



Press Release

FOR RELEASE:
November 20, 2024

Announcing the National Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Concerts November 29–December 22, 2024

in Concert | November 29–December 1, 2024
NSO at The Anthem: Ugly Sweater Holiday Concert | December 4, 2024
, | December 5, 2024
with Jessica Vosk | December 6–7, 2024
KEM: Home for the Holidays | December 11–12, 2024
Celtic Woman: Symphony Tour | December 13–14, 2024
NSO: Handel's | December 19–22, 2024

(WASHINGTON)—The National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) presents a range of holiday programs in late November and throughout December. The NSO will play live alongside the holiday classic film (November 29–December 1); the Orchestra returns to The Anthem for its annual Ugly Sweater Holiday Concert (December 4); NSO Pops showcases Broadway star Jessica Vosk (December 6–7) with a special free performance for members of the military and their families (December 5); Platinum-selling singer-songwriter KEM performs songs from his new holiday album (December 11–12); multi-platinum Irish singing sensations Celtic Woman return (December 13–14); and the annual performance of Handel's (December 19–22) closes out the year for the NSO.

Holiday programming kicks off with the beloved family film in Concert, played onscreen in the Concert Hall with John Debney's heartwarming score performed live by the NSO and conducted by Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke.

Donning ugly sweaters, the NSO will then take the stage at The Anthem under the baton of Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke, playing a selection of holiday songs and sing-along carols in festively heinous knitwear for the annual Ugly Sweater Holiday Concert.

After selling out two shows at Carnegie Hall, Broadway star Jessica Vosk—who has played many roles including Elphaba in —joins the NSO and The Heritage Signature Chorale in a holiday sing-along celebration held in the festively decorated Concert Hall. The December 5 performance is an annual free performance for members of the military and their families as part of the NSO initiative. The initiative aims to recognize and express the Orchestra's gratitude to active duty and prior service members, veterans, and retired service members through free programming at the Kennedy Center. has been generously underwritten by RTX, Truist, and season sponsor AARP.

Conductor Tim Davies will lead the Orchestra and KEM in an intimate, uplifting concert event with music from m b A

Multi-platinum Irish ensemble Celtic Woman will celebrate the holiday season with a new symphony concert featuring the group's favorite Yuletide songs: "Silent Night," "Carol of the Bells," "Sleigh Ride," "Deck the Halls," and more—along with Celtic Woman classics including "Danny Boy," "Amazing Grace," and "You Raise Me Up," with the NSO led by Lloyd Butler.

Conductor Masaaki Suzuki, founder of Bach Collegium Japan, will make his NSO debut leading the orchestra's annual December performances of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*, featuring soloists Jone Martínez (soprano), Reginald Mobley (countertenor), Lunga Eric Hallam (tenor), and Dashon Burton (bass-baritone), all in their NSO debuts, with the University of Maryland Concert Choir directed by Jason Max Ferdinand.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The 2024–2025 season is the National Symphony Orchestra's 94th season and Music Director Gianandrea Noseda's eighth season. Since its founding in 1931, the NSO has been committed to performances that enrich the lives of its audience and community members. In 1986, the National Symphony became an artistic affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, where it has performed since the Center opened in 1971. The NSO participates in events of national and international importance, including the annual nationally televised concerts on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol, live-streamed performances on medici.tv, and local radio broadcasts on WETA 90.9 FM.

PROGRAM DETAILS

in Concert

The Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Friday, November 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 30, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 30, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Steven Reineke, conductor

Burton (bass-baritone), all in their NSO debuts, with the University of Maryland Concert Choir directed by Jason Max Ferdinand.
