

Family Series

Want to introduce your children
to the magical world of the Meridian Symphony?

Or attend world-class symphonic concerts, but don't think your kiddos are quite ready to sit through an entire Mozart Requiem?

Try the MSA Family Pack!

We've packaged three of our Symphony Series concerts with our youngest audience in mind.

SATURDAY
DEC 04
PEPPERMINT
POPS



SATURDAY
FEB 05
MUSIC OF
THE MOVIES



SUNDAY
APR 10
CLASSICAL
KIDS LIVE!
BEETHOVEN
LIVES UPSTAIRS



Salon Series



JAN 08 SAT
GOSPEL COMES HOME

Join Mississippi natives Reggie & Ladye Love Smith and the MSO String Ensemble for an evening of Gospel favorites that will transport you to "the good ole days." Reggie, a member of the Gaither Vocal Band, and Ladye Love, a prolific performer and backup singer,

love sharing the music of their Mississippi youth - an eclectic blend of gospel, country, and big band all with a message of grace, hope, and redemption. Bring your family or church group, as this will be an evening for everyone to sing and clap along together.



FEB 03 THU
MINGLE WITH
THE MAESTRO

Sample fine wine and enjoy hors d'oeuvres as you listen to beautiful music by MSO harpist Rebekah Atkinson, while perusing Meridian Museum of Art's diverse installations by

Mississippi artists at this one-of-a-kind multisensory cultural arts experience.



MAR 05 SAT
REDD HOT
STEAM AT SOULÉ

Experience a night under the stars strolling along the hidden cobblestone alleyways of Meridian's historic Soulé Steam Works while enjoying exquisite cocktails and small bites. Step back

in time as you listen to the smooth and soulful vocals of Mississippi native Jon-Kristoffer Adams accompanied by Meridian's favorite pianist, David Benson, as they recreate the music of hometown lyricist, Redd Evans. Redd's music has been sung by legends such as Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Doris Day, and many others. Adams and Benson will bring this iconic music to life once again for Meridian in an unforgettable night filled with heritage, dazzling 1940's charm, and melodies that will transport you to a bygone era.



MAY 01 SUN
CHARCUTERIE
& CHAMPAGNE

An intimate and unique musical experience featuring an afternoon of local culinary favorites and entertainment by award-winning Mississippi musicians, Duo Cintemani, at the home of Mrs. Dottye Graham. *Limited Seating.*

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SUBSCRIBER BENEFITS

BIG SAVINGS: By subscribing, you save the equivalent of a full concert & more - you get one concert FREE! That's right, as a 21-22 MSO subscriber you get the magnificent, Mozart Requiem season finale for free with enough savings left to purchase your seat at the Opening Weekend lunch to hear from Meridian's own *Holly Brand, Miss Mississippi 2021.*

RESERVED PRIORITY SEATING: This season's subscribers may choose to keep their 20-21 seats OR revert to their 19-20 season seating. The MSA Staff will work diligently to accommodate all requests, however, patience is appreciated as we return to the concert hall at full capacity.

ADVANCED PURCHASING: Subscribers are given early-bird access to purchase individual tickets to Symphony Series concerts. Subscribers will also receive advanced notice and be given opportunities to purchase special event tickets. Subscribers are also given advanced notice regarding the release of symphony news and merchandise, meet & greet opportunities, and other limited-capacity events.

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: The 2021-22 Season is back to 100% capacity! Individual tickets may be purchased for ALL Symphony Series concerts.



OCT
10
SUN

ALL-AMERICAN AFTERNOON

featuring **Sean Chen on piano**

The sounds of America's rich, musical heritage will be on display for this All-American Afternoon featuring composers

Gershwin, Bernstein, Copland, and others. The MSO will open it's 61st season featuring Juilliard pianist, **Sean Chen**, and the world-renowned Gershwin Concerto in F. After the concerto premiered in 1925, Gershwin was described as 'the Prince who has taken Cinderella [jazz] by the hand and openly proclaimed her a princess to the astonished world, no doubt to the fury of her envious sisters.' **Join MSO in the Grand Ballroom for lunch before the performance, and meet Meridian's own Miss Mississippi 2021, Holly Brand!** It will be an unparalleled afternoon in the Queen City celebrating its heritage and promising future. **Meridian sounds Americana!**

NOV
20
SAT



BEETHOVEN & BLUE JEANS

featuring **percussionist Britton-René Collins**

A cool, November evening beginning in Dumont Plaza surrounded by family and friends, great music from local bands, and BBQ that can't be beat...that's how you start a night with the Meridian Symphony! Follow that up with a casual and unique concert experience in our state's most glorious concert hall, and you get Beethoven & Blue Jeans! This season BBJ will feature award-winning percussionist **Britton-René Collins** on the marimba and Beethoven's Symphony No. 1. It promises to be an exhilarating evening beyond compare - the tastes of home and a world-class cultural experience! **Meridian sounds lively!**

DEC
04
SAT



PEPPERMINT POPS

featuring **Danny Lyons on handbells**

Meridian's most beloved concert returns for an evening of festive holiday music. The MSO Chorus will lead us in our favorite holiday songs, and The Riley Center will truly be ringing with holiday cheer as we welcome Mississippi native Danny Lyons to the stage. Danny will astonish you as he plays with eight bells in hand! It will be a night to remember as Santa and his elves conclude the evening with cookies, cocoa, and other holiday treats before sending us off to sleep snug in our beds. It's a magical, Meridian holiday tradition with the Meridian Symphony and friends! **Meridian sounds festive!**



FEB
05
SAT

MUSIC OF THE MOVIES

featuring **TJ Tesh on trumpet**

Enjoy the amazing sounds of some of your favorite movies -

Star Wars, The Avengers, Titanic, Pirates of the Caribbean, and more! This evening will be fun for the whole family and folks of all ages. You won't want to miss the special, costumed guests and great photo opportunities. Come casual or dress up - the Rebel Alliance or the Galactic Empire; Jack Sparrow or Will Turner - the choice is yours! Grammy-nominated trumpet artist **TJ Tesh**, Maestro Rubardt, and MSO will delight the audience as they usher us through this cinematic adventure! Join us after the performance in the Grand Ballroom for classic movie concessions, an opportunity to show off your costumes, and a meet & greet with special guests. Don't forget your light sabers - you never know when the Empire will Strike Back! **Meridian sounds reel!**



APR
10
SUN

BEETHOVEN LIVES UPSTAIRS

The world-famous production of *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* features a lively exchange of letters between young Christoph and his uncle. Their

subject: the "madman" who has moved into the upstairs apartment of Christoph's home in Vienna. Through a touching correspondence, dramatically underscored with the composer's most beautiful excerpts, Christoph slowly comes to understand the genius of Beethoven and the beauty of his music. You will be captivated by more than twenty-five excerpts of Beethoven's music, including the *Moonlight Sonata*, *Für Elise*, and the great *Fifth* and *Ninth Symphonies*. The music is magically woven into the drama as two actors share anecdotes and observations based on true incidents from the composer's life. Presenting history, drama, music, and fun, this engaging concert is an ideal experience for families of all ages. **Meridian sounds theatrical!**

MAY
07
SAT



MOZART & MORE

featuring **Kristen Johnson Gunn, Soprano; Melissa Gerdes, Mezzo; Dan Gerdes, Tenor; & Corey McKern, Baritone**

The MSO concludes it's Symphony Series with the magnificent Mozart's Requiem, his final composition. It is a choral masterpiece whose genesis is shrouded in mystery - one that makes the piece all the more fascinating and emotionally stirring. The MSO Chorus and Meridian's own, Kristen Johnson Gunn, will present this monumental work that will stretch your ears, stir your hearts, and provide a musically stunning experience for both artists and audience.

Our Season Finale is sure to be nothing short of spectacular. Be sure to join us in the Grand Lobby for the red carpet reception following the performance. **Meridian sounds memorable!**



A TIMELESS HARMONY

The Meridian Symphony is an organization renowned for its artistic excellence, developing new and innovative programs, and educating hundreds upon hundreds of new musicians for the past 61 years. The Symphony is forever indebted to its beloved community, Meridian, for the consistent support of local businesses and individuals through the years. Some might think of Meridian as a small town, but there has been nothing small about the performances or quality of artists and programming presented on the Symphony's stage. In fact, there is nothing small about the incredible heritage of Meridian! Our city has a rich history with many of its residents having been at the forefront of the Civil Rights Movement, and it has produced some of the world's premiere artists, athletes, architects, and more! We have been the home of many firsts & lasts, many oldests & newests, and now we are becoming the home of many things reimagined, revitalized, and renewed.

The Queen City is unique. She seems to have a sound all her own - a timeless harmony linking her important past to her promising future. It has been said that everyone has their part to play in life. The Meridian Symphony invites you to come alongside us as we continue to make **Meridian Sound Amazing!** Join us as we Celebrate our Past, Strengthen our Present, and Invest in our Future so that the Meridian Symphony continues to thrive for generations to come.

We are thrilled to present the 61st Concert Season for you. We have worked diligently to include repertoire for everyone's tastes with the common theme of community celebration throughout. This season will highlight American composers, Meridian musicians and artists, Southern traditions, and Mississippi memories. We have so much to enjoy, and we hope you will join us for every gorgeous moment of it!

HEALTH & SAFETY

The Meridian Symphony is overjoyed to be returning to the concert hall at 100% capacity. However, we know that in our current circumstances, things can change at any moment. Our Special Response Committee, along with our team of community health professionals, will continue to closely monitor local and regional health recommendations and requirements so that we are following all guidelines and providing wonderful experiences with your safety as our #1 priority. The Symphony will continue to collaborate with The Riley Center staff to ensure the highest levels of health and safety protocols at all times. We will communicate any changes in protocols, guidelines, concert dates, and/or programming in a timely fashion on multiple platforms. We look forward to enjoying a magnificent season with you. **Stronger - together!**

— *Symphony Series* —