SYMPHONIC JAZZ ORCHESTRA

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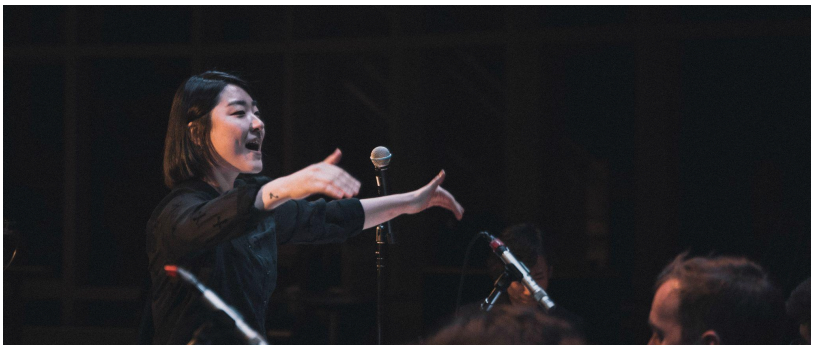
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SYMPHONIC JAZZ ORCHESTRA AWARDS SEULAH NOH 2026 GEORGE DUKE COMMISSIONING PRIZE



Los Angeles, October 23, 2026 - The Symphonic Jazz Orchestra (SJO) is pleased to announce the recipient of the 11th Annual SJO George Duke Commissioning Prize. This prize was created to honor the legacy of George Duke, SJO's Co-Music Director from 2004 until his passing in 2013. The SJO Music Advisory Board was tasked with the job of screening the submissions from across the globe, ranging from leading jazz veterans to promising young composers.

South Korean composer, pianist, and conductor Seluah Noh was selected as the recipient of the $5,000 commissioning prize and will write a new work for the 68-member ensemble, to be premiered by the SJO in 2027 and entered into the SJO's catalog of symphonic jazz commissions.

Noh's work has brought her into collaboration with artists including Kurt Elling, Dave Holland, Cécile McLorin Salvant, and Rosana Eckert. Her compositions have received recognition from the Seattle Women's Jazz Orchestra's annual composition contest and the DownBeat Student Music Awards, and have been performed by ensembles around the world, including the University of Michigan Jazz Ensemble, Iowa State University, and Keio University in Japan, with performances featuring artists such as Andrew Bishop and Mike Rodriguez. Noh leads the Seulah Noh Jazz Orchestra in performances across the United States, with appearances at venues and festivals including the Korean Cultural Center New York, the Western Michigan Jazz Society Summer Series, and the Michigan Jazz Festival.

Noh commented, "Blending my classical music roots with jazz is one of my favorite ways to express my musical voice and bring my compositional ideas to life. I'm deeply grateful to the music advisory board for this opportunity to create a new work in the coming year, and I'm absolutely thrilled to meet and collaborate with the Symphonic Jazz Orchestra."

Now celebrating its 25th Anniversary, the 68-member Symphonic Jazz Orchestra is dedicated to blending the worlds of jazz and classical music through its commissioning, performing and educational programs. Led by Music Director Mitch Glickman, the ensemble has performed throughout Southern California with leading guest artists including Dave Grusin, Christian McBride, Marcus Roberts, Terri Lyne Carrington, The Yellowjackets, and George Duke. The orchestra's recording on Mack Avenue Records features two of its commissioned works.