

EVENING OF HARMONY

Celebrating an
Enduring Legacy and
a Brilliant Future



APRIL 18, 2023

PROGRAM

Opening Remarks

Zebadiah Coombs

A Musical Selection

(approximately 35 minutes)

Canadian Brass

Student Remarks

Danielle Holloman

POP Chamber Orchestra

Andrés González, conductor

Dances In The Canebrakes, Nimble Feet

Florence Price

Orch. William Grant Still

Symphony No. 1, movement IV

Johannes Brahms

Arr. Vernon F. Leidig

Harambe (world premiere)

Evelyn Simpson-Curenton

Commissioned by Play On Philly

William Tell Overture

Gioachino Rossini

Arr. Jerry Lehmeier

Batuque

Oscar Lorenzo Fernandez

Beale Street Blues

W.C. Handy

Arr. Luther Henderson

Featuring Canadian Brass

Closing Remarks

Stanford Thompson

1812 Overture

Pyotr L. Tchaikovsky

Arr. Jerry Brubaker



LETTER FROM THE POP FAMILY

Dear Friends,

At a 2011 El Sistema conference in California, a 23-year-old graduate from the Curtis Institute of Music with a passion for bringing music education to Philadelphia's underrepresented youth met a philanthropist with an equal passion for the power of music. This chance meeting brought Stanford Thompson and Carole Haas Gravagno together and made Play On Philly a reality. Stan and Carole believed that a transformative music education experience was the vehicle to building lifelong skills, cultivating academic achievement, and creating a supportive community.

Twelve years later, POP has instructed thousands of children. Children who, with hard work and persistence, grow into confident, resilient young people capable of finding success wherever their paths lead. Surrounded by dedicated Teaching Artists and staff, our students discover the joy of contributing to the greater good through the orchestra. Being a musician becomes part of their identity, a way to express themselves, and a source of pride. Thanks to Stan's vision and legacy, and with the help of a vast community of generous supporters, we will continue to serve Philadelphia far into the future.

Students, families, Teaching Artists, staff, Board, friends, and supporters – we're all POP. Tonight, you'll hear a cross-section of the POP Family perform together, lifting up all we've accomplished as we celebrate what the future will bring.

Thank you, Stan, for all you've given to our community. We wish you joy and success in your next adventure. And we expect you to come back often!

Warmly,
Your Family at Play On Philly



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Ian Taylor

Program Coordinator,
Roman Catholic High School and
Summer



POP TEACHING ARTISTS

Strings

Diego VillamilGómez, Division Lead
Zane Carnes
Zebadiah Coombs
Victoria de la Cruz
Esau Jones
Nicholas Madamidola
Savannah Mueller
Bartholomew Shields
Natasha Sieczkowska
Hannah Solomon
Emilia Zegers Matthews

Winds

Nicholas Handahl, Division Lead
Abbegail Atwater
Audrey Emata
Tori Fisher
Jonathan Leeds

Brass

Paige Kerrigan, Division Lead
Ellie O'Hare
St. Clair Simmons III
Vince Tampio

Percussion

Elliot Beck, Division Lead
Jonathan Leibovic

Exploratory

Sara Montejo, Division Lead
Karen Crutchfield

Choir

Andrew Monath, Division Lead
Liz Filios
Reid Shriver, Apprentice

Chamber Groups

Frankie Carr, Strings
Thomas Kolakowski, Percussion
Jonathan Leeds, Winds
Ian Taylor, Brass



POP CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Violin

Katia Campos *
Ellis Holloman ◇
Danielle Holloman ◇
Luigi Mazzochi +
Charise Moeller
Zablotsky +
Mitch Newman +
Stephanie Oyelakin ◇
Diego VillamilGómez ~

Viola

Yuri Campos ◇
Zebadiah Coombs ~ *
Leron Goddard *
Kathleen Krull +
Natasha Sieczkowska ~

Cello

Cassia Campos ◇
Victoria de la Cruz ~
Gevon Goddard *
Nick Madamidola ~

Bass

Zane Carnes ~

Flute

Anna Meyer ~
Sophia Radford *
Lenni Ziegler-Hill ◇

Oboe

Marde Meek +
Celia Wojcik Δ

Clarinet

Jonathan Leeds ~
Zakyya McClenny ◇
Jessica Zweig ~

Bassoon

Kyla Payne ◇

Horn

Ellie O'Hare ~

Trumpet

Paige Kerrigan ~
Nasir Muldrow ◇
Ian Taylor ~
Stanford Thompson ~

Trombone

Nathan Hess ◇
Mya Hill ◇
Christina Rooks *

Tuba

Keith Holmes ◇

Percussion

Thomas Kolakowski ~
Trinity Robinson ◇
Dave Tarantino +

2023 HONOREE

Stanford Thompson

**Founder and Executive Director
of Play On Philly**



Stanford Thompson is a musician and educator who serves as the Founder and Executive Director of Play On Philly and Founding Board Chairman of El Sistema USA and Equity Arc. Recognized as a TED Fellow, Stanford believes that music education is a powerful tool for positive personal and community change.

Mr. Thompson serves on the faculty of the Global Leaders Institute and regularly presents at major universities and music conservatories about leadership, entrepreneurship, and social justice. As a consultant, he has guided the development of dozens of music programs across the United States and collaborated with major orchestras, higher education institutions, and arts organizations to develop new strategies and initiatives that help provide equitable access to the arts.

As a professional trumpeter, Stanford has performed as a soloist and member with major orchestras around the world and continues to perform throughout the Philadelphia region. Stanford is a native of Atlanta, GA, a graduate of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's Talent Development Program and holds degrees from The Curtis Institute of Music and the New England Conservatory's Sistema Fellows Program.



KEY

- * alumni
- + Former Teaching Artist/Staff
- ~ Current Teaching Artist/Staff
- Δ guest student
- ◇ current student



GUEST ARTIST

Canadian Brass

With an international reputation as one of the most popular brass ensembles today, Canadian Brass has truly earned the distinction of “the world’s most famous brass group.” Masters of concert presentations ranging from Bach, Vivaldi, and Ellington, to ballet and opera, Canadian Brass has developed a uniquely engaging stage presence and rapport with audiences. Since 1970, they have received a combined total of 25 Grammy and Juno nominations and won the German Echo Award for *Goldberg Variations*.



Most recently, Canadian Brass created another award-winning recording, *Canadiana*. The album features unique arrangements of many Canadian superstars including Joni Mitchell, k.d. lang, Bruce Cockburn, Drake, and DeadMau5. Education continues to be at the forefront of Canadian Brass’ yearly activities. As part of their commitment to training the next generation of brass players, there are over one million Canadian Brass quintet repertoire books in the hands of students in every country. The official website for Canadian Brass is canadianbrass.com.

Keep up with Canadian Brass
via [twitter.com](https://twitter.com/canadianbrass), [Facebook/canadianbrass](https://facebook.com/canadianbrass),
Canadian Brass YouTube channel,
and Instagram.

Canadian Brass recordings are available at
canadianbrassstore.com.

Canadian Brass appears by
arrangement with Opus 3 Artists
470 Park Avenue South
9th Floor North
New York, NY 10016
(phone 1-212-584-7500)

ABOUT PLAY ON PHILLY

Play On Philly (POP) provides high-quality music education to students, who would typically lack access, as a vehicle for life skills and academic achievement. We provide intensive music instruction and ensemble practice every day before and after school and over 25 performance opportunities throughout the year. Students range from pre-Kindergarten to 12th grade and are loaned an orchestral instrument at no cost. POP programming has proven results: our students score ten points higher on standardized tests and have improved behavior and study skills. We cultivate musical excellence, lifelong skills, and confidence. Learn more about POP at our website: playonphilly.org.

Our Board of Directors

Mitchell L. Bach
Board Chair

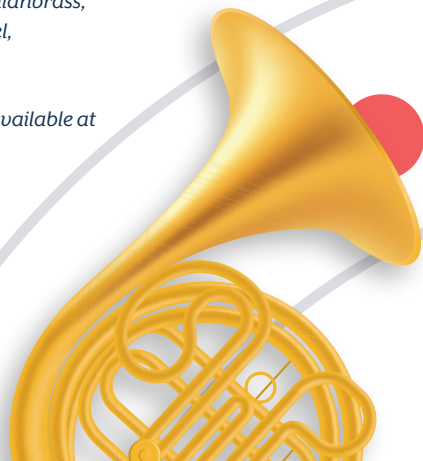
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YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Make

a **gift** via playonphilly.org/donate or a check to the address on the back of your program. Every dollar helps.

Join

our **Continuo Club**, providing POP a consistent base of support through monthly giving.

Attend

a **concert**; a full listing is on our website.

Donate

a new or gently used **instrument**.

Learn

about **upcoming events** and **POP updates** in our monthly Fanfare emails. Sign up at playonphilly.org.

Share

a POP post on **Facebook**.

Invite

POP students to perform at an event.



Sponsor

a **concert** or **recital**.

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advertising costs to tell others about the amazing work of our students.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

on any of the above, please contact Jessica Scipione at development@playonphilly.org or 215-398-7883.

Thank you

for helping us to provide high quality music education to Philadelphia youth!



Scan to make
a donation



Carole Haas Gravagno and the entire Play On Philly Family congratulate Stanford Thompson on his new endeavor!



Your **leadership, passion, and dedication** has inspired the lives of thousands of students in Philadelphia and we know that **you'll inspire the lives of so many more musicians** across the United States in your next adventure.

Thank you to our **Teaching Artists and staff** at Play On Philly



for continuing our shared vision of **providing transformative music education** to young people.



Stanford, you have
immeasurably
contributed to our
community through
Play On Philly.



We are honored
to be **partners,**
supporters and
friends.



Thank you,
Stan.



Tom and Pat Vernon



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Congratulations, Stan!

Leslie and Rich

The Leslie Miller and Richard
Worley Foundation



MASTERS GROUP DESIGN
applauds *Stanford Thompson*
for his inspirational vision. We
can't wait to see his impact
in the years to come!

Kudos to the passionate
staff and educators at POP
who make our world a
more beautiful place.

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**Our warmest wishes and heartfelt
congratulations to Stanford Thompson
on all he has accomplished since
the founding of Play On Philly!**

Stanford's dedication and commitment to
providing transformative music education
to Philadelphia's youth is
an inspiration to us all.

We pay tribute as well to the
Play On Philly staff, Teaching Artists
and of course, the wonderful students
who make up the POP family.

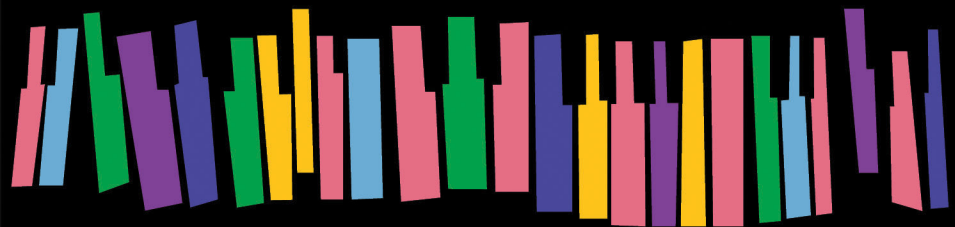
- The Rinaldi Family and Jacobs Music



**Thank you,
Stan!**

David & Sharon
Hessney





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**PROUD TO PARTNER
WITH POP
FOR AN
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HARMONY**



Please Touch Museum celebrates Stanford Thompson and Play On Philly



WHYY celebrates and congratulates

Stanford Thompson

for his leadership and inspiration.

Like Play On Philly, WHYY is dedicated to creating inspirational, hands-on learning for our community's youth, including exciting media classes in-school, online and at our WHYY studios.



WHYY
PBS npr

Learn more at whyy.org/education



Members of Imani Winds work with POP students during a PCMS master class.

Thank you Stanford and POP!

for years of partnering with PCMS to nurture artistry and relationships across generations and around the world.

pcmsconcerts.org/education

PHILADELPHIA
CHAMBER MUSIC
SOCIETY
a life more beautiful

Equity Arc's Board of Directors celebrates Stanford Thompson and his *transformative leadership* of Play on Philly as we welcome him to lead our efforts leveling the *playing field for underrepresented classical musicians* in the United States.



www.EquityArc.org

St. Francis de Sales School

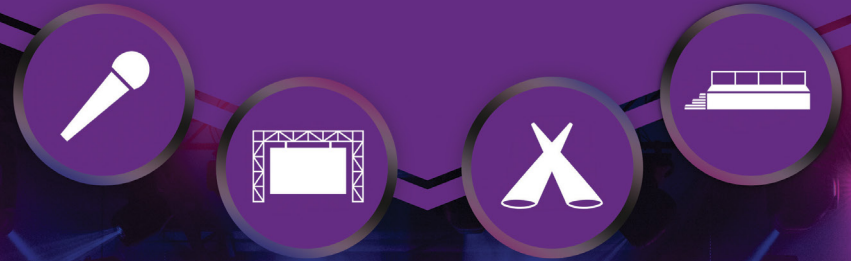


**Congratulations to our
Play on Philly students
and teachers for another
successful year!**



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Congratulations to
Stan Thompson

And the **remarkable**
staff at Play On Philly

Drs. Thomas and
Dennie P. Wolf



*In honor of our father
Dr. Hugh Butts and
our dear friend
Dr. Alan Miller who
both played and
loved classical music.*

Samantha, Heather and
Sydney Butts and
Judith Nigro

Connelly Foundation

Thank you, Stanford Thompson,
for helping thousands of Philadelphia's
schoolchildren create
harmony through music.

Your Friends at the Connelly Foundation

In memory of your oldest
brother, Marcus Goldsmith
Thompson, we are proud
of your calling to serve
society through music.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Marietta, Faye,
Dawn, Eric, Alyce, and
Donna



Our warmest appreciation to Stanford for
his **visionary leadership**. You gave POP your
whole heart & soul. Bravo! We wish you every
success in your new endeavor.

Congratulations to POP for
continued excellence.

The best is yet to come.

Kathleen & Nick Chimicles

Play On, Stan!

The Loeb Performing
Arts Fund of the
Philadelphia
Foundation

Supporter of
Play On Philly

Congratulations Stan –

Your positive impact
on **thousands of lives**
is truly a **sublime**
legacy.

Couldn't be **prouder**
to be part of POP.

Harry Griendling



El Sistema USA®

A National Voice for the Intersection of Equity and Excellence in Music Education

Congratulations **Stanford Thompson** on 13 years of leadership at Play on Philly!

Stan, thank you for all you have done to support not only the students and community at Play on Philly but for students nationally through your initiation, development, and continued support of the national movement. Best wishes on your future endeavors!

With Gratitude, The ESUSA Board of Directors



Congratulations and
thank you to Stan
Thompson and
the entire POP team
for empowering
Philadelphia's young
people.

Cheers to the future!



andrewmonathma.com

Dear Stan,

It started with a letter over eight
years ago and has developed into a
friendship. Fran and I wish you the
best in all of your **new adventures.**

POP has **excelled** under your
leadership. You will be missed
at Play On Philly.

Stan and Fran Pollock





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