



Courtney Lewis
Music Director
Haskell Endowed Chair

Matthew Marcin, CFA
Board Chair

Steven B. Libman
President & CEO

Major Gift Establishes a New Guest Artists Series Funded by the Ann and David M. Hicks Family Fund

Jacksonville, Fla. (March 19, 2026) — The Jacksonville Symphony announces that a transformational gift has been made to the Symphony by the Ann and David M. Hicks Family Fund. A portion of this gift will support the creation of a new guest artists series; The Fund provides dedicated resources to bring internationally recognized classical artists to Jacksonville for featured performances each season.

The Symphony has a strong history of presenting distinguished guest artists including Conrad Tao, Joyce Yang and countless others. The new fund ensures that this tradition continues with consistency and permanence, while strengthening the Symphony’s artistic profile and expanding access to world-class cultural experiences in Northeast Florida.

“Music has the power to inspire and connect communities,” said Ann Hicks. Ann, who has served on the Board of Bravo Vail in Colorado, added, “My exposure to outstanding world renown artists in Vail has broadened and increased my appreciation of music. I want the same experience for audiences in Jacksonville.”

The Fund enables Music Director Courtney Lewis to invite renowned soloists — many active in leading cultural centers such as Vail, Aspen and New York — to perform with the Symphony in featured programs each season.

“Ann’s vision and generosity make it possible for the Jacksonville Symphony to reach new heights,” said Lewis. “I am personally grateful for her friendship and support. This fund will bring remarkable artists to our stage and give our audience unforgettable experiences.”

President and CEO Steven B. Libman added, “Ann Hicks has been a steadfast champion of the Symphony for many years. Her commitment to our mission continues to shape the artistic growth of our organization and enrich Jacksonville’s cultural landscape. We are deeply grateful to Ann for her outstanding generosity.”

The new guest artists series underscores the Symphony's commitment to artistic excellence and reinforces Jacksonville's position as a destination for exceptional arts experiences. With season planning taking place 12 to 18 months in advance, the Symphony is already integrating it into future programming.

About the Jacksonville Symphony

The Jacksonville Symphony is Northeast Florida's leading nonprofit performing arts organization offering live performances at Jacoby Symphony Hall in the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts and other venues throughout the area. Led by President and CEO Steven B. Libman and Music Director Courtney Lewis, the Jacksonville Symphony reaches over 155,500 individuals through over 95 performances each season. In addition, the Symphony provides music instruction for youth and operates the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras. For more information about the Symphony, visit JaxSymphony.org.

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Media Contact:

Savannah Silliman

Marketing and Public Relations Manager

Jacksonville Symphony

352-207-0719

ssilliman@jaxsymphony.org