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# OCTOBER 18, 2025



Darryl One, Music Director

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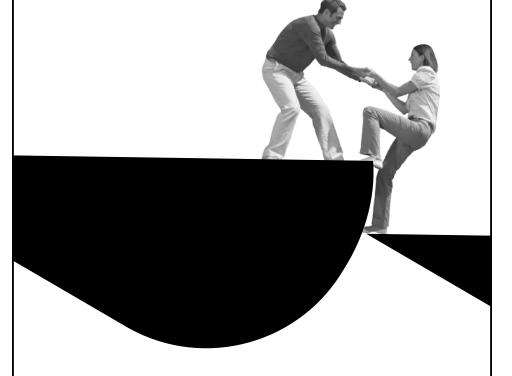


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#### VICTORIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Darryl One, Music Director

## THE GRIDIRON SYMPHONY

#### WHERE FOOTBALL AND MUSIC COLLIDE

Kyle Gullings

### **OCTOBER 18, 2025**

7:30PM | VICTORIA FINE ARTS CENTER

**Concert Series 2** 

Molder of Men (2009)	(5′)
Sam Spence (1927-2016) <b>Sabres and Guns</b> (1970-1982)	(8′)
Mystery Football Theme #1 (2003)—CBS (Posthumous)	(3') (1.5') (2') (1.5')
Tom Hedden (former music director NFL Films) 75 Seaons (1994)	(5.5′)
Sam Spence (1927-2016) <b>Follies Suite</b> (1973)	(6′)
David Robidoux (NFL Films)  America's Game (2011)	(5.5′)
INTERMISSION	
David Robidoux (NFL Films)  Champions Suite (2004)	(5′)
Kyle Gullings (1983-)  Gridiron Symphony (2024)	(28′)



#### KYLE GULLINGS, composer

Dr. Kyle Gullings is an educator, scholar, and composer. He joined the faculty of the University of Texas at Tyler in 2011, where he is a professor of music theory and composition. He served as Director of the School of Performing Arts from 2019 to 2023.

As a versatile, collaborative composer of stage and concert works, Gullings' projects traverse diverse social topics including space travel, nuclear weaponry, mortality, mental illness, and the American Dream. He has been recognized through the National Opera Associations Chamber Opera Composition Competition (1 of 3 National Finalists), the American Prize in Composition for orchestra music (National Finalist), and the SCI/ASCAP Student Composition Competition (two-time Regional Winner). He has performed across the country through the Kennedy Center's Page to Stage Festival, John Duffy Composers Institute (now the John Duffy Institute for New Opera), Capital Fringe Festival, College Music Society, and Society of Composers, Inc.

Gullings is committed to improving and increasing access to undergraduate instruction in music theory and composition nationally. He is a co-author of the free, online open educational resource (OER) music theory textbook Open Music Theory Version 2, supported by two Course Redesign/Open Course Grants from 'Virginias Academic Library Consortium (VIVA). His peer-reviewed articles appear in Engaging Students: Essays in Music Pedagogy and NACWPI Journal. His free and editable collection of over 100 original lower-division music theory course documents, "Open Educational Resources for

Undergraduate Music Theory," is published on the peer-reviewed Resources page of the Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy.

Gullings completed his D.M.A. in Composition at The Catholic University of America, where he was also the first recipient of their unique Stage Music Emphasis master's degree. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Theory/Composition from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. He enjoys running, home brewing, and spending time with his wife Terra and their dogs Ollie and Buddy.

Learn more at www.kylegullings.com.



# WELCOME TO TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE

As you settle into your seats and prepare to be transported by the music, we'd like to take a moment to share with you the profound impact that this symphony has on our community beyond the notes on the page.

Music has the power to bring people together, to heal, to inspire, and to educate. Our symphony is deeply committed to harnessing this power not just on the stage, but throughout our community. We believe that our role as musicians extends far beyond the concert hall, and we are dedicated to using our talents and resources to make a positive difference in the lives of those around us.

Through educational programs, we engage with students of all ages, introducing them to the joys of music and the arts. Our outreach initiatives bring the beauty of live performance to underserved communities, ensuring that everyone, regardless of their circumstances, has the opportunity to experience the transformative power of music. Below you will find some of those examples:

- Masterclasses
- Teaching Artist Presentations
- Traveling Instrument Petting Zoo
- Careers In Music Presentation
- Meet the Maestro

- Free Tickets for Students & Families Program
- \$5 Student Rush Tickets
- Symphony Savvy & Meet the Music Makers
- Crossroads Strings
- Corps of Volunteers

We are proud to be a part of this vibrant community, and we are grateful for your continued support, which allows us to sustain and expand these important initiatives. Together, we can ensure that the gift of music is accessible to all and that it continues to enrich the lives of those who need it most. Thank you for joining us tonight, and for being a part of our mission to give back through the power of music. Enjoy the Performance!





njoying a wide and varied career as a professional Injoying a wide and varied cares. Exceptions a Music conductor, Darryl One has served as Music Director and guest conductor for a variety of orchestras across the United States. Currently Music Director of the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, Mr. One's past positions include Associate Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony, National Endowment for the Arts / Affiliate Artists Resident Conductor for the Rochester Philharmonic, and Associate Conductor for the Denver and Charlotte Symphonies, and Music Director of the Modesto Symphony Orchestra. He has appeared as guest conductor with major orchestras such as the National Symphony, Houston Symphony, Oregon Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic, and the Teleman Orchestra of Osaka as well as regional orchestras like the Alabama Symphony. Omaha Symphony, Honolulu Symphony, and Syracuse Symphony, Mr. One has also conducted at Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts outside of DC with the National Symphony, the Ravinia Festival in Chicago with members of the CSO, and Harbor Lights in Boston with members of the Boston Pops. Active in the operatic field as well, Mr. One has conducted with Opera Memphis and the Orlando Opera. Other orchestras Mr. One made has made his debut with are the Austin Symphony Orchestra, Youngstown Symphony Orchestra, Lexington Philharmonic, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, Symphony of Southeast Texas, Flagstaff Symphony, the Midland Symphony, the Sioux City Symphony and the Saginaw Bay Symphony.

Music Director of the Victoria Symphony Orchestra since 1995, Mr. One has almost doubled the number of concerts the orchestra performs during his tenure. With innovative combinations of thematic programming, staging, lighting, and concert formats, the orchestra has increased its audience while maintaining a high level of performance. Mr. One created a highly-successful Family Concerts series and a special outdoor symphonic iazz concert in Victoria.

As Music Director of the Modesto Symphony Orchestra, Mr. One expanded subscription doubles to triples, added a family series set of concerts, founded the Modesto Symphony Orchestra Chorus, and began an annual local talent search ("Symphony Idol") for promising young musicians. His performances have been marked with a series of concert collaborations with local arts organizations, regular premieres, and innovative use of multimedia and theatrical elements. He also created custom orchestral arrangements for the orchestra's pops and Christmas concerts.

As Associate Conductor with the Atlanta Symphony, Mr. One conducted on all regular series, special event concerts, designed and conducted the orchestra's extensive education program, and was the primary conductor for the orchestra's summer series at Chastain Park. He was also editor for all the orchestra's broadcasts on NPR. Prior to his post in Atlanta, Mr. One was National Endowment for the Arts/Affiliate Artist Resident Conductor for the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and Associate Conductor for the Denver and Charlotte Symphonies.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Mr. One began his career in mathematics at Illinois State University and subsequently changed his major to music. He received his undergraduate and masters degrees in composition and later attended Indiana University, completing a masters in conducting. He participated in the Hans Swarowksy Conducting Competition in Vienna and was invited to attend Erich Leinsdorf's Symposium for Young Conductors in Aspen, Colorado. Mr. One has recorded a number of new American works for the American Symphony Orchestra League's American Music Project with the Denver Symphony and the Oregon Symphony. He was also one of four conductors invited to conduct the New World Symphony in Miami for the American Repertoire Project, a program designed to highlight young conductors in America.

Particularly committed to education, Mr. One has conducted many all-state youth orchestras, taught as a professor, adjunct, and guest clinician in several college orchestras, and served as music director for the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. His culturally relevant education programs have been the center of acclaimed educational concerts in Rochester and Atlanta and he has been a frequent speaker and lecturer both on and off the podium as an advocate for symphonic music.

### VICTORIA SYMPHONY **ORCHESTRA**

#### Violin I

Concertmaster Rebecca Yu\*

#### Penni & Dr. Leonard Gietz Endowed Chair

Grady Lai Steven McMillian

#### Concertmaster Emeritus

Pat Karakas Bruce Kanagaki Angela Llanes Elizabeth Frederick Pedro Vera Chris Walters Naomi Frausto

#### Violin II

Darren Tidwell\* In Memory of David B. Lack, Janev & Melvin Lack Endowed Chair

Austin Gabrillo Jasper Sewell Glenda Cisler Juan Fiestas Claudia font Milano Danuta Gradney Sungho Jung

#### Viola

Jennifer Alger\* Teresa Nguyen Miranda Steinle Meghan Beaudry Harry Gonzalez Margaret Hager Soren Lorentzen

#### Cello

Carrie Pierce\*

#### Janey & Melvin Lack Endowed Chair

Ryan Babe Justin Ba**ll**i Javy Liu Sarah Milnarich Dorian Ramirrez Joshua Younke

#### **Bass**

Andrew Potter\* Andrew Sutton Lukas Munsell Ray Fisher

#### Flute

Diana Sipes\* In Memory of Alice Lynette Blanchard, Bill & Pat Blanchard Endowed Chair

Elizabeth Janzen

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Jaleen Seshadri\* **Amy Burgus** 

#### Clarinet

Vanguel Tangarov\* Michael Isadore

#### Bassoon

Rilev Litts\* Adam Drake

#### Horn

David Gutierrez\* Orlando Medrano Monica Martinez **Brett Kroening** Daniel N. Garza (Asst.)

#### Trumpet

Ron Ledbetter\* Mary Thornton Kyle Millsap Daniel Miller (Asst.)

#### Trombone

Donny Pinson\* Rai Morales David Deering

#### Tuba

Clay Garrett\*

#### Timpani

Robert Clarke\*

#### Percussion

James Young\* Randy Fluman John Godov Bill Ricketts

#### Harp

Ayren Huslig

#### Piano

Sangmi Lim

#### **Electric Bass**

Trent Spofford

#### \*Principal

#### **Player Personnel** Manager

Sarah Milnarich

### GRIDIRON SYMPHONY

#### STUDENT & COMMUNITY PERFORMERS

#### Piccolo

Princess Gomez. Howell Genesis Rodriguez, Victoria College

#### Flute

Jacob Guerrero, Patti Welder Sofia Ontiveros, STEM Genesis Rosales, Howell Briley Wild, Cade

#### Clarinet

Leia Dubose, Cade David Ihekweme, Cade Kavla Lingle, Howell Matthew Lopez, Patti Welder Seriina Marin, STEM Nate Morgan, STEM Gracelyn Raymond, Cade Delilah Rivera, STEM Ricardo Torres, Howell

#### **Alto Saxophone**

Jaeley Sanchez, STEM Aaron Stiles-Cuellar, Cade Roman Torres, Howell Clayton Turner, Crossroads Community Band Chandler Daniel, Howell Ayden Velasquez, Cade

#### Tenor Saxophone

Isabel Herrera, Howell Liam Rickman, Patti Welder

#### **Trumpet**

Jakob Ezzell, Howell Chris Hamelwright, Howell (Director) Xavier Lozano, Patti Welder Bruce McFall. Patti Welder Ximena Ouintania, Cade Lillian Ramos, Cade Jacob Reagan, Cade (Director) Emma Rodriguez, STEM Mario Rodriguez, STEM Kaleb Worcester, Howell

#### French Horn

Deziir Diggs, Howell Uriel Jaime, Patti Welder Alexander Sanchez, STEM Lena Svetlik, Patti Welder

#### **Trombone**

Maison Cantu, Patti Welder Liam Carnline, STEM Gavin Garnett, Howell Felix Garza, Cade Ethan Hatch, Cade Korbyn Murray, Patti Welder

#### **Baritone**

Damian Duenez, Patti Welder Bernardo Gomez, Patti Welder Natalie Ocegueda, Howell

#### Tuba

Adrian Arredondo, Howell Adrian Martinez, STEM Angelina Martinez, Howell Joshua Rodriguez, Patti Welder Gabriel Wright, Cade

#### Percussion

Cavden Aigner, Howell Catalava Costello, Howell Ryley Garcia, Patti Welder Jayden Martinez, Howell Cade McAdams, Cade Dimitri Ouintanilla, Cade Trevdon Reeder, STEM Logan Revna, STEM Daniel Salinas, Cade Riley Svetlik, Cade Madison Velazquez, Patti Welder Aubrey Zuniga, STEM

Cade Middle School Band - Jacob Reagan, Director Howell Middle School Band - Chris Hamelwright, Director Patti Welder Middle School Band – Jennings Gonzalez, Director STEM Middle School Band - Richard Rodriguez, Director

Victoria College/Crossroads Community Band - Dr. James Long, Director

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Laura Jarosz, Director

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### PROGRAM NOTES

**The Gridiron Symphony – Kyle Gullings**Born January 3, 1983, in Mitchell, South Dakota

Hell." The depression that ensued caused an unusual dry period in Rachmaninoff's otherwise productive compositional output.

At first glance, writing a symphony may seem like an odd way to honor the tradition of high school football. There are already several well-liked movies, television shows, and books that successfully explore the subject. So, it was certainly unexpected when Richard Lee, Music Director of the East Texas Symphony Orchestra, first called me to pitch the concept. But, through the writing process, I found the subtlety and abstraction of music to be an ideal way of approaching the topic at an angle, trading the camera's photorealism for music's direct engagement with people's feelings of excitement, heartbreak, and passion surrounding the sport.

Prior to this project, I was a casual fan of professional football, which I soon learned bears almost no relation to its Texas high school counterpart. So, before writing a single note, I embarked on several months of in-depth research – attending local Spring practices, Fall games in several Texas cities, and sitting for interviews with journalists, coaches, former players, and just about anyone else who had a few free minutes and an opinion about high school football (which, around these parts, is a lot of folks!). These two dozen or so events and conversations gave me crucial perspective on not just the X's and O's, but also on the history, tradition, and what is at stake for entire communities every time their team takes the field. Out of this grew the clear need for a narrator to track both the on-field action and the emotional arc of a game. Fortunately, KTBB Sports Director Bill Coates was an excellent fit for the role and happy to oblige for the 2024 premiere.

Gridiron Symphony is in four movements, mirroring a game's four quarters. The upbeat first quarter introduces our two fictional teams and outlines the stakes for our hometown heroes, complete with play calling action and original fight songs. The lyrical ballad second movement is a love song dedicated to the warm nostalgia that our community's former players, staff, classmates, families, and fans alike have for the sport. Typical of traditional symphonies, movement three follows a dance form – the coach's intricate playbook choreography presented as a tongue-in-cheek scherzo. (Envision an offensive line, en pointe.) The final movement opens with a montage of back-and-forth field goals, culminating in the game-winning drive and a joyous on-field celebration featuring local high school marching band students joining the orchestra.



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# VICTORIA SYMPHONY LEAGUE

The purpose of the Victoria Symphony League is to assist the Victoria Symphony Society in promoting and financially supporting the Victoria Symphony Orchestra and supporting symphonic music education.

Started in 1979, the VSL has seen forty past female presidents and officers. It's a great honor and privelege to be a part of the present and future of this well-honored class of ladies. We meet as a group monthly and work year-round collaborating on future fundraisers and gain inspiration from each other. The friendships and bonds formed all in the name of fundraising has been the gift that gives back. You never know where the next great idea may come from. Interested in becoming a league member? We'd love to talk with you.

Ways in which we support the VSS and VSO is giving the gift of time through volunteer hours. The VSL provides food and drinks to musicians for all rehearsals during the busy concert season. Traveling musicians seem to appreciate the southern hospitality. Several league ladies regularly volunteer for educational instrument petting zoos traveling to area schools and venues assisting the Director of Education in promoting the VSO and having the opportunity to see young future musicians play instruments for the first time.

In September each year the VSL hosts an annual fundraiser: a ladies luncheon and style show complete with elaborate tablescapes, bake sale, silent auction and 50/50 raffle. This year's western-themed Ballads, Boots and Bling marks our 16th year producing the event. Much thanks to the support of friends, local businesses and boutiques. The proceeds raised from "Style Show" allows us to provide an annual pledge made to the VSS.

Other areas of financial support come from VSL hosted private parties and Signature dinners as well as shopping events. This concert season we are planning to host several events including: Music Bingo, Candlelight Christmas Party, On the Bayou Dinner, Texas Wine Down and Food Pairing and a Derby Party just to name a few. We also host the end of season After Concert Party attended by Symphony patrons, musicians and supporters of the VSO.

The best way to reach us is through Facebook at the Victoria Symphony League page or via email: ladiesofthevsl@gmail.com

Warm regards, Lorraine Kats.

2025-2026 President, Victoria Symphony League

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#### VICTORIA FINE ARTS CENTER I 7:30PM

In partnership with VISD's STEM Magnet Middle School, students will explore the science of sound by designing and building their own instruments. Their creativity culminates in a live performance of the Earth Harp—one of the world's largest stringed instruments—blending innovation, music, and inspiration in an unforgettable concert experience.

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#### ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



# PRICKLY PEAR AFFAIR 03.27.26

The Victoria Symphony welcomes you to our 2nd Annual Prickly Pear Affair Fundraiser. Reservations Required. Please call the Symphony office for more information: 361-576-4500.



# 10.16.25

#### VICTORIA FINE ARTS CENTER I 6:30PM

A fun-filled Halloween concert perfect for kids and families. Join the Victoria Symphony for a magical afternoon of music, costumes, and interactive surprises. This year's special guest is a talented magician who will wow the audience with tricks and treats as the orchestra plays seasonal favorites. Come in costume and enjoy a not-so-spooky celebration of music and imagination!

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02.26.26

VICTORIA FINE ARTS CENTER | 9:30AM & 12:30PM

Sergei Prokofiev's classic work for children—a symphonic fairy tale in which each character is represented by a different orchestral instrument—becomes a dazzling theatrical and musical event. In collaboration with Victoria Ballet Theatre, the concert follows Peter as he tries to capture a menacing wolf that threatens orchestra and audience alike. Students will be introduced to the instruments of the orchestra and the Peter and the Wolf characters' musical themes before they step into Peter's adventure.

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04.23.26

DELEON PLAZA I 5:30PM

Experience the energy of live music in the heart of downtown!

Downtown Rhythms brings the Victoria Symphony outdoors for a lively, free concert featuring a mix of popular favorites and orchestral hits, along with other local schools and community groups. Bring your lawn chairs, grab a bite from local food trucks, and enjoy an evening of music under the Texas sky with family and friends.

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### ARTS

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#### VICTORIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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# DYNAMIC DUOS BRAHMS & RACHMANINOFF IN HARMONY

CONCERT

Julia Bruskin

Emily Bruskin

09.13.25

#### VICTORIA FINE ARTS CENTER I 7:30PM

Three names, three masterworks! The famous Overture: Miniature from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker, the return of the Bruskin twins playing the Brahms Double, and Rachmaninoff's most famous symphony will give you a romantic experience!

Tchaikovsky......Overture Miniature from the Nutcracker
Brahms......Concerto for Violin and Cello op. 102
Rachmaninoff.....Symphony #2 in E minor

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# SPACE & THE **SYMPHONY**

CONCERT

THE FINAL FRONTIER



04.25.26

VICTORIA FINE ARTS CENTER I 7:30PM

In 1969, the US landed the first man on the moon, and it is presented here in a film entitled "One Small Step" to the music of Aaron Copland. A performance of the ever-popular "Planets" by Gustav Holst rounds out this concert, so come celebrate the final frontier!

Copland ......Fanfare for the Common Man Copland .......Appalachian Spring Holst ......The Planets

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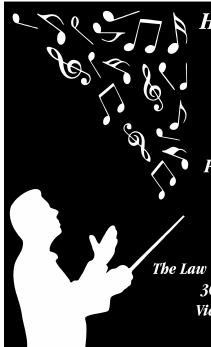




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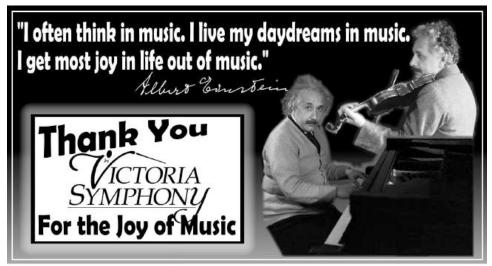


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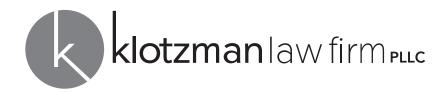


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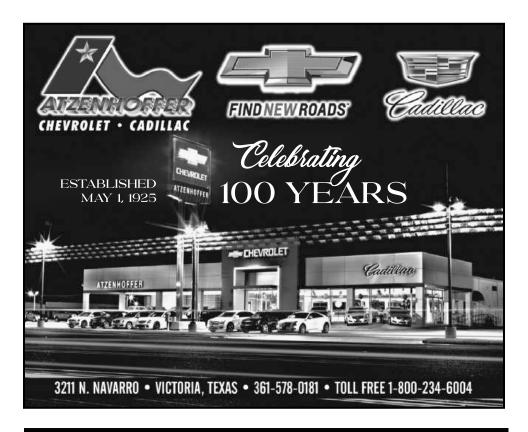
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