



# EDMONTON SENIOR YOUTH ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT

Featuring Beethoven's Choral Fantasy and other works  
by Grieg, Balfour, Wagner and Copland.

with special guests:

Roger Admiral, piano, and three Augustana choral ensembles under the leadership of Dr. John Wiebe (The Augustana Choir, Sangkor, and Mannskor).

**Saturday, November 23, 2024 | 7pm**  
**Jeanne & Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre**  
**4501-50 Street, Camrose, AB**

Music Director: Michael Massey

[www.eyso.com](http://www.eyso.com)



Edmonton  
Youth Orchestra



# PROGRAMME

**CONDUCTOR: MICHAEL MASSEY**  
(except as otherwise indicated)

**Peer Gynt Suite No. 1, Op. 46**  
*1. Morgenstimmung*

**Edvard Grieg**

**4 Norwegian Dances, Op. 35**  
*2. Allegretto tranquillo e grazioso*

**Edvard Grieg**  
*Conductor: Laura Veeze*

**Symphonic Dances, Op. 64**  
*1. Allegro moderato e marcato*

**Edvard Grieg**  
*Conductor: Laura Veeze*

**Mamachimowin**

**Andrew Balfour**  
*Conductor: Dr. John Wiebe*

**Choral Fantasy, Op. 80**  
*1. Adagio*  
*2. Finale*

**Ludwig van Beethoven**

## INTERMISSION

**Prelude to Act 1 of Lohengrin**

**Richard Wagner**

**The Tender Land Suite**  
*1. Introduction and Love Music*  
*2. Party Scene*  
*3. Finale: Promise of Living*

**Aaron Copland**

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### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

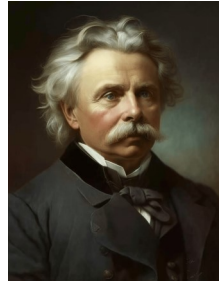
*The Edmonton Youth Orchestra Association respectfully acknowledges that we creatively operate on sacred, traditional lands in Treaty Six Territory, a site where music and community have been shared for at least 11,000 years – 500 generations. We honour and recognize the rich artistic, cultural, and musical traditions of the Cree, Nakota Sioux, Metis, Dene, Saulteaux, and the many more Indigenous communities, that call this land we share, home.*

# Program Notes

## ***Morning Mood from Peer Gynt Suite No. 1***

### **Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)**

Edvard Grieg's *Morning Mood* from the incidental music to *Peer Gynt*, Op. 23, is one of his most beloved orchestral works. Composed in 1875 for Henrik Ibsen's play *Peer Gynt*, it depicts the tranquil beauty of dawn, evoking the peaceful, serene atmosphere of the Norwegian countryside.



The piece opens with a soft, rising theme in the woodwinds, accompanied by gentle strings, capturing the first light of day as it gradually breaks over the horizon. The melody, imbued with a sense of warmth and calm, unfolds with elegance, as the orchestral textures grow richer and more expansive, mimicking the progression of daylight. The orchestral color is bright and expansive, with Grieg's lush harmonies creating a serene sense of awakening.

## ***Norwegian Dance no. 2***

### **Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)**

Edvard Grieg's *Norwegian Dance No. 2*, Op. 35, composed in 1881, is a lively and engaging orchestral work that draws on the rhythms and melodies of Norwegian folk music. The piece is part of a set of four Norwegian Dances, and it captures the vibrant spirit of traditional Norwegian dance forms, particularly the halling, a lively and energetic folk dance often associated with acrobatic feats.

The dance opens with a spirited, syncopated theme, featuring bright brass and woodwinds that evoke the excitement and vitality of a folk celebration. Grieg's masterful orchestration brings out contrasting textures, with lush strings providing a rich harmonic backdrop while the woodwinds and brass take turns presenting the playful, rhythmic themes.

Throughout the piece, Grieg's infectious energy and skillful use of folk idioms shine, creating a world that is both nationalistic and universally appealing. *Norwegian Dance No. 2* is a joyful celebration of Grieg's love for his homeland's musical traditions.

## ***Symphonic Dance no. 1***

### **Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)**

Edvard Grieg's *Symphonic Dance No. 1*, Op. 64, composed in 1898, is a vibrant and exuberant orchestral work that showcases the composer's distinctive style, blending Norwegian folk music with Romantic orchestral traditions. The piece is the first of a set of two symphonic dances, and it opens with a lively, rhythmic theme that immediately establishes a sense of energy and forward motion.

The main theme is characterized by its infectious dance rhythm, marked by lively accents and sweeping melodic lines, evoking the spirit of Norwegian folk dances.

Grieg's use of orchestration is particularly effective, with lush strings and woodwinds contrasting with bold brass statements. The music develops through a series of dynamic shifts, building to a dramatic climax before returning to the opening dance theme. *Symphonic Dance No. 1* is both a celebration of Norwegian folk traditions and a masterful example of Grieg's ability to infuse his music with national identity while maintaining a broad orchestral richness.

## ***Mamachimowan***

**Andrew Balfour (1967- )**

Andrew Balfour's *Mamachimowan* (2015) is a powerful and evocative composition that draws on the rich traditions of Indigenous Canadian music and culture. The title *Mamachimowan* comes from the Cree language, meaning "the sound of the voice," and the piece reflects Balfour's deep connection to his Cree heritage. It blends elements of traditional Indigenous music with contemporary Western classical techniques, creating a distinctive, cross-cultural sound.



The work is characterized by its atmospheric textures, rhythmic intensity, and an exploration of vocal and instrumental color. Balfour incorporates spoken word, chants, and vocalizations that evoke a sense of ritual and storytelling, while the orchestra creates a dynamic landscape through contrasting timbres and rhythmic patterns. The piece is deeply spiritual and ritualistic, invoking themes of memory, identity, and the natural world.

*Mamachimowan* is an example of Balfour's unique voice in contemporary classical music, bridging cultural worlds and offering an emotional, sonic expression of Indigenous experience.

## ***Choral Fantasy, Op. 80***

**Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)**

Ludwig van Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*, Op. 80, composed in 1808, is a unique blend of piano concerto, symphony, and choral work. Premiered alongside Beethoven's *Fifth* and *Sixth Symphonies* and *Piano Concerto No. 4*, it showcases the composer's evolving style. The piece opens with a lyrical piano solo, followed by a theme and variations that demonstrate Beethoven's virtuosity and orchestral innovation. A brief recitative leads to the powerful choral finale, where a simple, hymn-like melody brings together the orchestra, soloist, and chorus in a celebratory and unifying conclusion.

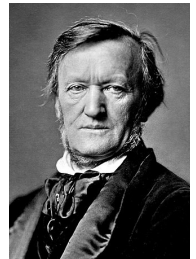


Though initially overlooked, the *Choral Fantasy* foreshadows the grand choral finales of Beethoven's later works, particularly the *Ninth Symphony*. With its combination of piano, orchestra, and chorus, the work is an experiment in form and a reflection of Beethoven's belief in music's transformative power, making it a compelling precursor to his later symphonic innovations.

## ***Prelude to Act 1 of Lohengrin***

**Richard Wagner (1813-1883)**

Richard Wagner's *Prelude to Lohengrin* is one of his most iconic orchestral works, setting the stage for his opera *Lohengrin* (1850). The prelude introduces the opera's themes of love, mysticism, and chivalric honor, embodying Wagner's innovative use of leitmotifs, which are musical themes associated with characters or ideas. The *Prelude* begins with a mysterious, flowing theme that represents the ethereal and divine nature of Lohengrin, the knight of the swan. This theme is soon joined by motifs symbolizing the heroine Elsa's innocence and purity.

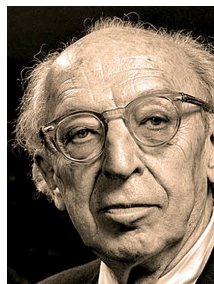


Wagner's masterful orchestration creates a sense of grandeur and suspense, building tension as the music moves through moments of quiet reflection and sweeping, majestic passages. The prelude culminates in a powerful, resolute conclusion, capturing the sense of triumph and otherworldliness that defines the opera. With its lush harmonies and dramatic contrasts, the *Prelude to Lohengrin* remains a striking example of Wagner's pioneering approach to orchestral storytelling.

## ***The Tender Land Suite***

### **Aaron Copland (1900-1990)**

Aaron Copland's *The Tender Land Suite*, which premiered in 1958, was drawn from his 1954 opera *The Tender Land*, which explores themes of rural life, coming-of-age, and personal freedom in the American heartland. The opera tells the story of Laurie, a young woman on the brink of adulthood, as she faces the challenges of leaving her family and home.



The *Tender Land Suite* distills the essence of the opera into an orchestral form, highlighting some of its most evocative moments. The opera's three acts are sampled in reverse order in the Suite.

Movement one comprises the Introduction to act three and the music of the love duet for Martin and Laurie. Movement two is taken from the act two party-scene and movement three adapts the stirring and beautiful quintet "The Promise of Living" from act one of the opera.

Copland's distinctive blend of Americana, lyrical melodies, and rich orchestration creates a vivid, emotionally resonant portrayal of rural American life in *the Tender Land Suite*.

## **Our Conductors**

### **Michael Massey**

#### **Conductor, Edmonton Youth Orchestra**

Michael Massey has been conductor of the EYO since 1977, inspiring thousands of young musicians through the EYO program and countless others through musical performance. Michael is an accomplished and versatile musician: he is a pianist, a conductor, an orchestrator, a composer, and a teacher - but most of all, he is a mentor and role model for young musicians. In 2002 Michael was inducted into Edmonton's Cultural Hall of Fame and awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal. In 2016 he was awarded the Alberta Order of Excellence; in 2017 the Lifetime Achievement in the Arts Award from the City of St. Albert's "Mayor's Celebration of the Arts"; in 2020 the Alberta Music Education Foundation Recognition Award and in December 2022, Michael Massey was appointed to the Order of Canada, being recognized for his "*consummate dedication to youth orchestras and for his transformational mentorship of generations of Canadian musicians*".





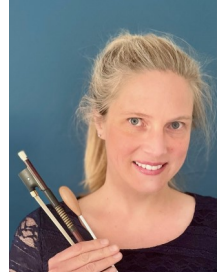
## Our Conductors (continued)

### Laura Veeze

#### Assistant Conductor, Edmonton Youth Orchestra

Dutch violinist, Laura Veeze, has reached audiences on three continents as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. She has held principal positions in orchestras on both sides of the pond. Currently, she is a member of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Concertmaster of the Chamber Orchestra of Edmonton and a passionate violinist in the Garneau String Quartet. Often feeling adventurous, she also enjoys playing viola, as well as baroque violin and viola.

Laura has a particular love for music education. She maintains a small private studio, teaches violin and chamber music at the MacEwan conservatory and is a sought after coach at programs such as the National Academy Orchestra and the Orchestre de la Francophonie. Originally having made her conducting debut in Nova Scotia with the String Ensemble at Acadia University, she embarked on a new journey as assistant conductor with the Edmonton Youth Orchestra in June of 2024.

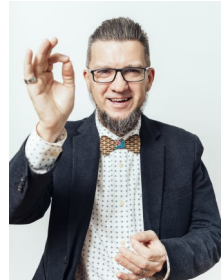


### Dr. John Wiebe

#### Conductor, Augustana Choirs

Dr. John Wiebe is an award-winning conductor, pianist, educator, adjudicator and clinician based in Edmonton, Alberta, where he is the Director of Music and Choral Activities at the University of Alberta-Augustana campus, and for 21 years was the Artistic & Executive Director of the Edmonton Youth & Children's Choirs.

John has studied at Wilfrid Laurier University, the University of Alberta, with Frieder Bernius from Stuttgart, Germany, and in Vienna, Austria. Choirs under his dynamic leadership have recorded seven CD's, performed coast-to-coast across Canada and around the world (Europe, Russia, South America and China), and have received awards for their performances locally, nationally and at the Langollen Music Festival and the World Choir Games. John is a regular clinician and adjudicator across the country, is a member of the Choir Alberta board, a Past-President of Choral Canada and likes to keep in shape for his music schedule by travelling with his family and running.

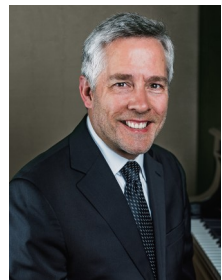


## Our Soloist

### Roger Admiral

#### Piano

Roger Admiral performs music from the 17th to the 21st century, and teaches piano at University of Alberta, Augustana Campus. Performances include György Ligeti's Piano Concerto with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, the piano works of Iannis Xenakis for Vancouver New Music, Matthew Ricketts *Meloscuro* with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, and collaborations on recitals for Curto-Circuito de Música Contemporânea Brazil, Festival of Contemporary Polish Music (Wrocław), New Music Concerts (Toronto), Lincoln Center's *Great Performers* series, Carnegie / Weill Hall, and Donaueschinger Musiktage.



# ABOUT THE CHOIRS

The Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta, located in Camrose, AB, is the proud home of four unique choral ensembles, three of which are composed of students and community members from as far away as Edberg and Edmonton.

Through the exploration of music from a variety of times and places, these choirs work to develop a broad sense of cultural awareness and cultivate an appreciation for the richness of the choral art. In addition, strong emphasis is placed on the development of the vocal instrument and gaining an understanding of foundational musical concepts. Three of the Augustana choirs will participate in tonight's concert.

*Sangkor* (pronounced sahng-kohr), is the Norwegian word for "song choir". This group explores the depth and beauty of the vast treble-choir tradition.

*Mannskor* draws from the bountiful lower-voice choral tradition to find comradery, joy, and often some silliness, in the rehearsal and performance process.

Both of these ensembles are non-auditioned and open to students, faculty and staff, as well as members of the community.

*The Augustana Choir (TAC)* is the auditioned chamber choir on the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta. This choir performs a diverse range of a *cappella* choral music, from Renaissance to the latest in contemporary choral compositions. In keeping with the liberal-arts tradition of the Augustana campus, singers in the choir come from all disciplines and departments, creating a rich milieu for musical exploration and growth. *TAC* is led by Dr. John Wiebe, Director of Music at the Augustana Campus. The choir tours annually across Alberta and Western Canada, with regular international tours, including Austria and Hungary in May of 2023. *TAC* has performed at provincial and national choral conferences and in fall 2024 released its latest CD recording, *Distracted by Beauty*.

## The Augustana Choir

### Soprano:

Melissa Hiebert<sup>‡</sup>  
Ryerson Kowalchuk  
Piper Regner  
Vese Ukange<sup>‡</sup>  
Emma Werbowesky<sup>‡</sup>

### Alto:

Eylul Evren  
Emma McLay  
Joanna Nicolas  
Kamsy Nwajaku  
Olesya Sanzhara

### Tenor:

Calliope French  
Chris Marcinek<sup>‡</sup>  
Andrew Van Hecke<sup>‡</sup>

### Bass:

Cinna Goonewardene  
Daniel Ratch<sup>‡</sup>  
Noah Van Hyfte  
Isaac Weimer<sup>‡</sup>  
Valentyn Yukhymchuk

<sup>‡</sup> Soloist

# MANNSKOR

Christopher Marcinek, choral assistant

## Tenor:

Steven Belau  
Jeff Decelle  
\*Calliope French  
\*Nathan Goetz  
\*Cinna Goonewardene  
Dan Hillyer  
\*Chris Marcinek  
Draken Mol  
\*Joe Mwatha  
\*Tim Parker  
\*John Parkins  
Dan Shepherd

## Bass:

\*Kellen Barwal  
Mark Bayrock  
Gus Belcourt  
Lawrence Bergquist  
Isaac Boddy  
\*Luke Buffalo  
Kaden Davidson  
\*Tim Dueck  
William Frederickson  
\*Bill Hackborn  
Caius Hatt  
Rowan Hatt  
Arden Hatt  
Alan Heyhurst  
Carson Hvenegaard  
Kai Johnsen  
Norm Lentz  
Tyler Pelsey  
\*Daniel Ratch  
Zachary Stolee  
Alexander Thielmann

# SANGKOR

Carolyn Olson, piano

## Soprano:

Kiara Abma  
Rosemary Arnett  
Lisa Belau  
Paula Bray  
Diane Fairhurst  
Celine Gauthier  
Christine Heyhurst  
\*Melissa Hiebert  
Cindy Katchur  
Barbara Lake  
Jackie Lewsaw  
Vanessa Lievers  
Christine Magnan  
\*Emma McLay  
Gladys Murray  
\*Adanna Nnanna-Ukaegbu  
\*Carolyn Olson  
Sandi Ratch  
Katharina Reddecop  
Rochelle Rude  
\*Chloe Shworak  
MJ Skretting  
Kim Skretting

## Alto:

Marilyn Blair  
Shannon Boller  
\*Hannah Boller  
\*Sonika Brits  
Arlene Hendrickson  
Marilyn Herget  
\*Princess Iloegbunam  
Barb Lentz  
\*Rebecca McKibbin  
Rita McKibbin  
\*Kate Mirones  
Peggy Noble-Cappie  
\*Grace Oxamitny  
Chris Rebus  
Tanya Schiele  
Sandra Schole  
\*Andrea Wilhelm

*\*denotes current  
students and faculty*



# Senior Orchestra

## First Violin

Anna Yin\*\*  
Elana Zhang  
Gabriel McCormick  
Rachel Zhu  
Tiana Yue  
Anika Valentine  
Adrian Bieganeck

Christopher Wong  
Jordan Zhang  
Jenny Xu  
Sophia Zhang  
Alina Nguyen  
Elizabeth Thomas  
Matthew Hendra

## Second Violin

Eva Francis\*  
Nicholas Fong  
Avenlea Cooper  
Samuel Kim  
Oliver Ma  
Jascel Paluca

Ellie de Andrade  
Brooklyn Loong  
Tony Ding  
Alexander Spyrapopolous  
Brandon Kwon

## Viola

James Pilson\*  
Marten Uchida  
Gi Vu  
Amy Tederoff

Myriam Mercier  
Kylie Pitsaroop  
Nife Oladele

## Cello

Melissa Lank\*  
Edward Na\*  
Anthony Yue  
Todomu Turnbull  
Nicholas Wong  
Erin Lee

Noah Pecson  
Charles Wachowicz  
William Dawe  
Anna Wachowicz  
Eve Kendrick  
Ella Hathaway

## Bass

Samuel Li\*  
Addison Petty

Celine Liu

## Flute

Kian Merkosky\*  
Jade Jacques  
Isabella Seutter  
Sanjna Kaushal  
Andrew Van Hecke

## Oboe

Eric Davidson\*  
Arion Miu  
Nando Sanchez–Wegmann

## Clarinet

Joshua Gray\*  
Kiara Acuna  
Ian Liu  
Macy Pollock  
Faith Whitehouse

## Bassoon

Drew Dempsey\*

## Horn

Fionna McCrostie\*  
Aliya Guay  
Gillian Nash  
Iona McNish

## Trumpet

David Ugalde\*  
Grace Mitchell  
Matthew Sullivan\*

## Trombone

Brett Merkosky\*  
Karis Paracuelles  
Brody Cranmer

## Tuba

Cayden Grant\*

## Percussion

William Li\*  
Gabriel Brad Slipetz

## Harp

Elena Oberg\*

\*\**Concertmaster*

\**Principal*

\**Guest Musician*

# EYO Upcoming Concerts and Events

**Mark your calendars—and don't miss out on the following  
2024-2025 season concerts!**

**Sunday, December 1, 2024 @ 2 PM**

Intermediate & Senior Orchestras in Concert  
Winspear Centre for Music, Edmonton

**Saturday, January 25, 2025 @ 12 PM**

Free Admission Concert with the Senior Orchestra  
St. Albert United Church, St. Albert

**Sunday, February 23, 2025 @ 2 PM**

Thelma Johannes O'Neill Memorial Concert  
Featuring the Intermediate & Senior Orchestras, along with  
the 43rd annual Northern Alberta Concerto Competition winners  
(Intermediate & Senior Piano)  
Winspear Centre for Music, Edmonton

**Saturday, March 29, 2025 @ 12 PM**

Free Admission Concert with the Senior Orchestra  
All Saints Anglican Cathedral, Edmonton

**Sunday, May 4, 2025 @ 2 PM**

Intermediate & Senior Orchestras in Concert  
Winspear Centre for Music, Edmonton

**May 2025**

Auditions for both Edmonton Youth Orchestras  
2025-2026 season

*Please check our website ([www.eyso.com](http://www.eyso.com)) for further information*

The Edmonton Youth Orchestra (EYO), formed in 1952, is a volunteer-supported, non-profit and federally registered charitable organization (Charitable Organization Registration NO. 052 0544 2225)

The EYO exists to provide opportunities for young musicians, from 11-24 years to:

- develop their orchestral skills
- Increase their knowledge and appreciation of music, and
- Enrich the cultural life of the community through concerts and benefit performances

Supporting two nationally renowned symphony orchestras—the Intermediate Youth Orchestra and the Senior Youth Orchestra—the EYO annual provides approximately 150 young musicians with the highest possible standard of orchestral training and experience.

## **Acknowledgements**

*We gratefully acknowledge our many sponsors, donors, and volunteers! Your support enables us to continue to train young musicians and bring music to our communities!*

### **On-Going Financial Support**

Alberta Foundation for the Arts  
Alberta Registered Music Teachers' Association  
Diana Bacon  
Edmonton Arts Council  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton Community Foundation

**and many individual Donors & Supporters**

**To make a gift and for a complete list of our donors and sponsors, please visit [www.eyso.com](http://www.eyso.com)**

### **EYO Board of Directors 2024-2025**

President: James Merkosky  
Past President: Sheryl Bowhay  
Vice President: Ted Spyrapopoulos  
Secretary: Kieran Pilson; Treasurer: Michael Haydo  
Directors: Nadya Ajani, Dr. Nkolika Anyabolu,  
Francesco Merani, Mark Moran

**Librarians:** Christine Daum, Edward Na  
**Casino Chairperson:** Jaclyn Manners

**Music Director:** Michael Massey  
**Assistant Conductor:** Laura Veeze  
**General Managers:** Heather Dolman & Mackenzie Tennesen



# EDMONTON YOUTH ORCHESTRA

SENIOR & INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRAS

**Sunday, December 1, 2024 | 2pm**  
**Winspear Centre for Music**

Conductor: Michael Massey  
Assistant Conductor: Laura Veeze

**Featuring works by Haydn, Holst,  
Grieg, Wagner, Copland and more**

**Tickets: \$20 Adults • \$15 Students & Seniors**  
**EAC Shop & Services 780 420 1757**  
(formerly TIX on the Square)  
**Day of concert at the door**



Edmonton  
Youth Orchestra

[www.eyso.com](http://www.eyso.com)

