

LINEAGE Sound & Fury



SEPT. 27, 2025 @ 7:30 PM | MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE SEPT. 28, 2025 @ 3:00 PM | THE RESER

WELCOME!

From Music Director Steven Byess

Dear Friends.

I am excited to welcome you to the opening of a new season with Orchestra Nova Northwest. Our program, *Lineage: Sound and Fury*, is a celebration of imagination and reinvention of music across centuries and how these qualities continue to keep orchestral music alive, vital, and surprising. The program connects past and present, and the works remind us that music has always been a living art form – full of curiosity, boldness, and invention – and that composers continue to reinvent the concert experience in ways that surprise and move us.

The program begins with Portland Pulitzer Prize winning composer Caroline Shaw's *Entr'acte*, a wonderful work for string orchestra imbued with shadowy sounds and an enormous array of sonic textures and techniques. The work is inspired by the elegance and inventiveness of Franz Joseph Haydn's string quartets, and Shaw offers us music that feels both steeped in tradition and yet is utterly fresh and exciting.

At the heart of the evening is Haydn himself, with his brilliant six-movement **Symphony No. 60, II Distratto**. Using music written for the stage, this symphony brims with humor, invention, and theatrical surprise. Its quick turns of character and sly wit remind us that the "father of the symphony" was extraordinarily innovative and delighted in breaking expectations.

The program closes with Anna Clyne's **Sound and Fury**, a work that channels the turbulence of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* while paying homage to Haydn's Symphony No. 60. In her hands, whispers become roars, and drama unfolds with breathtaking urgency. The piece speaks to the timeless human fascination with conflict, fate, and transformation.

The three works on the program form a vivid dialogue between past and present, showing us how the threads of history, literature, and creativity continue to weave new possibilities in music and sound. I am thrilled to share this opening night with you, and I look forward to sharing a season filled with discovery, energy, and joy. I hope you enjoy the performance.

Steven Byess, Music Director

PLEASE BE COURTEOUS OF THOSE LISTENING AROUND YOU

Please silence your cell phones and other devices during the concert. Flash photography and recording of any kind are prohibited.

ORCHESTRA NOVA NORTHWEST

Saturday, September 27, 2025 • 7:30 PM • Mt. Hood Community College • Gresham Sunday, September 28, 2025 • 3:00 PM • Patricia Reser Center for the Arts • Beaverton

LINEAGE: SOUND & FURY

Steven Byess, Conductor

Entr'acte {a minuet & trio} (2011) CAROLINE SHAW

(b. 1982)

(1732-1809)

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN

Symphony No. 60, II Distratto (1774)

I. Adagio - Allegro di molto

II. Andante

III. Menuetto - Trio

IV. Presto

V. Adagio (di Lamentatione)

VI. Finale: Prestissimo

ANNA CLYNE

(b. 1980)

Sound and Fury (2019)

This program is presented without intermission.



For insight and commentary from Concertmaster Casey Bozell, scan this code and choose either a video or audio podcast.





WE THANK OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS





































This program is supported in part by the City of Portland and Multnomah County, and by the generosity of our individual and corporate sponsors.

Orchestra Nova Northwest receives support from the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the State of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Design services provided by Oh! Creative

Photo credit: Sara Bill, Rachel Hadiashar, Nikolaj Lund, Phil Pasteris.

ABOUT ORCHESTRA NOVA NORTHWEST

Oregon's Progressive Orchestra

Founded in 1982 as Palatine Hills Symphony, Orchestra Nova Northwest (ONN) has become a cornerstone of the Portland metro arts scene. Over the decades, it has evolved under the leadership of John Trudeau, Huw Edwards, and, since 2014, Steven Byess, growing in both artistic excellence and community impact. Renamed Orchestra Nova Northwest in 2024, the orchestra is known for its bold and inclusive programming, blending masterful renditions of classical works with innovative and diverse repertoire.

As the only orchestra that regularly performs in East Multnomah County, ONN is deeply committed to making symphonic music accessible to a wide audience. Through affordable concert experiences, the orchestra fosters a love for live music, while also intentionally creating space each season to showcase living, local, and underrepresented composers and collaborators who represent our diverse and changing community. Beyond the concert hall, ONN invests in the community through educational and outreach initiatives, ensuring that symphonic music continues to inspire and connect people across the region.



MEET THE MAESTRO

Artistic Vision. Musical Leadership.



STEVEN BYESS Conductor

Steven Byess is a dynamic and passionate conductor, hailed by critics as "masterful and brilliant." "creating the epitome of instrumental elegance," and capturing "the full spirit and vitality of the score perfectly." Recognized for his musical versatility, multi-faceted presence on the podium, and passion for music education, he is devoted to promoting a life-long love and enthusiasm for music and the arts.

Steven is celebrating his 12th season as Music Director of Orchestra Nova Northwest (formerly Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra, and also serves as the music director of the Arkansas Philharmonic Orchestra, and the North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra.) He conducted the U.S. premiere of Russian violinist Alexander Markov's Rock Concerto at Carnegie Hall in New York, and was selected by Walt Disney World Entertainment to conduct the 2000 NFL E*TRADE Super Bowl Halftime show, where he performed for a television audience of 88 million fans.

As a passionate advocate for the arts, Steven is sought after for his speeches on the arts, music, and education, and has organized collaborations with numerous choruses, chamber music ensembles, and festivals. He wrote and co-directed a PBS presentation, Count On It!, designed to connect music and mathematics for children grades K-3. Since 2013, he has shared this passion with over 80,000 children around the country as a conductor of the Carnegie Hall Weill Music Institute Link Up orchestral education concerts.

Steven is the former associate music director of the Ohio Light Opera where he conducted over 80 productions and 21 commercial recordings, including repertoire ranging from well- to little-known operas and operettas to blockbuster classic American musical theater works.

Maestro Byess' podium is sponsored by Grant & Gretchen Hatton and Lindsay & Christopher Kolar, in honor of Marjorie Beam.



ONN + COGNIZART

The Future of Arts Education in Portland!

We're thrilled to launch our first season together with Cognizart, bringing the power of professional performance and innovative youth arts education into one bold vision. From classrooms to the concert hall, Orchestra Nova Northwest and Cognizart are inspiring creativity, connection, and opportunity for every young artist in Portland.

(Read our latest blog for more information about this recent exciting merger!)



ORCHESTRA NOVA NORTHWEST

Steven Byess, Conductor

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Section sponsored by the Anne Emery Kyllo Fund

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Judy Rompa**

Erin Ferree**

Alberta Barnes**

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Stacy Edgar**

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Eri Nogueira

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Will Reno

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Bethany Evans**

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