

# ABOUT THE SYMPHONIC JAZZ ORCHESTRA



Founded in 2002, the Symphonic Jazz Orchestra is a non-profit organization dedicated to perpetuating the uniquely American genre of symphonic jazz through its commissioning program, and inspiring the next generation through its "Music in the Schools" program. We bring much-needed TK through 8th grade music education to classrooms throughout Los Angeles County. "Music in the Schools" focuses on schools in under-resourced neighborhoods, and teaches rhythm, note reading, solfege, music culture and history weekly through our year-long program. Our curriculum integrates with and enhances students' understanding of math, reading, science, history, and creative writing. The 68-member SJO has performed in concerts throughout Southern California including the Carpenter Performing Arts Center, Royce Hall (UCLA), Ford Amphitheatre, San Gabriel Mission Playhouse and the Walt Disney Theatre at CalArts. Special guests joining the orchestra have included Bill Cunliffe, George Duke, Dave Grusin, Keyon Harrold, Christian McBride, Marcus Roberts, Lee Ritenour, Luciana Souza, Ernie Watts and The Yellowjackets. In 2015, the SJO released its debut recording featuring commissioned works by George Duke and Lee Ritenour, along with a performance of "Rhapsody in Blue" with Bill Cunliffe. The SJO is comprised of Southern California's finest studio, concert and jazz musicians. This all-star band consists of members and former members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony and New York Philharmonic. They have performed and toured with such legendary bands and performers as Stan Kenton, Count Basie, Lady Gaga and Barbra Streisand and perform for Hollywood's top film and television composers.

## "BEYOND SYMPHONIC JAZZ" ON KJAZZ 88.1 FM

Hosted by SJO Music Director Mitch Glickman, "Beyond Symphonic Jazz" radio series explores where the worlds of jazz and classical music meet, with interviews with some very special composers and performers including Pat Metheny, George Benson, Maria Schneider, Wayne Shorter, Stanley Clarke, Billy Cobham, Chris Botti, Linda Ronstadt, and Chick Corea. The show also features rare recordings along with new works that continue the great American tradition of symphonic jazz. The 2-hour show on KJazz 88.1 FM airs every Monday evening from 9 – 11 pm (PST) and can be heard online at [jazzandblues.org](http://jazzandblues.org). The broadcasts are also available On Demand for two weeks by going to the KJazz website and searching under the "Archived Programs" tab.

# MITCH GLICKMAN CONDUCTOR, SJO MUSIC DIRECTOR



Award-winning composer, conductor, and producer, Mitch Glickman's diverse music career covers the fields of concert, jazz, opera, film, and recordings. He founded the Symphonic Jazz Orchestra in 2001 and his concert works have been commissioned and premiered by leading ensembles including the American Jazz Philharmonic, Oberlin Orchestra, Turtle Island String Quartet, and Angel City Chorale. His film and television credits include scores for the independent films "Street of Pain" starring Steve Carell, and "Proudheart" starring Lorrie Morgan, along with Night Court, Cheers, and the Grammy Award Show. Glickman also serves as Director of Music Programs for LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art) and he hosts and produces the weekly "Beyond Symphonic Jazz" radio series on KJazz 88.1 FM every Monday evening at 9 pm. In 2021, Glickman was named Jazz Educator of the Year by the Los Angeles Jazz Society.

## THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Tom Talbert Foundation, Herb Alpert Foundation, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, Guitar Center Foundation, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors – Supervisor Janice Hahn, Fourth District, KJazz 88.1, and the Carpenter Performing Arts Center

## STAFF

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Lu Cien Hioe  
Education Team  
Rebecca Cardenas  
Education Team  
Claire Bernson  
Events & Marketing Manager  
Alejandro Salazar Dyer  
Development Director

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SYMPHONIC JAZZ ORCHESTRA SALUTES MAURICE WHITE  
WITH SPECIAL GUEST CHANTÉ MOORE



MAURICE WHITE

SALUTE TO



SAT, MAY 09, 7:30 PM  
SUN, MAY 10, 7 PM  
RICHARD AND KAREN CARPENTER  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, LONG BEACH, CA



**SALUTE TO MAURICE WHITE  
CONCERT PROGRAM  
MITCH GLICKMAN, CONDUCTOR  
MAY 9 & 10, 2026**

**FESTIVAL**

George Duke  
Arrangement - Mitch Glickman

**FANTASY\***

Maurice White, Eddie del Barrio, Verdine White  
Lakecia Benjamin, alto sax  
Arrangement - Mitch Glickman  
Original arrangement Eddie del Barrio

**REASONS\***

Maurice White, Charles Stepney, Philip Bailey  
Lakecia Benjamin, alto sax  
Arrangement - Marshall Gilkes  
Original arrangement Charles Stepney

**PASSAGES (2003)\*^**

Maurice White & Bill Meyers  
Lakecia Benjamin, alto sax  
Bill Meyers, piano  
Christian Euman, drums  
Orchestration - Bill Meyers

**INTERMISSION**

**IN THE STONE\***

Maurice White, Allee Willis, David Foster  
Chanté Moore, vocalist  
Arrangement - Mitch Glickman  
Original arrangement Jerry Hey / David Foster

**BE EVER WONDERFUL\***

Maurice White & Larry Dunn  
Chanté Moore, vocalist  
Arrangement - Mitch Glickman  
Original arrangement Tom Tom 84 (Thomas Washington)

**THAT'S THE WAY OF THE WORLD\***

Maurice White, Charles Stepney, Verdine White  
Chanté Moore, vocalist  
Arrangement - Vince Mendoza  
Original arrangement Charles Stepney

**SEPTEMBER\***

Maurice White, Al McKay, Allee Willis  
Chanté Moore, vocalist  
Lakecia Benjamin, alto sax  
Arrangement - John Clayton  
Original arrangement Tom Tom 84 (Thomas Washington)

\*World Premiere Performance

^ Commissioned by the Symphonic Jazz Orchestra

**These concerts are presented in partnership with the Estate of Maurice White and Broken Halo Productions.**

# MAURICE WHITE

## 1941–2016

Maurice White was less a frontman than a sonic architect. A quiet visionary who built entire worlds out of rhythm and light. As the founder of Earth, Wind & Fire, he fused cosmic spirituality, tight horn arrangements, layered harmonies, and African diasporic percussion into a sound that felt both ancient and futuristic. A former session drummer at Chess Records, White understood groove from the inside out, but his true gift was imagination: pyramids onstage, kalimbas in pop radio, falsettos floating over funk bass-lines. He didn't just make hits, he engineered experiences, turning concerts into ceremonies and songs into affirmations. In doing so, he helped define the emotional and visual language of Black excellence in popular music.



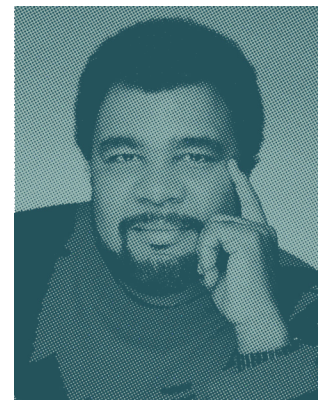
**CHANTÉ MOORE**

The Grammy nominated and Soul Train Music Award winning singer, songwriter and author has been a Billboard chart-topping vocalist for over three decades. Moore has worked with such leading record producers as Maurice White, George Duke, Kenneth “Babyface” Edmonds, and Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis, and has been heard on such celebrated movie sound-tracks as “Waiting to Exhale” and “How Stella Got her Groove Back.”



**LAKECIA BENJAMIN**

Lakecia Benjamin is a 6x GRAMMY nominated New York-based saxophonist, arranger, composer, and educator. Her music offers a unique meld of R&B, jazz, and funk. She has released five acclaimed recordings including her most recent, Noble Rise. Some of her many collaborators over the years have included Clark Terry, Terri Lyne Carrington, Gregory Porter, Missy Elliott, Reggie Workman and Dianne Reeves.



**GEORGE DUKE**

Multi-Grammy Award winning composer, bandleader, producer and keyboardist, George Duke served as Co-Music Director of the SJO from 2002 to his passing 2013. Over the course of his time with the SJO, he was featured in concert with the orchestra, performed benefits, and composed a new work for the SJO, “Dark Wood: Duke Bass Concerto for McBride,” which was recorded on Mack Avenue Records by the SJO with soloist Christian McBride.

# SYMPHONIC JAZZ ORCHESTRA

**PRODUCTION**

Contractor ..... Tim Christensen  
Librarian ..... Marty Fenton Frear

**WOODWINDS**

Flute/Piccolo ..... Sarah Andon  
Alto Sax/Flute/Soprano Sax ..... Sal Lozano  
Alto Sax/Flute ..... Greg Huckins  
Oboe ..... Jonathon Davis  
Oboe/English Horn..... Phil Feather  
Clarinet ..... Marty Krystall  
Clarinet/Tenor Sax ..... Brian Scanlon  
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet/Bari Sax ..... Jay Mason  
Bassoon ..... Harvey Saltzman  
Bassoon/Tenor Sax ..... John Mitchell

**BRASS**

Trumpet ..... Dan Fornero  
Trumpet ..... Robert Schaer  
Trumpet ..... Michael Stever  
French Horn ..... Steve Becknell  
French Horn ..... Sarah Bach  
French Horn ..... Danielle Ondarza  
French Horn ..... Jon Titmus  
Trombone ..... Alan Kaplan  
Trombone ..... Dave Ryan  
Trombone ..... Abdullah Ebrahim  
Tuba/Bass Trombone..... Ross deRoche

**PERCUSSION**

Percussion ..... Mark Converse  
Bruce Carver  
Latin Percussion ..... Petri Korpela

**CONCERT MASTER**

Sara Parkins

**1ST VIOLIN**

Carolyn Osborn (principal)  
Chris Woods  
Johana Krejci  
Julie Rogers  
Mark Cargill  
Sharon Jackson  
Kathleen Robertson  
Nina Evtuhov  
Lily Honigberg

**2ND VIOLIN**

Tamara Hatwan (principal)  
Erika Walczak  
Susan Chatman  
Ron Clark  
Eun-Mee Ahn  
Stephanie Matthews  
Jacqueline Suzuki  
Pamela Gates

**HARP** Amy Wilkins

**VIOLA**

Andrew Picken (principal)  
Sharon Ray  
John Wang  
Neel Hammond  
Rocio Marron  
Karolina Naziemiec  
Jorge Moraga  
Karen Elaine

**CELLO**

Evgeny Tonkha (principal)  
Caleb Vaughn-Jones  
Hope Easton  
Miguel Martinez  
Martha Lippi  
Mary Anne Steinberger  
Paula Hochhalter  
Stephanie Fife

**STRING BASS**

Karl Vincent (principal)  
Nicolas Philippon  
Adrian Rosen  
Richard Shaw