George Marriner Maull
Artistic Director

Oakes Center, 120 Morris Ave
Summit, NJ 07901

973-379-2200
info@DiscoveryOrchestra.org
DiscoveryOrchestra.org

Return Service Requested



NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
W. Caldwell, NJ
PERMIT NO. 55

2026–27 Board of Trustees:

Susan Head, *President*
John P. Wargacki, *Secretary*
David A. Williams, *Treasurer*
Sandra Braddy-Hall
Deborah Dokken
Nadya Geniush
Charles R. Kramer, Jr.
Kathleen M. Murphy

Staff:

George Marriner Maull, *Artistic Director*
Rick Kaller, *Executive Director*
Christopher Barrett Politan, *External Relations Director*
Christine Thorsen, *Business Manager*
Michael Avagliano, *Operations & Community Partner Coordinator*

Design by Palmer Uhl Design

Discovery Chats: George Gershwin's Three Preludes for Piano

In early 2026, we launched a new series of Discovery Chats exploring George Gershwin's *Three Preludes for Piano*. Across the series, Maestro Maull and pianist Enriqueta Somarriba guide viewers through each Prelude, culminating in a final video that brings all three works together for a complete listening experience incorporating our on-screen Listening Guide. Check them out on our YouTube channel!



Break Through Classical Music

THE DISCOVERY ORCHESTRA

George Marriner Maull, *Artistic Director*

From Our Artistic Director and Executive Director

You are receiving this Annual Newsletter approximately one month after the performance and taping of our 7th public television show, ***Discover Rhapsody in Blue***, on Sunday, June 14. Many of you were able to join us as part of the sold-out audience at Montclair State University's Kasser Theater!

It was no small undertaking. The taping involved renowned guest pianist Clayton Stephenson, 76 Discovery Orchestra musicians, 20 audio/video production team members, 15 Kasser Theater staff, 5 Discovery Orchestra staff, and 8 volunteers. The result is magical! And the best part is that ***everyone*** will get a chance to see and hear it beginning in April 2027, when the program begins national distribution through American Public Television.

As you can imagine, an event of this size and scope is not inexpensive. In addition, it is critical to our educational mission to offer all tickets at no charge. To help support our programming, we ask you to consider making a donation to the Orchestra. We also want to acknowledge all of our sponsors for helping to make ***Discover Rhapsody in Blue*** a reality.

To all of our patrons near and far—we are so grateful for your continued support and for being part of our Discovery Orchestra family. Thank you!

George Marriner Maull, *Artistic Director*
Rick Kaller, *Executive Director*







Photo Credits: ThinkCogo

2025–2026 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS



Discover Symphonic Masterworks with the Maestro: Charles Ives' *Variations on "America"*

Our audience joined Maestro George Marriner Maull for an engaging exploration of Charles Ives' Variations on "America." *The interactive event combined world-class recordings, on-screen visuals, audience participation, and the thrilling sound of a live brass quintet.*



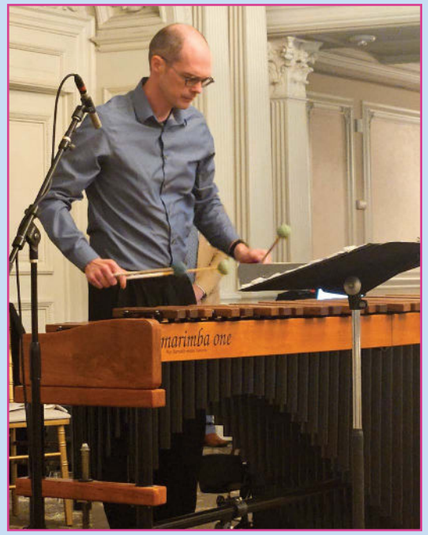
Music for the People: Discover an American Legacy 1935–1939

Our collaboration with Social Impact Studios celebrated the 90th anniversary of the Work Progress Administration's Federal Music Project, featuring an engaging afternoon of music, history, art, and hands-on learning.



New Jersey Musical Mosaic

This event celebrated the extraordinary talent of Garden State composers and performers, featuring acclaimed composer and performer Mark Miller, the Harmonium Chamber Singers led by Dr. Anne Matlack, guest artists Julian Wamble and Terrence Thornhill, and a Discovery exploration by Maestro Maull.



Patrons' Dinner Gala

A highlight of this year's gala was the presentation of the 2026 Discovery Award to Sandra Braddy-Hall, honoring her decades of advocacy and service to the Orchestra. Maestro Maull was joined by percussionist Mike Truesdell for a dynamic Discovery program featuring J.S. Bach and James P. Johnson in engaging arrangements for marimba!

Photo Credits: Amanda Brown Photography

2025–2026 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

For more than 25 years, The Discovery Orchestra has provided programs for music students and senior groups around New Jersey. We strive to reach people of all backgrounds, ages, and abilities, and seek to create "aha" moments around the concept of ***listening*** versus simply ***hearing*** music.



Rhythms for Life is a mentoring and arts program administered by the Morris County Chapter of The Links, Inc. Michael Avagliano led master classes for students at Drew University in November and in April. Michael also held Discovery programs at The Neighborhood House in Morristown in December and February.

Warrenbook Senior Center and **New Providence Senior Center** are serving seniors living in Warren Township and New Providence. In July, Michael and Rick presented Vivaldi's "Summer" from *The Four Seasons* at both centers. And in December, they explored Handel's famous "Hallelujah."





Keys 2 Success is a nonprofit organization that brings quality music education to students in the most underserved areas of Newark. Free, daily piano lessons are delivered in a group setting, where teachers work to remove barriers and support students as they develop into future leaders. In April, the students performed an arrangement of "O Fortuna" from *Carmina Burana* — and practiced their listening skills!

Jersey City PS #26, the Patricia M. Noonan Elementary School, has hosted us for four years now. Smiles, focus, and curiosity all characterize the 200+ young listeners in Grades 3-5. At our program in January, PS #26 was filled with energy and excitement as the students experienced live chamber music up-close. The Madison String Quartet engaged students with a performance of Paquito D'Rivera's *Wapango*.



Photo Credits: Christine Thorsen

Large Print

Contact our office at 973-379-2200 for accessibility information.

Oakes Center • 120 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901 • 973-379-2200 • DiscoveryOrchestra.org • info@DiscoveryOrchestra.org