

2006-07 Music preview  
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The Mill Valley Philharmonic provides classical music at no cost in a belief that music is...«1»With talented local musicians and appreciative audiences, it's easy to experience a rich variety of orchestral and choral music in Marin.

American Bach Soloists and American Bach Choir

Venue: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (except as noted), 3 Bay View Ave., Belvedere

Tickets: \$10 to \$42

Information: 621-7900 or [www.americanbach.org](http://www.americanbach.org)

- Gala benefit concert, Sept. 30
- Handel's Messiah, Dec. 18 and 19, Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St., San Francisco
- New Year's Bach, with tenor Steven Tharp, baritone William Sharp and soloists from the Pacific Boychoir, Jan. 19
- Popular Performers features violinist Elizabeth Blumenstock and soprano Mary Wilson, March 2
- Early Cantatas, featuring soprano Ellen Hargis, alto Judith Malafronte, tenor Aaron Sheehan, baritone Jesse Blumberg, March 23
- Instrumental Works, with Michael Sponseller on harpsichord; May 11

Designated by the Washington Post as the best American specialists in early music, the American Bach Soloists, artists in residence at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Belvedere, is renowned for historically informed performances of Bach and his contemporaries.

Music director Jeffrey Thomas has assembled a chorus of exceptional vocalists and an orchestra of period-instrument performers. Pre-concert lecture begins one hour prior to each performance.

College of Marin Department of Music

Venue: Fine Arts Theater (except as noted), College of Marin, Kentfield Campus, Kentfield

Tickets: Free to \$15

Information: 485-9460 or [www.marin.cc.ca.us](http://www.marin.cc.ca.us)

- Symphony Orchestra, Nov. 18
- Symphonic Band, Nov. 30
- Chamber Ensemble, Dec. 1 and 2
- Concert Band, Dec. 5
- College Chorus and Chamber Singers, Dec. 7
- Heavenly Counterpoint by COM Community Chorus, Dec. 9
- "Amahl and the Night Visitors," by Contemporary Opera Marin, Dec. 15 and 16, Leyfort Recital Hall, Fine Arts Room 72

The College of Marin music department provides audiences a wide range of concerts featuring its talented faculty. Teachers such as Paul Smith, who directs Contemporary Opera Marin and who has an international reputation as a musician, are also adept performers. The spring concert schedule will be available in January.

Dominican University

Venue: Angelico Concert Hall (except as noted), Dominican University, 50 Acacia Avenue, San Rafael,

Tickets: \$15 to \$18

Information: 257-0128, 485-3236 or [www.dominican.edu/events/music.html](http://www.dominican.edu/events/music.html)

- Tilden Trio, Oct. 1
- Cypress String Quartet, Nov. 12
- Dominican Winifred Baker Chorale, Nov. 17, Church of Saint Raphael, 1104 Fifth Ave., San Rafael
- Chamber Concert with a quintet of San Francisco Symphony musicians and friends, Jan. 21
- Marnie Brechenridge voice recital with Karstin Pankonin on piano, Mar. 18

- Violinist Kurt Nikkanen, accompanied by Maria Asteradou, piano, May 6

Dominican University is the hidden gem of Marin music, offering concerts by international artists, as well as faculty and students. Dominican also sponsors a guest concert series and the famed Winifred Baker Chorale, led by Dr. Craig Singleton, chair of the university's department of music and performing arts.

Golden Gate Opera

Venue: Varies

Tickets: (not available)

Information: 339-9546 or [www.goldengateopera.org](http://www.goldengateopera.org)

- Opera Cafe, Oct. 6 and 7, The Belrose Theatre, 1415 5th Ave. San Rafael

Golden Gate Opera is in its second season in Marin.

Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District Nonmarching Band

Venues: Varies

Tickets: Free

Information: 479-9944 or [www.sewerband.org](http://www.sewerband.org)

- Grape Festival, Oct. 7 at Larkspur Landing shopping center

- Annual Concert, May 15, Veterans Auditorium in San Rafael

The Sewer Band, founded more than 40 years ago, performs throughout the year.

Left Coast Chamber Ensemble

Venue: 142 Throckmorton Theatre, 142 Throckmorton, Mill Valley

Tickets: \$15 and \$20

Information: 642-8054 or [www.chambermusicpartn.org/index.htm](http://www.chambermusicpartn.org/index.htm)

- "Come Back for Seconds," Oct. 26

- "Beethoven and His Legacy I," Dec. 7

- "New Works by California Composers," Feb. 22

- "Winds of Change - New Works for Winds," March 22

- "Beethoven and His Legacy II," May 17

A dozen talented professional musicians who love contemporary music joined under the direction of Kurt Rohde to form LCCE, one of the best chamber groups in the Bay Area. Though they specialize in new music, the group also performs traditional chamber music, often pairing it with new but related compositions. The unique talent of this group, and its main strength, is that the musicians are versatile enough to play in any combination with each other.

### Lighthouse Singers

Venue: varies; office at 3020 Bridgeway, Suite 125, Sausalito

Tickets: unavailable

Information: 456-1356 or [www.lighthousesingers.com](http://www.lighthousesingers.com)

The Lighthouse Singers is an interfaith, community-based gospel choir led by acclaimed director Helen J. H. Stephens. The choir's repertoire includes contemporary and traditional black gospel music. This award-winning group recently celebrated its 25th anniversary with its third recording.

### Marin Center

Venue: Marin Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 10 Avenue of the Flags, Civic Center, San Rafael

Tickets: Free to \$80

Information: 499-6800 or [www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CU/Main/mc/index.cfm](http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CU/Main/mc/index.cfm)

- Fiddler Natalie MacMaster, contemporary and traditional Celtic music, Oct. 27

- The Royal Drummers of Burundi and Mombasa Party, Nov. 18

- SingersMarin, "Tis the Season - Magical Magnificence," Dec. 17

- Kodo, Japanese drummers, Feb. 1

- Wayne Shorter Quartet, Feb. 3

- Altan, Irish band, March 9

- Evening with Michael Feinstein, March 31

- Soweto Gospel Choir, April 6

- Jigu! Thunder Drums of China, April 7

Marin Center Presents celebrates the creative and global connection between artists and audiences by offering a wide range of international musicians.

### Marin Symphony and Marin Youth Orchestra

Venue: Marin Veterans Memorial Auditorium (except as noted), 10 Avenue of the Flags, Civic Center, San Rafael

Tickets: \$5 to \$65

Information: 479-8100 or [www.marinsymphony.org](http://www.marinsymphony.org)

- Orli Shaham; Oct. 8 and 10

- Pianist Paul Smith with the Marin Youth Orchestra, Nov. 5

- Jennifer Koh in Bruch's Scottish Fantasy, Nov. 5 and 7

- Candlelight holiday concert with Chantons, Dec. 2 and 3 at Church of Saint Raphael, 1104 Fifth Ave., San Rafael

- Pianist Orion Weiss, Jan. 28 and 30

- Clarinetist Todd Palmer, Feb. 25 and 27

- The Marin Symphony Chorus and the orchestra, March 25 and 27

- Family Concert, April 22

- Soprano Rebecca Evans, April 29 and May 1

Marin's only professional symphony orchestra, the Marin Symphony celebrates its 54th season this year. It performs world premieres of contemporary music as well as top-notch renditions of traditional favorites directed by Alasdair Neale, who has earned a well-deserved national reputation. Neale delivers a pre-concert talk before most performances and this year, concertgoers are invited to meet the performers. The MSO also sponsors the Marin Youth Orchestra, under the direction of George Thomson.

Mayflower Community Chorus

Venue: Varies

Tickets: \$12.50

Information: 491-9110 or [www.mayflowerchorus.org](http://www.mayflowerchorus.org)

- Fall Frolic fund-raiser, Oct. 21 at Masonic Lodge, Lootens Place, San Rafael

- "Tale of Two Cities - Our Journey Home," Dec. 14 to 16 at San Anselmo Playhouse, 27 Kensington Road, San Anselmo and 17 at Mission San Rafael Archangel, 1104 Fifth Ave., San Rafael

Derived from an informal caroling group, the Mayflower Community Chorus was started in 1980 at the old Mayflower Inn. Currently led by European-trained director Daniel Canosa, the group has been invited to sing at the Prague Advent Choral Festival in November. The chorus performs gratis for various local events, such as San Anselmo's annual tree-lighting ceremony. They also sing at 16 of Marin's nursing facilities.

### Mill Valley Philharmonic

Venue: Varies

Tickets: Free

Information: 383-8013 or [www.MillValleyPhilharmonic.org](http://www.MillValleyPhilharmonic.org)

- Soloists Victor Romasevich, violinist, and Robert Howard, cellist, Nov. 12 at Mount Tamalpais United Methodist Church, Mill Valley and Nov. 18 at Marin Youth Center, San Rafael and Nov. 19, Mill Valley Community Center

- The Viennese Waltz Gala, Dec. 2 at Strawberry Recreation Center

This award-winning orchestra, led by director Laurie Cohen, provides performance opportunities for amateur musicians and offers free concerts. Now in its seventh year, the organization was founded on the belief that music is a vital part of individual and community life.

### Osher Marin JCC Center Stage

Venue: 200 N. San Pedro Road, San Rafael

Tickets: \$23 to \$40

Information: 444-8000 and [www.marinjcc.org](http://www.marinjcc.org)

- The Tony DeSare Trio, Nov. 4 and 5

- New Century Chamber Orchestra, Jan. 29 and March 25
- "Autumn in New York," with Klea Blackhurst, Jan. 20 and 21
- "Relative Harmony," Liz Callaway and Ann Hampton Callaway, Feb. 10 and 11
- Kronos Quartet, March 10
- Pocket Opera, March 11

Osher Marin Jewish Community Center has become a venue for a world-class performing arts series.

#### Russian Chamber Orchestra

Venue: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Bay View Ave., Belvedere, or Mt. Tamalpais United Methodist Church, 410 Sycamore Ave., Mill Valley

Tickets: Free to \$20

Information: 664-1760 or [www.russianchamberorch.org](http://www.russianchamberorch.org)

- Gala benefit concert, Sept. 24, Belvedere
- Larisa Kopylovsky, violinist, Oct. 22, Belvedere
- Irina Fainkichen, violinist, and Alexander Vereshagin on piano, Dec. 3, Mill Valley
- Olga Rakitchenkov, harp and Leonid Igudesman, violin, Feb. 4, Belvedere
- Victor Romasevich on violin with Alexander Vereshagin on piano; March 18, Belvedere
- Vivaldi's Four Seasons, May 6, Mill Valley

Founded in 1992 by Alexander Vereshagin, formerly on the faculty of the Leningrad National Conservatory who now teaches at College of Marin, this group of Russian }migr}s of professional musicians perform original arrangements by Vereshagin and chamber music from Bach to Borodin.