chen
Alyssa Coello
Elizaveta Denisova
Erika Falco

Vivienne Loukota

Michael Maroney **
Aidan Suk
Jenna Wollney

Cello

Saima Ahmad
Serena Alamina
Márton Csikos
Lily Ehrlich
Iden Han
Margaret Kato
Lauren Rabe
Jay Rana **
Alexandro Wong

String Bass

Jonathan Alonzo**
Victor Esan
Patrick Torre
Waverly Nakashima

Guitar

Shiham Siddiqui

Electric Bass

Adam Martinson**

Flute/Piccolo

Sophia Abed
Simon Bailey
Andrew Guo
Charu Mehta
Norrie Riedy
Cecilia Vu
Amy Wang **

Oboe

Lily Omron**
Michael Sinai

Clarinet

Miriam Hakim
Patrick Hu
Emily Schultz **
Amy Sheehan
Norah Vanderpool
Michael Wang

Bass Clarinet

Sarayu Jilludumudi

Bassoon

Will Duis **
Eli Freer
Lixin Zheng

Alto Saxophone

Rhett Brega
John Labella
Andrew Long
Preston Perzan

Tenor Saxophone

Nathan Chesla **

Baritone Saxophone

Annika Vallurupalli

Trumpet

Beau Carter
Jesse Ehrenreich
Patrick Ford

Ethan Hawkes

Alex Powers
Silas Rager **

French Horn

Sunil Pateel **
Angus Pulkka
Arthur You

Trombone

Nick Curtis
Peter Mortensen
Quinlan Ngo

Euphonium

Christopher Assiryani **
Carlos Chen

Tuba

Bennett Ramsdell

Percussion

Ishaan Antani
Xavier Bornhorst
Stella Garner **
Sydney Liu
Christian Pascual
Philip Wang
Eric Zhang

Piano

Claire Huang **
Cassandra Meyer

Chorus Members

**Choir Conductor **Section Leader*

Soprano

Madeline Kamprath
Theresa Menna *
Grace Min
Archita Naik **
Evangelyn Olson
Jaden (Angel) Sander
Elizabeth Sanford
Saanvi Verma

Alto

Celine Blanchette
Rebecca Chambers
Brooke Guo
Kexin Liu
Joyna Qin
Emily Tran
Ella Valentine **
Graciela (Gray) Walters

Tenor

Sineli Bombuwala
Om Duggineni
Emily Hao
Max Khatchadourian
Chris Patiag
Neel (Waluigi) Sanghvi *
Krit Socrates
Logan Swaisgood **
Nathaniel Unnikumar
Jackson (Jack) Wethington

Bass

Paolo Atienza
Avi Gupta
Ryan Goldsmith
Joseph Kleinman
Alex Miller **
Andrew Rapisura
Varun Somashekar
Benjamin (Benny)
Vanderham
Cesar Vasquez

Emeritus Members

Michelle Eng—Founder
President, 2005–2007

Greg Cox
Conductor, 2006–2009

Peter Fontana
Conductor, 2010–2011

Rob Garner
President, 2008–2011

Chris Apple
Music Director, 2007–2010

Kira Levitzky
Conductor, 2009–2013

Alexander Ryan
President, 2011–2013

Kyle Jamolin
Choral Director, 2012–2014

Kevin Mok
Conductor, 2013–2015

Joel Guttman
President, 2013–2014

Jasmine Marcelo
Vice President, 2013–2015

Jesse Halpern
Treasurer, 2015–2016

Jonathan Hansford
Choral Director, 2015–2017

Marin Chin
Music Director, 2016–2017

Austin Hope
Webmaster, 2015–2018

Suzie DeMeritte
Treasurer, 2016–2018

Michael Mitchell
Conductor, 2016–2018

Leanne Cetorelli
Conductor, 2015–2018

Alex Yu
President, 2017–2018

Erin Estes
Webmaster, 2018–2019

Bethany Riege
Secretary, 2018–2019

Hojin Yoon
President, 2019–2020

Sami Louguit
Member, 2018–2020

Samuel Harley
Conductor, 2018–2020

Matthew Evanusa
Conductor, 2018–2020

Nicole Benner
Social Director, 2018–2020

Austin Starnes
Treasurer, 2018–2020

Nicholas DeGraba
Music Director, 2018–2020

Ciara Donegan
Music Director, 2021–2022

Rachel Wattanarungsikajorn
Conductor, 2020–2022

Quinn Dang
President, 2020–2022

Braidon Saelens
Music Director, 2024–2025

Daniel Xing
Fundraising Director, 2023–2025

Black Myth: Wukong

Black Myth: Wukong

Wang Xinghe, Li Jiaqi, Zhai Jinyan

Arr. Robert Morris, Cynthia Xi

Ft. Simon Bailey (*Flute*)

Contrary to popular belief, the world after that famous westward pilgrimage does not immediately become enlightened. The Great Sage Equal to Heaven rejects Celestial Life, and under the combined force of Erlang Shen and the celestial armies, he finally falls, struck down by the mistrust of the Celestial Court. For the centuries after, the monkeys of the Sage's homeland scramble to restore him, to no avail. Until you. You --- you are the Destined One. You trace the steps of the great Sun Wukong, and find his severed senses, one by one. You follow his myth, fight his foes, and meet his friends. You walk in his shadow, learn of his mistakes, and of his victories. But China is big, and those who oppose you are many. And Fate itself may not necessarily be on your side --- after all, history has always been cyclical, and in this world, even the Great Sage Equal to Heaven met his end.



Breath of the Wild

Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild

Manaka Kataoka

Arr. Kofi Annor, Dastry

Updated by Robert Morris, Neel Sanghvi

Ft. Andrew Guo (*Flute*) and Minsi Hu (*Violin*)

Adventure through the open world of Hyrule as Link to defeat Calamity Ganon before it destroys the kingdom. Travel across fields, through forests and to mountain peaks as you discover what has become of the ruined kingdom of Hyrule. Ah, and don't forget the Korok seeds! The fate of the world may be at stake, but Hestu's gift should always be a number one priority!



Elizabeth Sanford

The Legend

Deltarune

Toby Fox

Arr. Robert Morris

Robert Morris, Jesse Ehrenreich, Peter Mortensen, Nick Curtis, Silas Rager, Chris Assiryani, Quinlan Ngo

The Legends (or more colloquially known, the GSO Brass Ensemble) return to convey musically, the Legend of Deltarune. Foretold by time and space, The Legend peers into the three “heroes” of Deltarune and the mission to seal the fountains and halt the destruction of the world. However, the verity of this legend is questioned amongst the so-called heroes of Deltarune. In this arrangement, the GSO Brass Ensemble will take you through the melancholic and sometimes aggressive emotions we may hear as stories are passed down to us. With whirling call-and-response figures meant to mimic the brain attempting to draw conclusions that seem based on nonfactual evidence. Despite this deviation from comfortable melodic tonalities, we refuse to end on an inconclusive note and choose to believe everything will be alright. Who knows how the next chapters of Deltarune will destroy that assumption?

Rosalina in the Observatory

Super Mario Galaxy

Mahito Yokota, Koji Kondo

Arr. Samwit Dangol

Ft. Sophia Abed (*Flute*),

Emily Schultz (*Clarinet*)

In addition to its gameplay and visuals, *Super Mario Galaxy* is known for its soundtrack, being the first in the Mario series to feature a symphony orchestra. "Rosalina in the Observatory" is a waltz-like theme that plays in the Comet Observatory. As the player progresses through the game, the theme becomes more orchestral, transforming from a serene, cosmic melody into a lively dance.



Jaden Chen

The Power

Baldur's Gate III

Borislav Slavov

Arr. Theresa Menna and Jayden Andrews

Ft. Evangelyn Olson (*Soprano*), Ella Valentine (*Alto*)

So, we've made it, huh? After countless trials, triumphs, and mistakes alike. We stand at a crossroads, faced with one final choice: to keep fighting, or to cling to the Power, a metaphor that means something different to all who exist. The Power, from Baldur's Gate 3, is a hymn to that struggle. As the song that carries the game into its closing moments, it leaves us with a haunting question: what was it all for?

Tonight, you will hear that question reborn in a new light. This a cappella rendition transforms the hymn into something both familiar and mystifying, carrying its weight through nothing but the human voice. Listen closely, and remember: do not fight the Power.

May Heaven Grant You Fortune

Tower of Heaven

flashygoodness

Arr. Charles Frederick

Updated by Robert Morris

Ft. Cassandra Meyer (*Piano*)

"I saw the traveler make his way toward the
monolith,
That thin gash amidst the clouds;
An open seam between heaven and earth that
eluded the Eye of God.
Or perhaps it had not; perhaps it beckoned
from one realm
To the other, wedded And ruled as one;
For look how clean it splits the horizon
'twain, absorbs it,
Makes it Strange,
An indomitable beam,
A tower of heaven."
— Journal of an unknown traveller

A Night with Kiryu and Majima

Yakuza

Yoshida Mari, Inage Kensuke, ZENTA, Horii Ryōsuke, Shōji Hidenori

Arr. Jacob Keeley

Ft. Claire Huang (*Piano*), Neel Sanghvi (*Tenor*), Nathaniel Unnikumaran (*Tenor*)

Sometimes we all need a break. As members of the Yakuza, Kiryu and Majima know that better than anybody. Random street fights, managing clubs, constantly watching your back - it can all be so tiring. Why not remedy this with a night out? You could visit the arcade, you could sing karaoke, you could dance! Music from these late night excursions has been compiled here, just for your enjoyment. Feel the beat, clap along. It's Friday night - come on, let's have some fun!



@sweetandsaltystudio

Intermission!

Galdera, the Fallen

Octopath Traveler

Yasunori Nishiki

Arr. Jayden Andrews

Ft. Saanvi Verma (*Soprano*)

Embark on a transcendent journey where eight distinct heroes set forth on separate quests that, over time, converge into a singular, awe-inspiring destiny. As each traveler's path reveals hidden strengths and long-forgotten secrets, all roads inevitably lead to a monumental confrontation with Galdera, an enigmatic, fallen deity whose shadow looms large over the realm. United by fate and the relentless pull of their intertwined journeys, these heroes face an ultimate showdown that encapsulates the power of courage, unity, and destiny itself. *Galdera, the Fallen* blends several of the boss themes associated with Galdera into one continuous work, showcasing the moment when eight separate paths collide in a final, world-defining confrontation.

Gremlin Village

Epic Mickey

Jim Dooley

Arr. Jonathan Alonzo

The Gremlin Village is a world residing in Wasteland where the gremlins, forgotten characters originating from Walt Disney's abandoned film titled "The Gremlins", live. They are deemed as Wasteland's engineers, having been responsible for building the majority of the machinery and other contraptions found all-throughout Wasteland. Their home "The World of Gremlins" is made up of the remains of the "It's a Small World" attraction and various other Fantasyland elements that are found in Disney theme parks in the real world. When you reach the end of this world, you will encounter the iconic It's a Small World Clock Tower as the first boss of the game, having gone insane from hearing the "It's a Small World" tune playing endlessly. The soundtrack for Epic Mickey is adaptive, meaning you will hear slight variations or completely different versions of the track depending on your actions and the choices you make. This arrangement specifically combines elements from all of these tracks, as well as elements from the composer's earlier prototype versions of the tracks, compiled onto the base layer to experience the full effect. As you traverse through each of the levels in this part of the game, you will hear this gloomy, solemn tune in A minor play in the background. And whenever you encounter enemies, you will hear an up-paced battle theme -found in the second half of this arrangement- playing with a small, twisted tritone motif of the classic "It's a Small World" melody.

Snowball Park

Super Mario 3D World

Yasuaki Iwata, Koji Kondo, Toru Minegishi, Mahito Yokota

Arr. Abigail Shirima

After defeating the boss of the hot desert known as World 2, Mario is transported to the frigid icy plains of World 3. Here he encounters “Snowball Park,” a freezing yet serene snowy world filled with an abundance of snow pokies, biddy-buds, and goombas. This cheerful tune features the whimsical sounds of jingle bells, flute trills, and catchy string melodies that are sure to put anyone in the holiday spirit.



Emily Tran

Bubblegum K.K.

Animal Crossing: New Horizons

Arr. Theresa Menna

Archita Naik, Theresa Menna, Ella Valentine, Joyna Qin, Ren Bombuwala, Chris Patiag, Logan Swaisgood, Robert Morris

It's March 2020. *Animal Crossing: New Horizons* has just been released on the Nintendo Switch, and it's easily the second biggest thing to hit the world stage that month. The game was an immediate success, providing people across the globe with a calm and colorful opportunity to engage in escapism. As we all invested in island improvements to entice the world-famous, pants-less music mogul K.K. Slider into performing for our villagers, his candy-coated pop single "Bubblegum K.K." was taking the real-world internet by storm. Now, we present you with an updated a capella version of this iconic bop, to remind us all of simpler times.

Siege

Star Wars Jedi: Survivor

Stephen Barton, Gordy Haab

Arr. Robert Morris

Ft. Norrie Riedy (*Flute*) and Michael Sinai (*Oboe*)

The *Star Wars Jedi* series takes us through the adventures of Cal Kestis in a post-Order 66 Empire-ruled galaxy. In the second installment of the franchise, *Star Wars Jedi: Survivor*, Cal has left his old team, beginning to debate if the fight against the powerful Empire is becoming fruitless. It seems no matter the damage he causes, the Empire rebuilds stronger. The numbers of rebels are beginning to dwindle, and many involved in the fight chose to pursue a peaceful life. Despite this, he continues his efforts to discover a lost planet known as Tanalorr, which may be able to serve as a safe haven for rescued force-sensitive children who are being protected from the Empire. Cal reconnects with Cere, a former mentor and surviving Jedi who is leading the rebuilding of the lost Jedi Archives in a sanctuary on the planet Jedha. On Jedha, Cal rekindles his not-so-professional relationship with Merrin as well, bringing several members of Cal's former team together once more. Through their cooperation, they may be able to extract the secrets of Tanalorr's legend. Unfortunately, within their secret base, a traitor is in their midst and as Cal is distracted attempting to capture the traitor, it is left in Cere's hands to defend against the Empire's siege.

Then were created the Gods in the midst of Heaven

ABZŪ

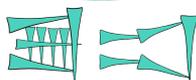
Austin Wintory

Arr. Robert Morris

Abzū was developed in 2016 as a standalone title that tells the story of a diver attempting to restore beauty to a dying ocean. As simple a story as that may imply, the player quickly learns of the connections of the ocean to an ancient civilization with inspiration taken from Sumerian mythology. The primordial beings, Tiamat and Abzū, are the defining cycle of creation and ocean flourishing that the game revolves around. This arrangement, appearing in the original title as simply SAT choir, is a telling of a Babylonian creation myth with lyrics in ancient Akkadian, a dead language today. The lyrics are text from the *Enūma Eliš*, a Babylonian text that marks the only surviving record of ancient eastern cosmology. Sumerian mythology with Babylonian text? Perhaps that explains why you'll hear "Apsū" instead of "Abzū." Arranged for up to 8-part voicing, please enjoy *Then were created the Gods in the midst of Heaven*.

*Enuma eliš la nabū šámamu,
Saḫlīš ammatu šuma la zakrat,
Apsūm-ma reštū zarūšun,
Mummu Tiamat muallidat gimrišun, all,
Mēšūnu išteniš ihīqqū-ma,
Šuma la zukkuru šimatu la šimu, ordained,
Ibbanū-ma ilu qerebšūn.*

*When on high no word was used for heaven,
Nor below was firm ground called by name,
Primeval Apsu was their progenitor,
Mother Tiamat was she who bore them all,
They were mingling their waters together,
Nor called by names, none destinies ordained,
Then were gods formed within these two.*



Logan Swaisgood

Confronting Myself

Celeste

Lena Raine

Arr. Quinlan Ngo

Ft. Beau Carter (*Trumpet*), Lily Omron (*Oboe*), Sunil Pateel (*Horn*),

Angus Pulkka (*Horn*), and Silas Rager (*Trumpet*)

In the indie classic *Celeste*, you play as Madeline, a young woman determined to climb a mountain. Along the way she is haunted by “Badeline,” a manifestation of her anxiety and self-doubt, a Part of Her she longs to escape. As she nears the summit, Madeline convinces herself she no longer needs this darker half. But rejection cuts deep. Badeline lashes out, dragging Madeline all the way back down the mountain. Scattered and lost, Madeline finds guidance from an old woman who lives on the mountain. She realizes the truth: Badeline is not her enemy, but a part of herself she cannot abandon. Madeline gives chase, dodging every attack as she tries to reconcile with this Part of Her. After all, while she can never outrun her reflection, her reflection can never outrun her. To reach the summit, she must confront herself.

Streaming made possible by:



J-Tech Audio Visual

Audio & Video
jesse@jtechav.com

And a special thank-you to...

The Clarice
The UMD School of Music
The Memorial Chapel
The UMD Student Government Association
Antonino d'Urzo
Ken Rubin
Jesse Halpern
Hiroshi Amano
Prof. Derek Richardson
Dr. Laura Schnitker
Prof. Marybeth Shea

and finally...

YOU!

Donations

GoFundMe

Since our concerts are completely free, we rely on donations to keep running. If you want to help the Gamer Symphony Orchestra put on more great concerts like this, please consider donating to our GoFundMe and/or through the College Park Foundation.

Our GoFundMe is in support of our goal to play at the Strathmore next spring for our 20th anniversary!

(The CPF is a nonprofit that handles donations to support UMD and its organizations.)

Thank you!
College Park Foundation

