

Christmas with the Symphony: 'Tis the Season

December 13, 2025 - 7:30pm & December 14, 2025 - 2:30pm

#### **Program**

Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 7:30pm Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 2:30pm Mary W. Sommervold Hall, Washington Pavilion

South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Nicholas Sharma, *Conductor* South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Chorus Dr. Timothy J. Campbell, *Chorus Director* Ben Gulley, *Tenor* 

Giovanni Gabrieli Canzon per sonar septimi toni á 8 (arr. Reiny Rolock)

Michael Praetorius Es ist ein Rose entsprungen ?

Traditional (arr. Troy Armstrong) Adeste Fideles

Franz Joseph Haydn? Toy Symphony

**Georges Bizet** L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2 IV. Farandole

Traditional (arr. Mack Wilberg) Joy to the World

Charles Gounod Ave Maria (arr. Chris Hazell)

Felix Mendelssohn There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob

Traditional Ding Dong! Merrily on High (arr. Mack Wilberg)

#### INTERMISSION

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky The Nutcracker SuiteOvertureWaltz of the Flowers



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Ottorino Respighi

The Adoration of the Magi

**Leroy Anderson** 

Sleigh Ride guest conductor

Irving Berlin White Christmas (arr. Roy Ringwald)

Nat King Cole The Christmas Song (arr. Bob Lowden)

**John Williams** Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas (from *Home Alone*)

Alan Silvestri God Bless Us Everyone & Glen Ballard

**Multiple Authors** Christmas Carol Sing-Along (arr. Dan Goeller)

### Saturday's concert generously sponsored by **Nordby Family Foundation**

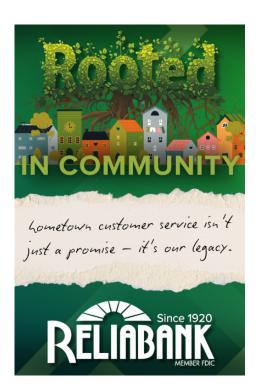
Sunday's concert generously sponsored by **Reliabank** 



The Nordby Family Foundation proudly supports the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, an integral part of our community.



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#### **Guest Conductor**



**Nicholas Sharma** 

#### conductor

Nicholas Sharma currently serves as the Resident Conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. He has led performances with orchestras across North America, earning recognition for his versatility and musical artistry.



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Recent conducting highlights include debut performances with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Eugene Symphony Orchestra, as well as serving as Assistant Conductor of the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the South Dakota Symphony Youth Orchestra for the 2024-25 season.

Sharma has assisted renowned conductors including Franz Welser-Möst, Paavo Järvi and Gustavo Gimeno, and has participated in masterclasses and summer festivals with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony, the National Academy Orchestra of Canada, and the Espen Music Festival. Here he has studied with distinguised conductors such as Michael Tilson Thomas, Stéphane Denève, Neeme Järvi, Robert Spano, Nicholas McGegan, Mark Stringer, and Boris Brott.

A native of the Toronto area, Sharma began his musical studies as a violinist. He holds a degree in violin performance from the Eastman School of Music, a master's degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Oregon and a Doctorate (DMA) in Orchestral Conducting from the Eastman School of Music.

#### **Guest Artist**



**Ben Gulley** 

#### Tenor

Ben Gulley has been hailed as "outstanding" (*Opera News*) and "startlingly gifted" (*San Francisco Classical Voice*). Gulley's engagements for the 2025-26 season include Don José in *Carmen* with Knoxville Opera, Radames in *Aida* with Anchorage Opera, Canio in *Pagliacci* with Opera San Jose and Opera Las Vegas, and concert appearances with the Lancaster Festival, Orchestra Miami, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and Symphony San Jose.



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Recent artistic highlights include Romeo in *Roméo et Juliette* with Opera Idaho, Cavaradossi in *Tosca* with Sarasota Opera, the Prince in *Rusalka* at Portland Opera, Foresto in Verdi's *Requiem* with the Opera Festival of Chicago, Rodolfo in *La bohème* with Knoxville Opera and Canio in *Pagliacci* with Pensacola Opera, Edgardo in Opera Orlando's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Radames in *Aida* with Fort Worth Opera, and with Skylight Music Theatre as Quasimodo in *Hunchback of Notre Dame* and headlining "An Evening with Sir Time Rice."

Additional concert engagements include Grand Rapids Symphony (Carmina Burana), Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Symphony San Jose, Fontana Chamber Arts (with NPR's Peter Dugan), Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra and Modesto Symphony Orchestra (Verdi's Requiem), Orchestra Iowa (Carmina Burana; Verdi's Requiem), Wheeling Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Miami, Asheville Symphony, Hidden Valley Music Seminars, Tallahassee Symphony, and Bruckner's Te Deum and Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde with the Belgian National Orchestra in Brussels and Namur, Belgium.

In 2016, Gulley released his debut solo album of original music, *In Between*, available on all major streaming services. From 2010-2014, Gulley was a member of the Sony/BMG Masterworks' *The American Tenors*, alongside Nathan Granner and Daniel Montenegro.

#### **South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Chorus**

#### South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Chorus

chorus members

#### Soprano

Katie Andersen
Ashlynn Anderson
Katie Begic
Erin Burggraff
Haley Dahl
Nancy Durajczyk
Taylor Elmer
Heather Engberg
Michelle Friesen
Rachel Riez
Claire Gillaspey
Carmelita Guse
Becky Hollan



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Katherine Howard
Angela Loftesness
Shannon McCrary
Reilly Nelson
Kelly Okerlund
Ana Olivier
Diane Rahn
Courtney Renner
Michelle Sawyer
Catherine Schlimgen
Susan Schrader
Anna Stemsrud
Elizabeth Trygstad
Kasidy Tvedt

#### Alto

Natalie Allcock Kjerstin Aspaas Aubrey Baumann Lonna Beshai **Chistine Brandner** Megan DeBoer Mary DeVany Katie Eliason Kathryn Friesen Dawn Gutnik Serena Gutnik Elise Hasche Sarah Heckmann Araylla Hennigar Karen Jepperson Sydney Jessen Hannah Moravec Rachel Pierson Alley Quanbeck Mary Reiter Mary Schuh Rebecca Thompson Lindsay Tjarks Jennifer Tschetter **Coral Winter** 

#### **Tenor**

John Callies
Jason Douma
Paul Gillaspey
Joshua Guenther
Jace Larson
Mark Larson
Zander Larson



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Alan Luense Leslie Olive Nicholas Petersen Andrew Ridder Rita Schwab-Parcel Joel Tjarks Eric Wicks

#### **Bass**

Joe Brejda Ted DeLange **Jacob Fossing** Joel Gullickson Bill Hungate **Brandon James** Chase Kramer Frederick Matthews James Moore Kaden Sivertsen Shawn Stemsrud **Daniel Stratton** Liam Swart Peter Tuff Collin Waltner Ryan Wilkison Tim Worthington Shane Wuebben Tyler Youngquist



Dakota has led the way in developing the talent that strengthens our artistic heritage and inspires future generations.



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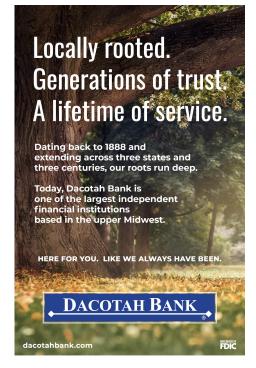






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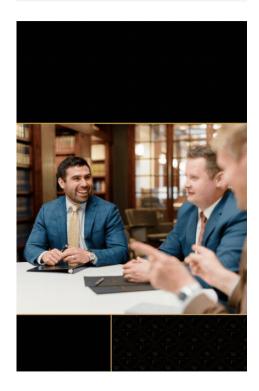






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#### We are proud to support the arts in South Dakota

#### The Wadsworth Investment Group

(605) 336-2550 6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 201 Sioux Falls, SD 57108 us.rbcwm.com/wadsworth investment



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