



**MENOMONEE FALLS
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**
ALEXANDER MANDL - MUSIC DIRECTOR

JEANYI KIM
PERFORMS
VIVALDI
FROM THE FOUR
SEASONS

**CONCERT
PROGRAM**



October 25, 2025
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FROM THE PODIUM

Good evening, and welcome.

As Music Director and Conductor of the Menomonee Falls Symphony Orchestra, it is a pleasure to share this evening of music with you. Tonight's 2025-2026 opener program travels through vivid seasons, stories, and places, connecting the Autumnal spirit sounds with emotion, imagination, and memory.

We begin with Eric Whitacre's October, a contemporary work that captures the reflective beauty of the autumn season. Whitacre's music feels like poetry in sound, with glowing harmonies that seem to suspend time. It reminds us of the quiet transformations that happen in nature and in ourselves as one season gives way to another.

Our stellar soloist tonight, Jeanyi Kim, brings this music to life with brilliance to Antonio Vivaldi and two of the most beloved concertos from The Four Seasons: Autumn and Winter. Written in the early 18th century, these works are remarkable for their vivid storytelling. You will hear hunters' horns echoing through the forest, peasants dancing at harvest time, and the chill of icy winds expressed through rapid violin tremolos. In Winter, the music even paints the sound of chattering teeth before offering the warmth of a fireside refuge.

With Halloween being just around the corner, we move to the magical world of Paul Dukas's The Sorcerer's Apprentice. Inspired by Goethe's famous tale, it tells of an eager young apprentice whose spell goes terribly wrong. You may recognize the music from Disney's Fantasia, where Mickey Mouse stars in the role of the hapless apprentice. Dukas's colorful orchestration and rhythmic wit make this piece a true orchestral showpiece and an audience favorite.

From there, we travel to southern Germany with Edward Elgar's Three Bavarian Dances. Written after a happy holiday trip with his wife, these dances overflow with warmth and humor. You can almost imagine the sounds of local festivals, folk fiddles, and mountain air. Elgar's gift for melody shines throughout, blending English grace with Bavarian charm.

We close our program with Johannes Brahms's Academic Festival Overture, a work that proves Brahms had a mischievous side. Written to thank a university for granting him an honorary doctorate, the overture turns traditional student drinking songs into a grand symphonic celebration. By the end, Brahms transforms raucous tunes into something noble and uplifting. Truly, a fitting conclusion to an evening of joy, imagination, and discovery.

Thank you for joining us tonight. I hope this music brings you both inspiration and delight. Please spread the word about the MFSO, bring a friend or two to our future concerts, and support live classical music performances.

Warmly;

MFSO Music Director
Dr. Alexander Mandl

ALEXANDER MANDL - MUSIC DIRECTOR

Menomonee Falls Symphony Orchestra Music Director, Dr. Alexander Mandl maintains an active and multifaceted career as conductor, violinist, soloist, educator, chamber, and orchestra musician. A versatile artist, Mandl appeared internationally at renowned halls, including Alice Tully, Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, Carnegie Music Hall, Sprague Hall, the Mellon Institute, the Memorial of Latin America and Auditorio Manuel de Falla in Granada, Spain, and Alsion in Denmark.



Commended for his energetic and charismatic performances, detailed score knowledge, and natural inspiring musical leadership, Dr. Mandl has conducted ensembles from small chamber and vocal, to the large operatic and symphonic. He has directed musicians from the New York Philharmonic, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, Dallas Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, New Haven Symphony, South Denmark Symphony and the Ljubljana Symphony, to name a few.

In addition to his Menomonee Falls Symphony Orchestra duties, Mandl holds conducting posts as Conductor of the Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra (Milwaukee Mosaik), Conductor of the Medical College of Wisconsin Orchestra, Conductor of the Elm City ChamberFest Chamber Orchestra, guest conductor with the Paraiba Symphony Orchestra, Brazil, and the South Denmark Symphony Orchestra, among others. Prior engagements include the Kenosha Symphony, Timothy Dwight Chamber Orchestra, UFPB Chamber Orchestra and the Eleazar de Carvalho Festival Faculty Orchestra.

In 2004, Mandl conducted the South American premiere of Ezra Laderman's *Nonete*. In addition, he has recently conducted opera productions of Hans Krasa *"Brundibar"* and Pergolesi's *"La Serva Padrona"*. Former conducting posts include the Carroll University Chamber Orchestra, Cardinal Stritch University Chamber Orchestra, the Hopkins Chamber Ensemble, Timothy Dwight Chamber Orchestra at Yale, the Lakeshore Youth Symphony Orchestra (2006-2016), and the New Haven Youth Symphony.

Dr. Mandl holds degrees from Yale, Carnegie-Mellon and UW-Madison. Among his conducting mentors are Eleazar de Carvalho, David Becker, James Smith, and Jorge Mester. He is the recipient of the Yale Alumni Award, the Carnegie Tradition Award, the Miles Prize, and the Ivan Galamian Award.

THIS EVENING'S SOLOIST - JEANYI KIM

Jeanyi Kim is the Associate Concertmaster of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, and Concertmaster of Milwaukee Mosaik (also known as the Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra). A Toronto native, Kim's command as a violinist and orchestral musician have brought her to illustrious venues around the world, including Carnegie Hall, the Barbican Centre, Salle Pleyel, and the Concertgebouw. As a guest, she has appeared as Assistant Leader of the London Symphony Orchestra (UK) under Sir Colin Davis and Valery Gergiev, Concertmaster of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Principal Second of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, and guest musician of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Of her featured solo recital, the *Journal Sentinel* praised her performance, drawing likeness to that of "a glamorous international star." Kim is equally comfortable in soloist, chamber, and orchestral roles as well as a variety of styles, and her



playing has been described as "engrossing...intelligent," and simultaneously having "easy grace" (*Journal Sentinel*) and "fistfuls of technical fireworks." (*Urban Milwaukee*)

Recent solo appearances include performances with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Mosaik Chamber Orchestra, Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra, Sunflower Music Festival Orchestra, Kenosha Symphony Orchestra and Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra. A passionate and energetic chamber musician, Kim is a founding member of the *Philomusica Quartet*, and is a regular artist at the esteemed *Sunflower Music Festival*. She has performed in several prominent chamber music series, including *Milwaukee Chamber Music Festival*, *Frankly Music*, *Dame Myra Hess*, *Fine Arts at First*, *Searl Pickett*, as well as on radio broadcasts for *Wisconsin Public Radio*, *WFMT Chicago* and *Kansas Public Radio*. Her stylistic versatility as a performer can be seen in her various projects with contemporary music ensemble, *Present Music*, as well as in the innovative programming of *Milwaukee Mosaik*, where she serves as Vice President of the Board, as well as Concertmaster.

A dedicated educator, Kim has held faculty positions at various institutions, including University of Wisconsin-Parkside and University of New Haven, and during summers has taught at several festivals, including the *Eleazar de Carvalho International Music Festival* (Brazil) and the *Elm City ChamberFest*. She was recently selected as the *Howard Brown Guest Artist-in-Residence* at University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Under her guidance, many of her students have gone on to win various prizes, honors, and positions in professional orchestras. Kim is also a frequent adjudicator of competitions. Her major teachers include Erick Friedman, Kyung Yu, Rebecca Henry and Berl Senofsky, and important mentors include Aldo and Elizabeth Parisot, Sidney Harth, and Tokyo String Quartet. As a graduate student at Yale, she served as a teaching assistant to Erick Friedman. Kim holds a DMA from Yale University, where she also earned her BA, MM, and MMA degrees. As an undergrad, Kim was the recipient of the *Bach Society Award*.

Kim recorded for a Boosey & Hawkes publication/CD entitled, *10 Violin Solos from the Masters*, released by Hal Leonard. She performs on a 1705 Petrus Guarnerius violin.

She and her husband, violinist and conductor Alexander Mandl, enjoy the adventures of raising their two young children, Miranda and Nikolas, frequenting their favorite coffee shops, biking, sailing, and traveling.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Dedicated Friends and Patrons of the MFSO,

It is with immense joy and profound gratitude that I welcome you to the launch of our 2025-2026 season! As the leaves begin to turn and the air cools, we are thrilled to usher in another year of spectacular music-making, all thanks to the unwavering support and passion you bring to every performance. Your commitment is the foundation upon which our entire orchestra thrives, allowing us to pursue musical excellence and enrich our community.

This season, under the visionary baton of Maestro Dr. Alexander "Sascha" Mandl, promises to be a journey of discovery and celebration. We've curated a Season designed to stir the soul, featuring magnificent classics with selections from Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" featuring Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra Associate Concertmaster Jeanyi Kim, Dukas' The Sorcerer's Apprentice, and other famous works. We are excited to offer two performances of our Holiday Concert, "Gifts of the Season," an evening concert at Hamilton Fine Arts Center and a matinee at Germantown Performing Arts Center. We are thrilled to present - "For Your Ears Only" -Valentine Dinner concert with a James Bond themed dinner buffet. We conclude our season with Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. Again, we will welcome talented young musicians with our Honors "Side-by-Side" Invitational.

The MFSO Musicians, Board of Directors, and Dr. Mandl are committed to inspiring the next generation of musicians and audience members. Every ticket purchased and every donation made directly ensures that the vibrant power of orchestral music remains accessible and thriving in our community. Simply put: you are the co-creators of every note we play.

We invite you now to secure your seats for this spectacular season! Please visit our website, mfso.net, to explore the full schedule, learn more about our artists, and purchase tickets.

We look forward to bringing the magic of live orchestral music with you once again. Thank you, from the deepest part of our organization, for being the heart of the Menomonee Falls Symphony Orchestra family. We look forward to seeing you throughout the Season!

Respectfully,

Denise Piche'

President

MFSO Board of Directors



MENOMONEE FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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Shannon Iler**
Kathleen Melius
Jamie Schroeter
Sophia Kerkow
Hannah Sternberg
Rachel Smith

VIOLIN II

Anna Rasmussen*
Holly June
Denise Piche'
Anja Freigang
Louise Adams
Richard Schwinn
Beth Kreutzer

VIOLA

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Mary Jagusch
Kasey Paulos
Elizabeth Jorgensen
Nancy Moreno
Christina Sienkiewicz

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Christine Weise
Clare Schaeffer
Eric Slotty
Ben Grogan

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Adam Quiballo

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Tahlia Morris

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Holly Whitehead

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Holly Whitehead

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Mark Gerard*
Kent Tess-Mattner

BASS TROMBONE

Christina Chang

TUBA

Karl Mueller

TIMPANI

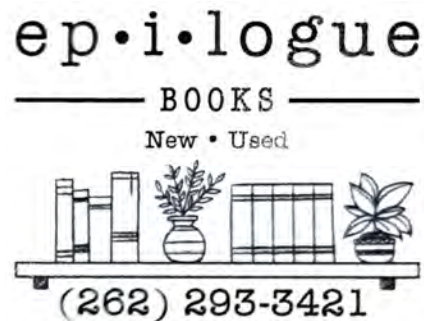
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These supporters make our concerts and other activities possible. We are grateful for their support.

THANKS go to our volunteers, who help the symphony in any number of ways. We couldn't accomplish our work without you.

Menomonee Falls Symphony Orchestra CONCERT PROGRAM Alexander Mandl, Conductor

Saturday, October 25, 2025 at 7:30 pm

October

Eric Whitacre

Concerto in F Major, Op. 8, No. 3, "Autumn"

Antonio Vivaldi

I. Allegro
II. Adagio molto
III. Allegro

Soloist:

Jeanyi Kim, Violin

Concerto in F Major, Op. 8, No. 4, "Winter"

Antonio Vivaldi

I. Allegro non Molto
II. Largo
III. Allegro

Soloist:

Jeanyi Kim, Violin

INTERMISSION

The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Paul Dukas

Three Bavarian Dances

Edward Elgar

Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80

Johannes Brahms

Please turn off all cell phones and smart devices.

We appreciate your cooperation in making our concerts as enjoyable as possible for everyone. Enjoy the concert!



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NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM NOTES BY DR. ALEXANDER MANDL.



ANTONIO VIVALDI

Born: March 4, 1678, Venice, Italy

Died: July 28, 1741, Vienna, Austria

From The Four Seasons - Autumn and Winter

Composed: 1723

Approximate duration: 23 minutes.

Vivaldi was an Italian composer, virtuoso violinist, impresario of Baroque music and Roman Catholic priest. Regarded as one of the greatest Baroque composers, Vivaldi's influence during his lifetime was widespread across Europe, giving origin to many imitators and admirers.

Composed around 1723, Vivaldi's The Four Seasons revolutionized instrumental music through its vivid depiction of nature and human experience. Each concerto is accompanied by a sonnet, likely written by the composer, guiding listeners through detailed imagery. Autumn celebrates rural life, with dancing peasants, hunting horns, and gentle slumber after harvest feasting. Winter bristles with icy winds, chattering teeth, and stormy tremolos that contrast with a serene middle movement suggesting warmth by the hearth. Vivaldi's inventive use of rhythm, texture, and violin virtuosity turns these concertos into early examples of program music, where sound becomes a direct mirror of the natural world. To date, "The Four Seasons" remains as a feat of programmatic music as well as an apex of violin virtuosity.

Sonnet for "Autumn"

I. Allegro

The peasants celebrate
with dance and song,
The joy of a rich harvest.
And, full of Bacchus's liquor,
They finish their celebration with sleep.

II. Adagio molto

Each peasant ceases his dance and song.
The mild air gives pleasure,
And the season invites many
To enjoy a sweet slumber.

III. Allegro

The hunters, at the break of dawn,
go to the hunt.
With horns, guns, and dogs they are off,
The beast flees, and they follow its trail.
Already fearful
and exhausted by the great noise,
Of guns and dogs, and wounded,
The exhausted beast tries to flee, but dies.

Sonnet for "Winter"

I. Allegro non molto

Frozen and trembling in the icy snow,
In the severe blast of the horrible wind,
As we run, we constantly stamp our feet,
And our teeth chatter in the cold.

II. Largo

To spend happy and quiet days near the fire,
While, outside, the rain soaks hundreds.

III. Allegro

We walk on the ice with slow steps,
And tread carefully, for fear of falling.
If we go quickly, we slip and fall to the ground.
Again we run on the ice,
Until it cracks and opens.
We hear, from closed doors,
Sirocco, Boreas, and all the winds in battle.
This is winter, but it brings joy.



ERIC WHITACRE

Born: January 2, 1980, Reno Nevada

October

Composed: 2000

Approximate duration: 6 minutes.

Eric Whitacre is a Grammy-winning professional composer based out of Los Angeles, California, whose works have appeared in popular films including in the *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Batman* series.

Composed in 2000, *October* is one of Eric Whitacre's most beloved works, originally for concert band and later arranged for orchestra. The piece captures the bittersweet character of autumn, with long, lyrical lines and rich harmonic layers that ebb and flow like a cool breeze through falling leaves. Its gentle dissonances and luminous textures evoke nostalgia, change, and reflection. Whitacre, known for his choral writing, infuses *October* with vocal-inspired phrasing and emotional depth, creating a serene soundscape that feels both intimate and expansive. It is a quiet celebration of nature's beauty and the poignancy of transition.



PAUL DUKAS

Born: October 1, 1865 - Paris, France

Died: May 17, 1935, Paris, France

THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE

Composed: 1897

Premier: 1897, Paris, France

Approximate duration: 12 minutes

Paul Dukas was a French composer, critic, scholar and teacher. Composed in 1897, Dukas's *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* was inspired by Goethe's famous ballad about a mischievous apprentice who animates a broom to carry water, only to lose control of the spell. The music vividly depicts the story through sparkling orchestration and rhythmic drive: the broom's clumsy march, the apprentice's panic, and the chaos of overflowing water. Dukas, a perfectionist who destroyed many of his own works, created in this scherzo (joke) a masterpiece of tone painting. Its colorful orchestral detail and dramatic pacing make it one of the most recognizable and brilliantly crafted works of French impressionist style.



EDWARD ELGAR

Born: June 2, 1858 - Lower Broadheath, England

Died: February 23, 1934, Worcester, England

THREE BAVARIAN DANCES

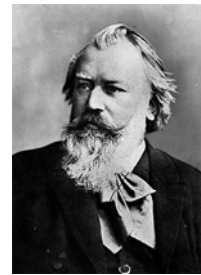
Composed: 1897

Premier: 1897, London, France

Approximate duration: 11 minutes

Edward Elgar was an English composer, many of whose works have entered the British and international classical concert repertoire. Among his best-known compositions are orchestral works including the *Enigma Variations* and the *Pomp and Circumstance Marches*.

Drawn from his *Bavarian Dances*, Op. 27 (1890), Elgar's *Three Bavarian Dances* reflect memories of a joyful summer spent in the Bavarian Alps with his wife Alice. Each movement captures a different aspect of Bavarian folk life: rustic charm, lyrical romance, and exuberant festivity. Though inspired by German settings, the music is unmistakably Elgarian in its warm melodies, graceful structure, and understated humor. The dances reveal a lighter side of the composer, offering a refreshing contrast to his more solemn and monumental works. They celebrate the spirit of travel, love, and the beauty of ordinary life in music of radiant simplicity.



JOHANNES BRAHMS

Born: May 7, 1833, Hamburg, Germany

Died: April 3, 1897, Vienna, Austria

Academic Festival Overture

Composed: 1880

Premiered: 1880 in Breslau, Germany

Approximate duration: 12 minutes

Brahms was a German composer, virtuoso pianist, and conductor of the mid-Romantic period. Considered one of the greatest composers of his day, Brahms has often been cast as a successor to Beethoven. His works are characterized by the rich tonality and exquisite craftsmanship.

Brahms composed the *Academic Festival Overture* in 1880 as a humorous yet grand gesture of thanks to the University of Breslau for awarding him an honorary doctorate. Described by the composer as a "boisterous potpourri of student songs," the work transforms popular German drinking tunes into a richly orchestrated symphonic celebration. Brahms skillfully weaves themes such as *Fuchslied* and *Wir hatten gebauet ein stattliches Haus*, culminating in a triumphant finale on *Gaudeamus igitur*. The overture's blend of intellect, humor, and exuberance reflects Brahms's mastery of form and his ability to elevate everyday melodies into noble musical art.



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The arts unify us all, and benefits extend beyond the individual to the community.

The orchestra promotes appreciation of classical, symphonic, and all styles of music for audiences and playing musicians. The orchestra also provides an opportunity for young artists and professional soloists to appear in concert with symphonic accompaniment.

The orchestra strongly supports the enhancement of music education for all: the disciplines, the opportunity for aspiration and personal satisfaction for people of all ages.

The MFSO relies on community support to achieve our mission. To join our email list and learn more about how you can support the MFSO as a donor, volunteer, advertiser or musician, visit our web site or scan the QR code below:

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