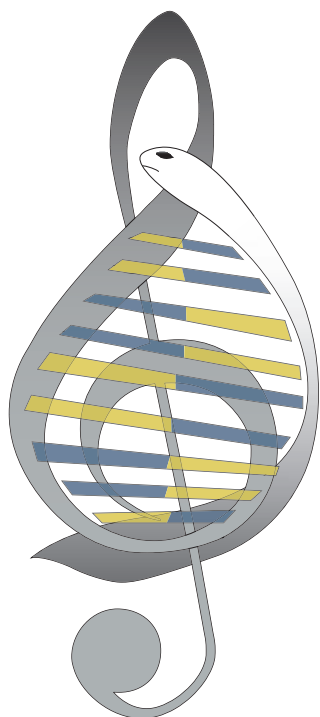




GIFTS OF ART  
LIFE SCIENCES ORCHESTRA

**MICHIGAN  
MEDICINE**



**Member  
Handbook  
2019-20**



Bringing the world of art & music to  
MICHIGAN MEDICINE

Greetings to All!  
Welcome to the Twentieth Season  
of the U-M Life Sciences Orchestra!

– Elaine Sims  
Director, Gifts of Art program at Michigan Medicine

This handbook is available on the LSO website:  
<http://iso.med.umich.edu/members>

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# Introducing the LSO

The Life Sciences Orchestra (LSO) is the symphonic ensemble of the U-M health and life sciences communities, providing opportunities for its members to express their musical talents from rehearsal to public performance. It is one of the creative programs of Gifts of Art with a focus on caregivers, faculty, staff and students at Michigan Medicine. Members represent:

- Michigan Medicine
  - Hospitals and Health Centers
  - Medical School
  - Shared Services
- School of Dentistry
- School of Public Health
- College of Pharmacy
- School of Nursing
- School of Social Work
- School of Kinesiology
- School of Natural Resources & Environment
- Departments in the College of Literature, Science & the Arts
- Department of Biomedical Engineering
- Selected Rackham School of Graduate Studies programs
- Life science and health professions units of UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint

The LSO was formed in the fall of 2000 by a small group of musicians at the U-M Medical School and the U-M Hospitals and Health Centers under the umbrella of the Michigan Medicine Gifts of Art program. Now in its 20th season, the LSO draws nearly 2,000 audience members for each of two free concerts a year.

The mission of the LSO is to offer musicians in the life sciences a creative outlet by providing an opportunity to play in a large ensemble, while building a sense of community across the different life sciences areas throughout campus.

## About the Gifts of Art Program

One of the first and most comprehensive arts in medicine programs in the nation, Gifts of Art brings the world of art and music to Michigan Medicine. The LSO fulfills one of Gifts of Art's objectives, that of providing arts opportunities for those who provide care, work or study in health related fields.

Some of Gifts of Art's other programs:

- Public Performances – weekly concerts
- Music While You Wait – volunteer musicians in waiting areas
- Nine art galleries – exhibiting 35 shows a year
- Bedside Music – specially trained musicians on patient floors
- Bedside Art – artists in patient units
- Art Cart – lending library for inpatients of framed art prints
- Artist in Residence – hospital-wide art making projects
- Story Studio – recording patient stories at the bedside

Gifts of Art partners with Professor Kenneth Kiesler and the U-M School of Music, Theatre and Dance and is the official representative of the Life Sciences Orchestra. All Gifts of Art programs are free and open to the public.

For more information about Gifts of Art, please visit:

[www.med.umich.edu/goa](http://www.med.umich.edu/goa).

## **Tal Benatar, the Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D. Music Director**

Israeli-American conductor Tal Benatar is currently a Doctoral Pre-Candidate in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Michigan and served as LSO Assistant Conductor in 2017-18. In addition to serving as Music Director of the LSO, Tal will continue his post as Assistant Music Director of the Michigan Pops Orchestra, where he has served for the last three seasons.

Tal's formal conducting teachers include Kenneth Kiesler, Kate Tamarkin and Michael Slon. He has also participated in masterclasses with other distinguished conductors, such as Sir Simon Rattle. He made his European debut in in the summer of 2018.

Tal has made conducting appearances with the U-M Symphony Orchestra, Life Sciences Orchestra, Michigan Pops Orchestra, Charlottesville Symphony, Charlottesville Opera, Albemarle Sinfonia, Spectrum Orchestra and the Oratorio Society of Virginia, also serving as Assistant Conductor for the 2015-16 season. He was Music Director of the Rapidan Orchestra, a community orchestra in Central Virginia focused on bringing Western art music to more remote audiences.

As a genre-defying musician, Tal has performed repertoire spanning many centuries on many instruments. He has performed basso continuo on organ, harpsichord, and guitar in various baroque styles. A strong advocate of new music, he has conducted world premieres by three U-M composers, has been featured as a guitar soloist with U-M's Orpheus singers, and has performed new music with the U-M Contemporary Directions Ensemble and University Symphony Orchestra.

In his free time, Tal is an avid cook and foodie, enjoys any chance to play soccer, and regularly collaborates with blues and rock musicians as an electric guitarist.

Complete bio: <http://lso.med.umich.edu/about/music-director>

## Hill Auditorium

Standing in the heart of the University of Michigan campus, Hill Auditorium is a premier venue for University of Michigan and metro Detroit events. With a seating capacity of just over 3,500, its Frieze Memorial Organ and excellent acoustics, Hill is an outstanding performance venue, and many world class performers hold the hall in high regard.

Former U-M regent Arthur Hill bequeathed \$200,000 to the university for the construction of the auditorium for lectures, concerts and other university events, and former UMS President Charles Sink raised another \$150,000 to help complete the concert hall in 1913.

The hall was designed by the Detroit firm of Albert Kahn and Assoc., which designed many notable structures, including the landmark Art Deco Fisher Building in Detroit, Michigan.

Hill Auditorium underwent a major renovation by the original architects with Quinn Evans Architects, and was closed for 18 months. It reopened in January 2004 with restorations to the brick, stone and terracotta exterior, as well as to the interior ceiling adornments, wall painting and organ piping. Patrons also appreciated the air conditioning, elevators and new lower level lobby.

Known internationally for its superb acoustics that highlight everything from the softest high notes to the most thunderous climaxes, Hill Auditorium is known and loved throughout the musical world.

The LSO performs two free concerts each season at Hill Auditorium.

## Rehearsal and Concert Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, regular rehearsals and/or sectionals will be held on **Sunday evenings** in the Rehearsal Hall of the Earl V. Moore Building, School of Music, North Campus. Rehearsals **begin promptly at 7 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m.** Members should plan on arriving at 6:45 p.m. to allow sufficient time to check-in, warm-up and tune. Be prepared to rehearse at 7 p.m. sharp. If you do not have an MCard for the card reader, you can get one on campus with the form found here: <http://michmed.org/YIRp4>. The rehearsalschedule is as follows (skipping Halloween, Thanksgiving and Easter weekends as well as winter holidays):

Sept. 22	Jan. 19
Sept. 29	Jan. 26
Oct. 6	Feb. 2
Oct. 13	Feb. 9
Oct. 20 (Halloween costume contest)	Feb. 16
Nov. 3	Feb. 23
Nov. 10	Mar. 1
Nov. 17	Mar. 8
Nov. 24	Mar. 22
Dec. 8	Mar. 29
Dec. 15	Apr. 5
Jan. 5	<b>April 10 - Friday, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 10 - Friday, 6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>
<b>Rehearsal</b>	<b>Hill Auditorium</b>
<b>Hill Auditorium</b>	<b>April 11 - Sunday, 8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 12 - Sunday, 4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Concert</b>
<b>Concert</b>	<b>Hill Auditorium</b>
<b>Hill Auditorium</b>	

Send a message to [isoabsence@umich.edu](mailto:isoabsence@umich.edu) regarding both planned and unplanned absences. Keep in mind that after three absences for any reason, your participation in the LSO concert will be at the discretion of the music director.



All rehearsals include a 15 minute mid rehearsal break. Each week, a different section of the orchestra is asked to provide snacks for members to enjoy during this break.

Should inclement weather force the cancellation of a rehearsal (or a change in venue), we will endeavor to notify all members via email and the LSO website and Facebook page ASAP.

Special rehearsals may be called by our music director as required. Musicians are provided reminders and updates of all rehearsals, including any changes of rehearsal times or locations. It is the **responsibility of each member** to stay informed by keeping a **current email address on file** with the Orchestra Committee. Please email them your updates at [orchestra@umich.edu](mailto:orchestra@umich.edu).

## Transportation and Parking

We urge members to carpool, make use of the University of Michigan bus system or use other forms of transportation to get to and from rehearsals on North Campus.

Information on bus routes and times:  
<https://ltp.umich.edu/transit/routes.php>

Parking is available near the Earl V. Moore building. Enter through the new main entrance and turn left. The Rehearsal Hall will be on your right. On Sunday evenings, all parking in the Moore Bldg. lot is free and open to all. During business hours on weekdays, Blue, Gold and paid visitor spots are available. Bicycle, motorcycle and moped parking is available on the east and west sides of the building. Members are urged to **exercise caution** and **walk in groups** when arriving to or departing from rehearsals **during evening hours**.

# LSO Orchestra Policies

## Membership

Entry into the LSO is by audition only. The LSO gives first priority to members of the U-M life sciences community who are able to fulfill the particular position. We define life sciences community to include all the areas listed on page 1 of this handbook.

Anyone who has an affiliation with these units, whether as faculty, staff, graduate students, alumni or retirees, are welcome to audition.

Undergraduates in junior or senior standing with a declared life sciences major may also audition for the LSO. No course credit is offered for participating in the LSO.

If more players are needed for certain instrumental sections than are available from the life sciences community, those positions may be filled by non-life sciences musicians at the discretion of the LSO Music Director and the LSO Executive Committee.

Contact [lsocommittee@umich.edu](mailto:lsocommittee@umich.edu) if you have any questions.

## Music Fee

The annual LSO membership fee is \$75 for non-students, \$50 for students, due at the beginning of the season. Please pay by credit card, <http://ssc.umich.edu>, for the exact amount due. For the invoice number, put LSOMember, and for the description, put the name of the orchestra member. The credit card statement will say Authorize.Net. This form can only handle the exact membership fee, but if you'd like to give more at this time to help cover the cost of LSO concerts, go to <http://lso.med.umich.edu/giving/lso>. Donations are tax-deductible. The membership fee is not.

## Attendance

We all have busy schedules, but please respect the group by planning your schedule to allow you to attend all rehearsals and/or sectionals and to stay for the entire length of each session. If you must miss a rehearsal, either planned or unplanned, email [Isoabsence@umich.edu](mailto:Isoabsence@umich.edu) as soon as possible – no later than the Thursday before the rehearsal.

Unexcused or frequent absences are unfair to the other members of your section and are troublesome for the entire orchestra. If you miss several rehearsals with no excuse, or if you have missed three for any reason, your participation in the concert will be at the discretion of the music director.

Any member who misses a concert week rehearsal may be excused from playing in the concert at the discretion of the Music Director.

## Music and Equipment

Members will sign out a music folder at the first rehearsal. Extra music requests should be directed to Angie Noble at [angnoble761@gmail.com](mailto:angnoble761@gmail.com) **at least three days before the music is required.**

All members are expected to arrive at each rehearsal with their full set of signed out music, along with any instrumental accessories (e.g., mutes) called for in the music to be rehearsed.

Members are required to turn in their music immediately after the end of each concert performance.

## Concert Dress

Unless otherwise specified, concert dress consists of the following:

Option 1: black shoes and hose or socks, black pants or long skirt, and a black top, long-sleeved preferred.

Option 2: black shoes and socks, black tuxedo or suit, long sleeved white shirt, and a black bow tie.

No jeans, no running shoes or sandals, no T-shirts, no pants less than full length, no sleeveless or tank-style tops.

## Communication

If you have general questions or ideas for the committee and the music director, send them to [orchestra@umich.edu](mailto:orchestra@umich.edu). The email list for the entire orchestra is moderated to prevent inappropriate use – that is, only committee members and the music director may email all members at once. If you have something that you would like to suggest be shared with all members, such as information about an upcoming concert of interest, please send it to [orchestra@umich.edu](mailto:orchestra@umich.edu). Appropriate items will be shared.

LSO website: <http://lso.med.umich.edu>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/umlso](http://www.facebook.com/umlso)

LSO handbook online: <http://lso.med.umich.edu/members>

Gifts of Art website: [www.med.umich.edu/goa](http://www.med.umich.edu/goa)

## LSO Executive Committee

The LSO Committee (LSOC) is a volunteer committee made up of members of the LSO and the director of the Gifts of Art program. The committee handles much of the day to day business of running the orchestra, including:

- Schedules and oversees auditions
- Maintains the roster of LSO members and prospective members
- Schedules and publicizes all rehearsals and meetings
- Oversees member attendance and rehearsals
- Creates press releases and publicizes concerts
- Maintains website
- Selects and invites concert hosts
- Selects Spirit of the LSO award winner
- Drafts and updates orchestra policies
- Discusses member feedback and addresses any member issues or concerns

The LSOC meets mostly monthly during the academic year. Any member interested in serving on the committee or attending a meeting should email the committee at [orchestra@umich.edu](mailto:orchestra@umich.edu).

The Gifts of Art program handles the following:

- Fundraising and financing the orchestra
- Business and financial operations – budgeting; contracts; fees, sales and payments; hiring and managing staff and volunteers; and renting music, equipment and Hill Auditorium
- Moving instruments and equipment
- Hosting meetings and concerts
- Concert program
- Graphic design – concert posters, fliers, CDs, awards
- Publicity
- Handbook

## Support for the Life Sciences Orchestra

Gifts of Art raises the funds for the LSO, which are used to cover the costs of presenting two free concerts a year at U-M's acclaimed Hill Auditorium. Gifts of Art, and therefore the LSO, is not on the budget of Michigan Medicine. The LSO needs to raise a minimum of \$10,000 for each LSO concert, or a total of \$20,000 a year.

You can help support the Life Sciences Orchestra and keep the concerts happening each year. A gift to the LSO is tax-deductible.

To make a gift, please visit: <http://lso.med.umich.edu/giving/lso> or [www.med.umich.edu/goa/donations.htm](http://www.med.umich.edu/goa/donations.htm), select *Give to Areas of Highest Need*, and designate U-M Life Sciences Orchestra as the recipient of your gift. Or you may send a check, made out to the U-M Life Sciences Orchestra, to the Gifts of Art address on the back of this handbook.

## Long-Term Planning — Gifts of Art Endowment

Contributions to the Gifts of Art endowment will be matched **dollar for dollar up to \$5 million**. In addition to ensuring that Gifts of Art, the internationally recognized arts in healthcare program, will continue to revitalize and enrich the lives of patients, visitors, faculty, staff and students at Michigan Medicine, this endowment fund will also ensure that the LSO will continue on into the future. You or your business may help support Gifts of Art and the LSO by visiting [www.med.umich.edu/goa/donations.htm](http://www.med.umich.edu/goa/donations.htm) or by calling or emailing Elaine Sims at 734.936.ARTS (2787) or [esims@med.umich.edu](mailto:esims@med.umich.edu).

## **Additional Opportunities**

### **Weekly Public Performances**

We encourage LSO members to consider performing for audiences at the University Hospital as part of Gifts of Art's Thursday Noontime Concert Series. Performers include local, regional and international artists who present an array of musical styles. Performances are presented by soloists, duos, trios, sextets, chamber orchestras and other size groups. For information on current performances, go to the Performances page: <http://www.med.umich.edu/goa/performances.htm>. If interested in performing, please contact Carrie McClintock at 734.936.7960 or email [cmcclin@med.umich.edu](mailto:cmcclin@med.umich.edu).

### **Music While You Wait**

Volunteer musicians are needed to play various instruments in waiting areas of the U-M hospitals. There is a baby grand piano in the main lobby of the University Hospital. If you are interested in volunteering to perform, please contact Elaine Sims at 734.936.ARTS (2787) or email [esims@med.umich.edu](mailto:esims@med.umich.edu).

### **Concerto Competition**

The LSO will next hold a Concerto Competition in November 2020. The winner performs a solo with the orchestra for the spring concert at Hill Auditorium.

More information is available here:

<http://lso.med.umich.edu/members/concerto-competition>

## Contact Information

LSO website: <http://lso.med.umich.edu>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/umlso](http://www.facebook.com/umlso)

Gifts of Art: [www.med.umich.edu/goa](http://www.med.umich.edu/goa)

Name	Title/Role	Email	Telephone
Tal Benatar	Music Director	<a href="mailto:tbenatar@umich.edu">tbenatar@umich.edu</a>	N/A
Elaine Sims	Director Gifts of Art	<a href="mailto:esims@med.umich.edu">esims@med.umich.edu</a>	734.936.7634
William Burnham	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:w.burnham@wayne.edu">w.burnham@wayne.edu</a>	N/A
Michael DiPietro	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:dipietro@umich.edu">dipietro@umich.edu</a>	N/A
Kara Gavin	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:kegavin@umich.edu">kegavin@umich.edu</a>	734.516.5362
Ellen Guise	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:gellen@umich.edu">gellen@umich.edu</a>	702-204-9746
Ellen Janke	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:ejanke@med.umich.edu">ejanke@med.umich.edu</a>	734.239.4715
Andrew Thomas	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:ahthomas59@yahoo.com">ahthomas59@yahoo.com</a>	734-546-7115
Angela Noble	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:angnoble761@gmail.com">angnoble761@gmail.com</a>	734.678.4392
Frances Wakefield	LSO Committee	<a href="mailto:wake@umich.edu">wake@umich.edu</a>	734.622.0201

More information on LSO Committee members:  
<http://lso.med.umich.edu/about/executive-committee>

Orchestra email: [orchestra@umich.edu](mailto:orchestra@umich.edu)

LSO Executive Committee email: [lsocommittee@umich.edu](mailto:lsocommittee@umich.edu)

Absences email: [lsoabsence@umich.edu](mailto:lsoabsence@umich.edu)





## **U-M Life Sciences Orchestra**

Gifts of Art program at Michigan Medicine

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Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5470

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<http://lso.med.umich.edu>



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