



Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra

AMERICA'S HOMETOWN ORCHESTRA SINCE 1913



2025-26 SEASON

Kara McEachern
Executive Director

Steven Karidoyanes
Music Director/Conductor

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Plymouth Philharmonic Launches an Epic, Family-Friendly Adventure with *Spaceship Earth*

Sci-fi favorites, classical masterpieces, a live storybook experience, and a community food drive unite for an out-of-this-world concert

PLYMOUTH, MA — A long time ago...in a galaxy not so far away, music became epic. On Sunday afternoon, March 8, 2026, the **Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra** invites audiences of all ages to blast off on a thrilling musical journey with *Spaceship Earth*, an imaginative, family-friendly concert filled with stellar orchestral sound, sci-fi favorites, classical masterpieces — and a special live storybook performance celebrating science, music and perseverance.

Led by conductor **Steven Karidoyanes**, *the Phil* brings the wonder of the cosmos to life. In addition to **Holst's** jubilant *Jupiter* from the grand orchestral suite, *The Planets*, the orchestra performs film music from two movies that emphasize curiosity and discovery — *Star Trek: Into Darkness*, with a dramatic film score by **Michael Giacchino**, and cherished music by **John Williams**, *Adventures on Earth* from *E.T., the Extra-Terrestrial*.

A highlight of the afternoon will be a unique "book-in-concert" presentation of *The Astronaut with a Song for the Stars: The Story of Dr. Ellen Ochoa*, by author **Julia Finley Mosca**. During this special portion of the program, Kingston sixth-grader **Annabelle Fuller** reads the story live on stage as the orchestra performs an accompaniment conceived and arranged by conductor Karidoyanes that includes music from **Beethoven's** *Moonlight Sonata*, **Debussy's** *Clair de Lune* and piano music by **Mozart**.

The book's illustrations by **Daniel Rieley** will be projected above the orchestra during the performance.

The story celebrates the remarkable life of Dr. Ellen Ochoa — astronaut, engineer, flutist, and former Director of NASA's Johnson Space Center — whose journey perfectly embodies the concert's themes of curiosity, creativity, and exploration. Dr. Ochoa, who lives in Idaho, has been informed of the performance and is expected to share a special video greeting with the audience.

The book and illustrations are used with permission from The Innovation Press.

Annabelle Fuller is a fearless and talented sixth-grade student from Kingston Intermediate School with a passion for theatre and music. Annabelle has appeared in numerous stage productions, including *The Lion King Jr.*, *Frozen Jr.*, *Shrek Jr.*, and *Willy Wonka Jr.*, and also sings in both her school chorus and the Children's Choir at St. Joseph Church in Kingston.

Families are encouraged to arrive early for a free **pre-concert instrument demonstration**, where young audience members can meet musicians up close, explore orchestral instruments, and learn how sound, storytelling, and imagination come together. The adventure continues on stage with a concert designed to ignite curiosity and wonder through music, movement, and story.

This concert is presented in partnership with **Orchestras Feeding America**. Audience members are encouraged to bring **non-perishable food donations** to support the **South Shore Community Action Council's Food Distribution Center**, helping neighbors in need while enjoying an afternoon of music.

"This concert is about curiosity, imagination, and discovery," says Karidoyanes. "It's designed to spark wonder — whether you're a lifelong music lover, a sci-fi fan, or a child hearing an orchestra live for the very first time."

Concert Details

Spaceship Earth

Sunday, March 8, 2026 | 3:00 PM

📍 *Plymouth South High School Performing Arts Center*

490 Long Pond Road, Plymouth, MA

🎫 Tickets:

- \$25 Adults
- \$12 Children (12 & under)

Bonus Experience

Pre-Concert Instrument Demonstration

🕒 2:00 PM

📍 Plymouth South High School Cafeteria

Free for ticket holders

Audience members are invited to arrive early to meet musicians up close, explore orchestral instruments, and learn how sound and storytelling come together — a favorite experience for young concertgoers and families.

With epic sound, imaginative storytelling, and a meaningful community connection, **Spaceship Earth** promises a concert experience that's truly out of this world — a close encounter of the musical kind.

About the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra

The Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra is a premier non-profit cultural institution in Massachusetts.

Dedicated to artistic excellence and community enrichment, the orchestra offers world-class performances, innovative outreach programs, and strong community partnerships. Now launching its 110th season, *the Phil's* mission is to inspire, engage, and entertain through the power of live music.

For more information, visit plymouthphil.org or call 508-746-8008.

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