

EUCLID
Symphony
ORCHESTRA



2024-2025 Concert Season

November 3, 2024

December 8, 2024

April 13, 2025

June 1, 2025

Jimmie A. Parker, Sr.

Music Director

Mission Statement

The Euclid Symphony Orchestra cultivates community through music, fosters appreciation of orchestral music, educates children about the orchestral genre and provides an outlet for musicians to perform and develop musicianship.

History

The Euclid Symphony Orchestra was organized on January 8, 1961, after a three year effort by Melvin Robb, then Principal of Euclid Central Junior High School. Though not a musician himself, Mr. Robb felt that a community needed an orchestra and sixty musicians from Euclid, East Cleveland, South Euclid and Willoughby joined together to form Euclid Orchestra, as it was originally known. Support was given by the Euclid Inter-Service Club Council and member service clubs. We have been fortunate to have many musical directors. In 1961, Harry Hershey was appointed first director.

Today, the orchestra presents five concerts a season, as well as a children's concert, at the Shore Cultural Centre in Euclid, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Managed by a volunteer board, and funded solely through donations and ticket sales.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Euclid Symphony Orchestra, thank you for your continued support of live orchestral music. We are so grateful that you are joining us for our 62nd season and we sincerely hope you enjoy today's concert!

Any support you can give helps us fulfill our mission to cultivate community through musical experiences, introduce children to the orchestral genre, and provide an outlet for creative expression for area musicians. Helping us reach our \$20,000 goal allows us to purchase new music, present guest artists and contribute to our continual operating expenses. All donations received will be listed in the remaining 2024-2025 concert season programs.

Together we can keep our music playing for years to come. Thank you for your time, consideration and continued support in making a difference in our community.

Yours in Concert,

Rachel Schindler Beach
President, Euclid Symphony Orchestra

WE LOVE HEARING FROM OUR PATRONS

Your feedback is important. If you have any concerns or additional questions, feel free to speak to one of our board members, or email Euclid Symphony Orchestra at

orchestra@euclidsymphonyorchestra.com

We will share your comments with our musicians and with our board to discuss how we can improve upon your experience.

You may also find us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/EuclidSymphonyOrchestra>

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Music Director Jimmie Parker, Sr.



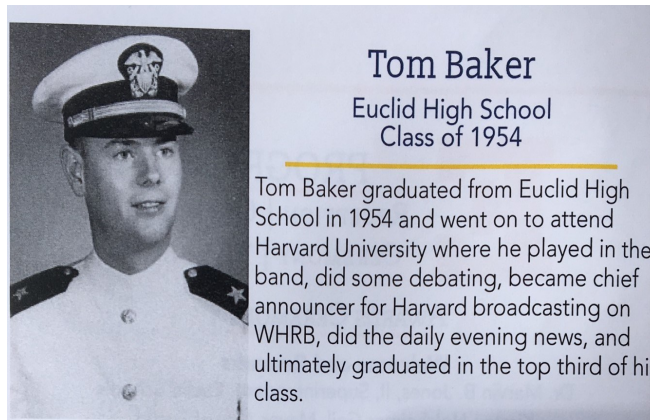
Jimmie A. Parker Sr. is a multifaceted musician and entrepreneur whose passion for music and commitment to excellence have propelled him to success as a musician, conductor, composer, and educator. As the CEO of Dominion Global Music Group, The Color of Music Inc, and Its Just Music LLC, Jimmie has established himself as a leader in the industry, with a passion for classical, jazz, and contemporary music. From a young age, Jimmie showcased his musical talent, discovering his gift at the age of five. By the age of ten, he was already playing the organ and piano at his local church, demonstrating a natural aptitude for music. This early passion led him to pursue formal training in classical piano and contrabass performance at the School of Creative and Performing Arts in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Jimmie's musical prowess extends beyond performing and recording. He currently serves as the principal keyboardist for the Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra and a past student conductor of the Cleveland State University Symphony Orchestra and Cleveland State University Big Band. He has also performed with the Lakeland Symphony, Lakeland Civic Band, Cleveland Wind Ensemble, and the Skatch Andersson Big Band. His involvement in these prestigious ensembles highlights his exceptional musical abilities and dedication to excellence.

Furthermore, Jimmie A. Parker, Sr. is a respected professor at Case Western Reserve University, where he teaches Digital Music Composition and Production. He also shares his passion for the creative arts as a music fundamentals teacher at the Superior School for the Performing Arts in the East Cleveland School District. His commitment to education is evident through his renowned seminar master class, "The Color of Music" where he continues to impart his knowledge and expertise to aspiring musicians. This comprehensive program imparts valuable knowledge and skills to musicians who support various groups and organizations, emphasizing the collaborative spirit needed to deliver an inspirational and harmonious musical product, all while nurturing the creative arts and inspiring young minds through his love for music.

His full Bio can be found on his website:

<https://jimmieparker.com/>



Tom Baker

Euclid High School
Class of 1954

Tom Baker graduated from Euclid High School in 1954 and went on to attend Harvard University where he played in the band, did some debating, became chief announcer for Harvard broadcasting on WHRB, did the daily evening news, and ultimately graduated in the top third of his class.

Tom Baker Young Artist Competition

The Euclid Symphony Orchestra launched its Young Artists Competition in the 2019-2020 season to honor Tom Baker, a dedicated board member and supporter.

Open to instrumental and vocal musicians aged 18 and under, the competition showcases advanced performers capable of playing concerto-level or equivalent works. The winner receives a \$500 cash prize and the opportunity to perform as a soloist with the orchestra.

The competition is held annually on the Saturday before the ESO's fall concert. Applications, including audition details and requirements, are available on the ESO website.

2024-2025 Young Artists Competition Winner:

Anthony Yang



Born in Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada, Anthony Yang began playing the violin at age five in Shenyang, China. He studied with Karl Rainer at the Nanaimo Conservatory and briefly with Gwen Hoebig before relocating to Cleveland.

In recent summers, Anthony has studied with Paul Kantor and Ivan Zenaty at the Meadowmount School of Music, Cho Liang Lin and William Van Der Sloot at Orford Musique Festival Academy, and Jinjoo Cho at the Encore Chamber Music Institute. In chamber music, Anthony has performed in concert at the Scotia Festival of Music and CIM, and has worked with members of the Cavani, Orion, Aizuri, Verona, Catalyst, and St. Petersburg quartets.

Anthony's solo appearances include engagements with the Firelands Symphony and Carl Topilow, and the Euclid Symphony Orchestra as winner of the Tom Baker Young Artists Competition. Anthony is a recipient of a scholarship from the British Columbia Arts Council. Orchestrally, Anthony is a member of the CIM Orchestra, where he has worked under the direction of conductors such as Leonard Slatkin, JoAnn Falletta, and Anthony Parnter.

Anthony is a scholarship recipient studying in the Young Artist Program with Malcolm Lowe at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Program Notes

Finlandia, Opus 26 (1900)

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

Sibelius was born 1865 in the Grand Duchy of Finland, which at the time was an autonomous state within the Russian Empire. As a child, he studied piano and violin and experimented with composition. Although he became a skilled violinist, he turned his talents to composing when he determined that he did not have the virtuosity needed for a solo career. In the late 1890s and early 1900s, Sibelius's music became a symbol of Finnish nationalism in reaction to attempts by the Russian Empire to restrict the powers of the Grand Duchy.

Finlandia is a nationalistic tone poem that was initially performed under different names as part of covert protests of Russian rule of the territory. The piece interweaves brass fanfares with more restrained sections for woodwind and string choirs. The Christian hymn, *Be Still My Soul*, is sung to the tune of *Finlandia*. It is said that Sibelius was ambivalent about the choral aspect of his work, saying, "It is written for an orchestra. But if the world wants to sing it, it can't be helped." In popular culture, *Finlandia* was used in the final scene soundtrack of the movie *Die Hard 2: Die Harder*.

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op 35 (1878)

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Tchaikovsky was born in a small town in Russia in 1840. He was musically precocious and received early lessons on the piano and organ. Later, his parents discouraged his musical ambitions, fearing that he would not be able to support himself. He was, therefore, schooled to become a civil servant. Fortunately, three years into Tchaikovsky's civil service career, Tsar Alexander II created a conservatory with the goal of developing Russian musical talents; Tchaikovsky enrolled in the first class of students. As his national and international reputation grew, he became the de facto Russian court composer and was in demand as a conductor throughout Russia and Europe.

Tchaikovsky composed just one violin concerto, in Switzerland, where he fled following the breakdown of his marriage after only a few months. His traveling companion, Joseph Kotek, was a violinist who provided expertise on the technical innovations Tchaikovsky wrote into the piece: challenging scales, difficult double stops, and melodic leaps. The first movement of the concerto, *Allegro moderato*, follows a theme and variations format, with a race to the finish. The second movement, *Canzonetta, Andante*, is a slow and somber "little song" with a delicate woodwind accompaniment. The *Finale, Allegro vivacissimo*, begins without a break from the second movement. The powerful orchestral introduction lets the audience know they are in for a breathless conclusion. This movement features gritty work in the lowest register of the violin on the G string as well as tender moments high on the E string, striking tempo and dynamic contrasts, and, like the first movement, a dramatic and propulsive conclusion.

Symphony No. 25 in G Minor, K. 183 (1773)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Mozart was a musical prodigy born in Salzburg (then part of the Holy Roman Empire, today part of Austria). At the age of 17, he became a court musician in Salzburg, which gave him the opportunity to compose symphonies, sonatas and concertos, string quartets, masses, and operas. In his 20s, he relocated to Vienna, where he was in demand as a pianist and composer until his death at age 35.

Symphony No. 25, written when Mozart was 17 years old, is thought to derive much of its drive and passion from the teenage angst that apparently characterized even 18th century adolescents. It is often referred to as the “little G minor” to distinguish it from his later “great G minor” *Symphony No. 40*. The opening *Allegro con brio* movement is tense, with syncopated rhythms and a driving bass line. The *Andante* movement is muted, with a call and response between the strings and bassoons. The third movement is a vigorous *Menuetto* with a woodwind *Trio*. The *Allegro* finale is full of drive and dynamic contrast. In popular culture, the movie *Amadeus* used the intense first movement of *Symphony No. 25* in the opening scene and credits, setting the musical stage for the fictionalized conflict between the brilliant Mozart and his merely competent contemporary Salieri.

Program
April 13, 2025

Finlandia, Op. 26

Jean Sibelius

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Anthony Yang, soloist

2024-2025 Tom Baker Young Artist Competition Winner

~Intermission~

Symphony No. 25 in G Minor, K.183

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

EUCLID SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Jimmie A. Parker, Sr., Music Director

Violin I

Maria Viñas
- *Concertmaster**
Kathy Wagner
- *Asst. Concertmaster*
Elyse Burrus
Denise Yancey
Anji Noh

Violin II

Nancy Perillo*
David Clare
Holly McTernan
Tisha Harrell
Teresa Griffin
Kim Porter

Viola

Luke Wardell*
Beth Domholdt
Jerri Lou Lugo
Virginia Ashley
Cristian Diaz

Cello

Sara Hart*
James Corbo
Rebecca Mize

Double Bass

Xander Degoey*
Christopher Glavic

Flute

Lee Ann Moreland*
Rachel Schindler Beach
Cassandra Lescano

Piccolo

Rachel Schindler Beach

Oboe

Jonah Richardson
Lauren Turakhia

Clarinet

Brendan Gittens*
Ed Cryzewski

Bassoon

Diana Danner*

Horn*

Dana Bjorklund*
Melinda Kellerstrass
J.c. Sherman

Trumpet

Bob Siktberg*[♪]
J. Laurence Allen [♪]
Mark Souther

Trombone

Ryan Roberts, Sr.
Robert Pratt

Tuba

Ryan Roberts, Sr.*[♪]

Percussion

Torrell Moss*

* = Principal

[♪]= 50 year member

[♪]= 25 year member

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