

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BPO highlights local and global talent in remaining October performances

**Upcoming concerts feature Buffalo United Community Choir,
Lady Tramaine Hawkins, Pink Martini, Rochester Philharmonic members**



The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra follows last weekend's new piano debut with a trifecta of performances this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, before concluding their October concerts the following weekend. Their upcoming events highlight a great variety of music genres, uniting musical talent from near and far on the Kleinhans Music Hall stage.

This Friday, the BPO presents their second annual **Gospel Symphony Celebration**, featuring legendary Gospel singer Lady Tramaine Hawkins and the Buffalo United Community Choir, with award-winning conductor Henry Panion, III at the podium. The Choir – directed by local music leaders Ella Robinson, Karen Saxon, and George Brown – represent over 50 local churches and organizations across Western NY. This celebration aims to uplift and inspire musicians and audience members alike through music.

Saturday's performance welcomes timeless jazz orchestra **Pink Martini** back to Buffalo, fronted by vocalist China Forbes and bandleader Thomas Lauderdale in the group's 30th anniversary tour. Conducted by Ron Spigelman, Pink Martini's multilingual set offers glimpses into musical cultures across the globe, enhanced by the full sound of the BPO. Following the concert, all ticketholders are invited to a party in Kleinhans' Mary Seaton Room with live music from local band Urban Renewal.

The BPO Kids series begins on Sunday with the beloved Halloween tradition, **Symphonic Spooktacular**. With \$7 tickets for all ages, this concert offers an opportunity for families to

enjoy a wide variety of festive music, from "The Monster Mash" narrated by local poet Brandon Williamson, to the *Harry Potter* soundtrack. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early for pre-concert activities, and to wear costumes for a children's parade across the Kleinhans stage. This event precedes the BPO's Halloween weekend performance of Disney and Tim Burton's **The Nightmare Before Christmas in Concert** on Friday, November 1.

On October 25 and 26, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO) Music Director Andreas Delfs and Concertmaster Juliana Athayde join the BPO for two performances of **Schubert Symphony No. 9, "The Great"**. This special occasion spotlights the neighborly camaraderie of Western NY, as BPO Music Director JoAnn Falletta and Concertmaster Nikki Chooi appear in Rochester with the RPO the same weekend.

The BPO's upcoming performances are listed below:

A Gospel Symphony Celebration with Lady Tramaine Hawkins, October 18

Henry Panion III, conductor; Lady Tramaine Hawkins, vocalist
Buffalo United Community Choir

Pink Martini with China Forbes, October 19

Ron Spigelman, conductor; Thomas Lauderdale, bandleader/piano; China Forbes, vocalist

Symphonic Spooktacular, October 20

Fernanda Lastra, conductor; Brandon Williamson, narrator

Schubert Symphony No. 9, "The Great", October 25-26

Andreas Delfs, conductor; Juliana Athayde, violin

Disney Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Concert, November 1

Ron Spigelman, conductor

For a complete list of concerts, visit bpo.org/events. Tickets can be purchased online at bpo.org, in-person at the Box Office in Kleinhans Music Hall, or by calling (716) 885-5000.

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

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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