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## **BPO announces Pops, Rock, Specials series for 90th anniversary season**



The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra is thrilled to announce the concerts of their Pops, Rock, and Specials series for the upcoming 2024-25 concert season, a milestone season celebrating the orchestra's 90th anniversary. These series promise a dynamic array of musical offerings, showcasing renowned guest artists across a variety of genres. With a commitment to both artistic excellence and community engagement, the BPO will solidify new traditions and offer memorable experiences to the Western NY community and beyond in these upcoming series.

Opening the season on September 21, Broadway singer **Mandy Gonzalez** – known for her roles in *Hamilton*, *In the Heights*, and *Wicked* – will perform a program of Broadway favorites, including a song Lin-Manuel Miranda wrote for her. The second annual **Festival Encanto Hispano**, a free celebration of Hispanic culture with local musicians and vendors, will take place earlier in the day at Kleinhans Music Hall in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Continuing another recent tradition, the orchestra's second annual **Gospel Symphony Celebration** concert on October 18 will welcome Grammy Award-winning gospel legend **Dorinda Clark-Cole** to perform with the **Buffalo United Community Choir**, a group of singers from over 52 local churches and organizations, and returning conductor **Dr. Henry Panion, III**.

The BPO's holiday festivities begin with **Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* in Concert** on November 1, and **Disney's *The Muppet Christmas Carol* in Concert** on November 30. Western NY's favorite holiday tradition of **Holiday Pops** returns December 19-22, along with a special additional holiday-themed performance on December 10 from **Troupe**

**Vertigo**, known for their breathtaking blend of circus, dance, and theater.

Fan-favorite conductors also return throughout the upcoming series. Renowned trumpeter and conductor **Byron Stripling** will lead the orchestra for **Fascinatin' Rhythm: A Gershwin Celebration** on November 16. A performance on March 8, 2025 will spotlight rising conductor **Enrico Lopez-Yañez** in **Symphonic Showdown: The Wild West in Concert**. And on May 3, 2025, Ron Spigelman will take the podium for a mesmerizing night of R&B featuring three-time Grammy-nominated vocalist **Ryan Shaw**, known for originating the role of Stevie Wonder in the Broadway hit, *Motown: The Musical*.

In their annual series fusing rock music and orchestra, the 2024-25 BPO Rock Series, sponsored by the Yurtchuk Foundation, features powerful tribute acts performing **The Music of Queen** (November 15) and **The Music of Tina Turner** (March 7, 2025). In addition, **Chicago frontman Jason Scheff** will join the orchestra on January 31, 2025 for a night of hits from the legendary band.

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View the full list of next season's Pops, Rock, and Specials series performances below:

- **Mandy Gonzalez: Broadway Today**, September 21, 2024
- **Classical Mystery Tour**, October 4-5, 2024
- **Gospel Symphony Celebration with Dorinda Clark-Cole**, October 18, 2024
- **Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* in Concert**, November 1, 2024
- **Rock Hits & Power Ballads**, November 2, 2024
- **The Music of Queen**, November 15, 2024
- **Fascinatin' Rhythm: A Gershwin Celebration**, November 16, 2024
- **Disney's *The Muppet Christmas Carol* in Concert**, November 30, 2024
- **Troupe Vertigo Holiday Show**, December 10, 2024
- **Holiday Pops**, December 19-22, 2024
- **Chicago Nights with Jason Scheff**, January 31, 2025
- **The Sound of Cinema**, February 1, 2025
- **Sinatra in Love**, February 14, 2025
- **Tina Symphonic: The Music of Tina Turner**, March 7, 2025
- **Symphonic Showdown: The Wild West in Concert**, March 8, 2025
- **Bette, Babs, & Beyond**, April 4-5, 2025
- **Raiders of the Lost Ark in Concert**, May 2, 2025
- **Ryan Shaw Masters of R&B**, May 3, 2025
- **Patriotic Pops**, May 23-24, 2025

Subscription packages will be available for purchase online at [bpo.org](https://bpo.org), in-person at the Box Office in Kleinhans Music Hall, or by calling (716) 885-5000 **beginning January 27**.

Find images [here](#). For additional information or interviews, contact Simone Viola at [sviola@bpo.org](mailto:sviola@bpo.org) or (716) 242-7814.

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***About Us:** To learn more about our storied history, distinguished conductors and world-class musicians, and commitment to **IDEA**, visit the [Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra](#).*



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