

McKinney Philharmonic Orchestra 2024–2025 Grant Report Submitted to the McKinney Community Development Corporation

The 2024–2025 season marks the McKinney Philharmonic Orchestra's (MPO) 11th year of service to the City of McKinney. This season, we completed a full slate of 7 subscription concerts, 2 chamber music performances, and 2 free recital concerts. Additionally, our annual educational tour reached 13 schools across the DFW region, including several McKinney ISD campuses.

The artistic quality of the MPO continues to rise, with many praising the orchestra's best performances to date. Due to ongoing challenges securing consistent access to the McKinney ISD auditorium—including scheduling conflicts and late notifications about venue availability—we transitioned most of our concerts to Trinity Presbyterian Church on Virginia Parkway. This venue has proven to be an excellent alternative. Its acoustics have been praised by both patrons and musicians, parking is convenient, and numerous dining options are available within a two-mile radius.

Attendance and ticket revenue presented mixed results this season. While we achieved recordbreaking attendance last year, this season saw a modest decline. Although concert attendance remained respectable, not every event met our budget projections. This shortfall can be attributed to optimistic estimates based on previous years' upward trends. Despite this, we remain on track to end the season with a financial surplus, thanks to a sound fiscal strategy and a diversified income portfolio.

Notable Data and Observations

- Season ticket sales increased from 647 in 2023–2024 to 787 this season.
- Individual concert attendance saw a slight decline. 4893 in 2023-2024 to 4321 in 2024-2025.
- **Chamber music concerts** with \$10 admission performed well and exceeded budget expectations.
- **Free recital concerts**, while achieving respectable attendance, drew smaller audiences than the ticketed chamber performances.



Assessment

Our core audience base has grown in dedication and engagement. However, we have not seen a proportional increase in new individual concertgoers. We suspect that unfamiliar programming may have played a role. For instance, while we believed the Texas Western Swing concert would appeal broadly to Texas residents, attendance fell short of expectations.

Smaller ensemble recitals—featuring no more than two performers—also drew limited attendance, even when offered free of charge.

Conclusion

We've found that:

- Smaller-scale works and ensembles typically attract smaller audiences.
- Free admission does not necessarily equate to higher turnout when programming features less familiar formats.

Solutions and Future Plans

To address these challenges, next season's programming will feature more familiar and accessible works for general audiences. We also plan to introduce Pops concerts, including movie music and popular hits from the 1970s and 1980s, to broaden our appeal and encourage greater attendance.



2024–2025 Concerts Held in McKinney

Concert 1 – McKinney Boyd High School

October 5, 2024 POPS Concert Series I: *Western Swing with the Dave Alexander Band* Admission: Adult \$25 / Senior & Student \$20

Concert 2 – Trinity Presbyterian Church

November 9, 2024 Classical Series I Overture Strauss: Horn Concerto Brahms: Symphony No. 2 Admission: Adult \$20 / Senior & Student \$15

Concert 3 – Trinity Presbyterian Church

December 7, 2024 *All-Star Christmas* Admission: Adult \$25 / Senior & Student \$20

Concert 4 – Trinity Presbyterian Church

March 1, 2025 Charlie Parker with Strings Admission: Adult \$25 / Senior & Student \$20

Concert 5 – Trinity Presbyterian Church April 5, 2025

Schubert: *Mass in G* Mendelssohn: *Double Concerto for Piano and Violin* With the Dallas Philharmonic Choir Admission: Adult \$20 / Senior & Student \$15



Concert 6 – Trinity Presbyterian Church May 3, 2025

Classical Series III – "Birds" Chamber Orchestra (35 players) Respighi: The Birds Sibelius: The Swan of Tuonela Ravel: Mother Goose Suite – Prelude & Dance Haydn: Symphony No. 83 (La Poule) Admission: Adult \$20 / Senior & Student \$15

Concert 7 – McKinney High School Auditorium

May 25, 2025 (Upcoming) Side-by-side concert with the Greater North Texas Youth Orchestra Strauss: Death and Transfiguration Admission: Adult \$20 / Senior & Student \$15 (Note: Expenses for this concert are incurred by the Greater North Texas Youth Orchestra and will be included in their final report.)

Additional Concerts

Chamber Music Series (\$10 Admission, held at Trinity Presbyterian Church):

- November 23: MPO Woodwind Quintet
- February 8: MPO String Quartet

Free Recital Series (Free Admission):

- October 26: Yulia Petkevich & Daria Kiseleva Recital
- April 25: Austin Crumrine & Kristy Yang Recital

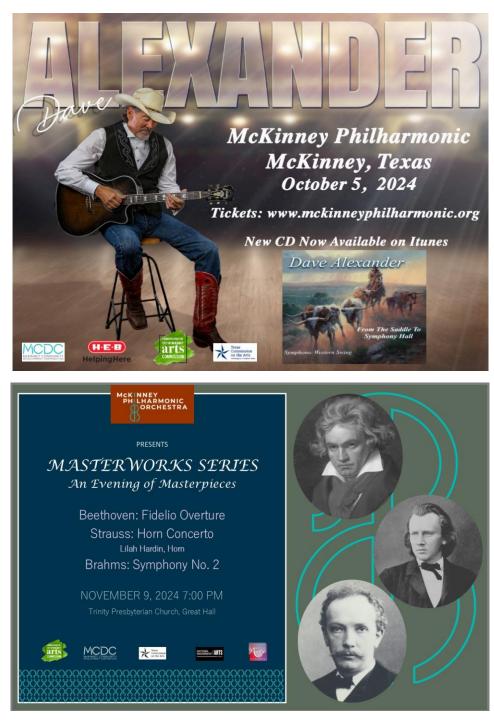


BILLBOARD IMAGES





SOCIAL MEDIA AD IMAGES

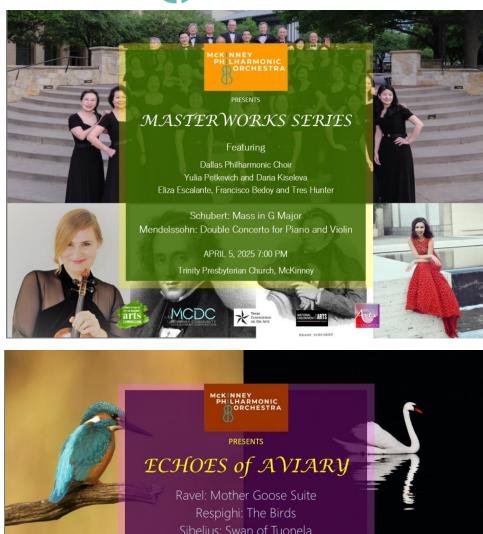


MCKINNEY PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Jason Lim, Artistic Director & Conductor





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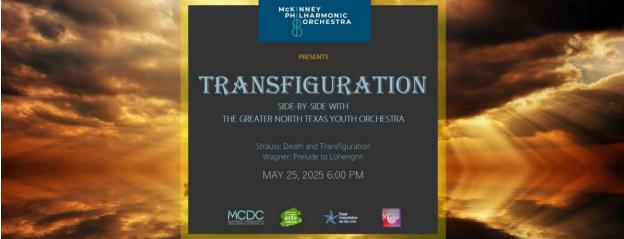
Ravel: Mother Goose Suite Respighi: The Birds Sibelius: Swan of Tuonela Kristin Perry, English Horn Haydn: Symphony No. 83 "La Poule" MAY 3, 2025 7:00 PM Trinity Presbyterian Church, McKinney





May 3, 2025. Trinity Presbyterian Church, McKinney . 7:00 PM. For tickets: WWW.mckinneyphilharmonic.org







PRESENTS CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES CONCERTS With the Odysseus Chamber Players of the McKinney Philharmonic Orchestra FEBRUARY 8, 2025. 6:30 PM



