

Eric Kujawsky, Music Director
Kyle Baldwin, Assistant Conductor

Violin I
 Danny Coward
Concertmaster
 Rebecca Chiu
 Greer Hoffmann
 Kathy Kaufmann
 Benjamin Ko
 Tomwmy Kuo
 Leah Lader

Violin II
 Joe Hodge * A
 Griff Derryberry
 Zixin Jiang A
 Joy Lai
 Seo "Amy" Youngyoon A

Viola
 Michael Luxton *
 Hannah Bronson
 Tanya Buxton
 Jonathan Martell A
 Michael Ward
 James Woodward

Cello
 Aaron Baca *
 Julian Schafer
 Janet Sloan

Bass
 Steve Auerbach *
 Mat Wood

Flute/Piccolo
 Lisa DiTiberio *
 Jennifer Co A
 Patricia Harrell

Oboe/English Horn
 Kurtis Kaminishi
 Michael Odynski
 Peter Stahl

Clarinets
 Joan Hebert
 Richard Steinberg
 David Miller Bass Clarinet

Bassoon
 Theo Clarke *
 Nat Bui A
 Sam Troxell A Contrabassoon

Horn
 David Dufour
 Mikv Imawaka
 Elizabeth Vieira A
 Greg White

Trumpet
 Alex Groth A
 Stephen Ruppenthal
 Dan Swinehart

Trombone
 Daven Tjaarda-Hernandez *
 Kristin Arendt
 Steve Barnhill A

Tuba
 Joel White *

Percussion
 Nathan Cornwell A
 Mark Goldstein
 Blake Hemingway
 Allan Miller
 Clara Qin
 Mattijs Van Maaren

Harp
 Brian Swager

Keyboard
 Joy Lai

* = principal
 A = Acting

40th Season Redwood Symphony

Eric Kujawsky, Music Director

Special notes:

Throughout today's concert, Maestro Kujawsky will take the opportunity to introduce the various instruments of the orchestra and to describe how they are used in our musical numbers.

Ten lucky kids will be given the opportunity to conduct a portion of the closing march. Raffle tickets will be sold at intermission.

Children accompanied by adults are admitted free to subscription concerts!

HALLOWEEN CONCERT
A COUNTRY FAIR
OCTOBER 27, 2024 AT 2:00 PM

40th Season
**Redwood
 Symphony**
 Eric K. Music Director

**WORLD
 PREMIERE**

CAÑADA COLLEGE MAIN THEATER • 4200 FARM HILL BOULEVARD, REDWOOD CITY
 ORDER TICKETS AT REDWOODSYMPHONY.ORG

John Williams
 b. 1932

Hedwig's Theme from
 Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
 (OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE HARRY POTTER THEME)
 2001

Kirke Mechem
 b. 1925

A Country Fair
 2024
 Premiere Performance of the orchestrated version
Walter the Giant Storyteller, Narrator

INTERMISSION

Modest Moussorgsky
 1839-1881
 arr. **Maurice Ravel**
 1875-1937

Three excerpts from:
 Pictures at an Exhibition
 1922
 Promenade
 Baba Yaga, The Hut on Fowl's Legs
 The Great Gate of Kiev

John Philip Sousa
 1834-1952

Washington Post March
 1889



Sunday, October 27, 2024, 2:00 P.M.
 Cañada College Main Theater, Redwood City, California

The Music Director



Redwood Symphony founder and Music Director Eric Kujawsky is recognized as one of the foremost conductors in the Bay Area. A graduate of UCLA, he established Redwood Symphony in 1985 after receiving his doctorate in conducting from Stanford University. Dr. K has performed with the Palo Alto Philharmonic, San Jose Chamber Orchestra, Aspen Music Festival, TheatreWorks in Palo Alto, and orchestras and choruses throughout the West.

Equally at home with symphony, opera, musical comedy, and jazz, Kujawsky has served as music director for shows by Sondheim, Lerner & Leowe, Cole Porter and others. With Redwood Symphony, he has conducted numerous operas, including *La Bohème*, *Carmen*, *Candide*, *Porgy and Bess*, and *Don Giovanni*.

As a conductor, Maestro Kujawsky strives for a clear, expressive, and energetic baton technique and a creative departure from accepted orthodoxies. He has conducted most of the standard orchestral repertoire, including all of Mahler's symphonies and the major works of Stravinsky, Bartók, Sibelius, and Brahms, as well as a large number of contemporary composers, including Mason Bates, John Adams, Corigliano, Daugherty, Messiaen, and Elvis Costello. His pre-concert lectures have become an important part of each performance.

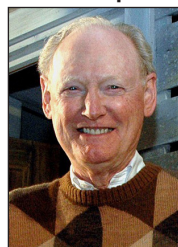
The Assistant Conductor



Kyle Baldwin, our assistant conductor, is also music director for the Rainbow Chamber Orchestra and assistant to the director for the Morrison Chamber Music Center. Baldwin is dedicated to building community by recognizing diversity, fostering inclusion and promoting excellence.

He has a diverse background in conducting that includes symphony orchestras, wind ensembles, opera, chamber ensembles, and dance ensembles. Baldwin conducted the music of Dennis Tobenski with Tobenski singing, and played percussion in the West Coast premiere of Tobenski's piece *Only Air*. He was instrumental in preparing the world premieres of Andrew Lipka's *I Am Harvey Milk* and June Bonacich's *Concerto for String Trio* written for the Little Stars Trio.

The Composer



Kirke Mechem is a prolific composer with a catalogue of over 250 works. He enjoys an international presence, as ASCAP has registered concert performances of his music in 42 countries. Born and raised in Kansas and educated at Stanford and Harvard Universities, Mechem conducted and taught at Stanford, and has served as composer-in-residence at the University of San Francisco. He spent three years in Vienna where he came to the attention of Josef Krips, who later championed the composer's symphonies as conductor of the San Francisco Symphony. In 1991, he was invited to Moscow for an all-Mechem symphonic concert by the USSR Radio-Television Orchestra.

He has been honored and recognized for his contributions from the United Nations, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Gallery, the American Choral Directors

Association, and the Music Educators National Conference. He has received a lifetime achievement award from the National Opera Association and an honorary degree of Doctor of Arts from the University of Kansas.

Mechem's compositions cover almost every genre, but vocal music is the core of his work. His opera *Tartuffe*, has been performed nearly 400 times in six countries. His extensive choral works have garnered him the title of "dean of American choral composers." The premiere of his dramatic opera based on American abolitionist *John Brown* was commissioned to celebrate Lyric Opera Kansas City's 50th anniversary. His comic opera *The Rivals* (an American update of Sheridan's classic play), premiered in 2011 by Skylight Opera.

Redwood Symphony performed Mechem's *Symphony No. 2* in 2018 and presented his recent opera *Pride and Prejudice* in concert in 2019. The composer was in attendance for both performances.

In today's World Premiere of Mechem's new orchestrated version of his suite *A Country Fair*, we explore the magical power of music to summon mental pictures that are unique to each listener.

The Narrator



Walter M. Mayes is a librarian, actor and director, a professional storyteller, a lecturer on literature for children and teens, an author, a narrator, a Jeopardy Champion (5 games in 1992), and a Master of Ceremonies. He is also the father of a grown son who often says, "As long as you can talk, Dad, you'll have work."

He is the librarian at The Girls' Middle School in Palo Alto, CA, where he has spent the last two decades sharing his lifelong passions for books and theatre. A past president of The Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of NCTE, he has served as a judge for numerous literary awards and prizes, among them the LA Times Book Prize and the Michael L. Printz Award.

As Walter the Giant Storyteller (he really is 6'8" tall!) he has traveled extensively throughout the English-speaking world, often dressed as Hagrid from *Harry Potter*. A regular feature at Potter publication parties and gatherings, Walter has appeared as Hagrid on CNN and published professionally on the topic of the Harry Potter books and their effect on children's publishing.

He is the author of *Walter the Giant Storyteller's Book of Giant Stories* and co-author of *Valerie & Walter's Best Books for Children* with Valerie Lewis of Hicklebees in San Jose.

Walter has acted and/or directed for numerous Bay Area theater companies, including City Lights, Palo Alto Players, Cabrillo Stage, Broadway by the Bay, Sunnyvale Community Players, Redwood Symphony, Foothill Music Theatre, and South Bay Musical Theatre, where he currently serves as Artistic Director.

He was Artist-in-Residence at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston in 1997, has recorded books on tape, narrated films, performed on spoken word and musical recordings, and is the inaugural recipient of the Coleen Salley Storytelling Award from Southern Mississippi University.