



NEW HAVEN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# Program Notes for **KIDS**

November 9, 2017  
Woolsey Hall



## BEETHOVEN'S NINTH

William Boughton, conductor

Jeffrey Douma, conductor

Yale Glee Club

Jennifer Johnson Cano, mezzo-soprano

Gabriella Reyes de Ramirez, soprano

Jason Wickson, tenor

Barry L. Robinson, baritone

[www.NewHavenSymphony.org](http://www.NewHavenSymphony.org)

# Beethoven's Ninth

## *Schicksalslied- Song of Destiny, Op. 54*

Johannes Brahms

## *Alto Rhapsody, Op.53*

Johannes Brahms

## *Symphony No.9, Op. 125*

Ludwig Van Beethoven

## Welcome to the NHSO!

### Before the concert begins:

- Turn off any device that makes noise.
- Read the *Program Notes for Kids*.
- Locate the restrooms and exits.
- Look around at the architecture of the theater.
- Listen to musicians warm-up their instruments.



### During the concert:

- Clap as people enter the stage.
- Listen quietly as the orchestra plays.
- Wait for every section (called *movements*) of a piece to be played, then clap. (Hint: the conductor will turn to face you when it's time.)
- During intermission, you are free to get up.
- At the end of the concert, people may stand up to show their appreciation. This is called a *standing ovation*.



ENJOY!

Words & Music Literacy Project

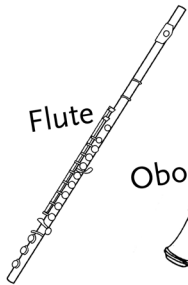
supported by:



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# Instruments of the Orchestra

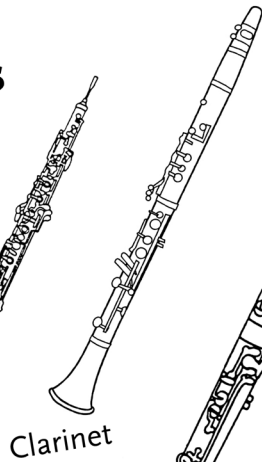
## Woodwinds



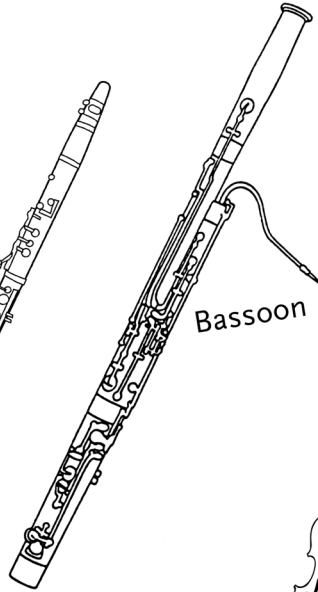
Flute



Oboe



Clarinet



Bassoon

## Strings



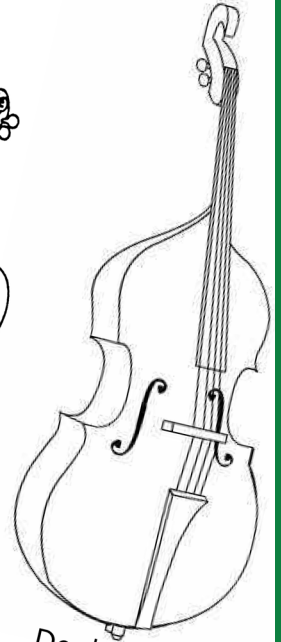
Violin



Viola



Cello

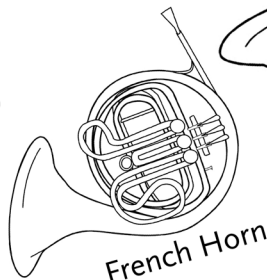


Double Bass

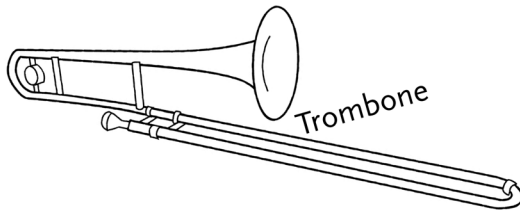
## Brass



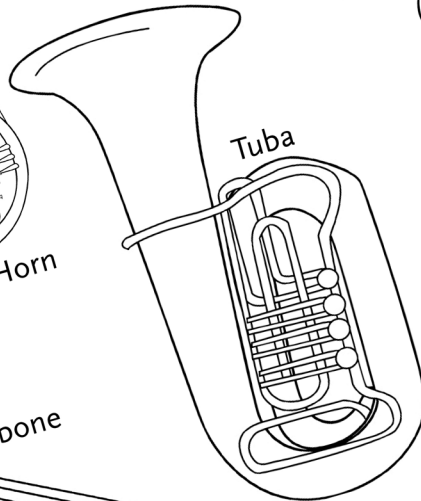
Trumpet



French Horn



Trombone



Tuba

## Percussion



Bass Drum



Snare Drum



Timpani



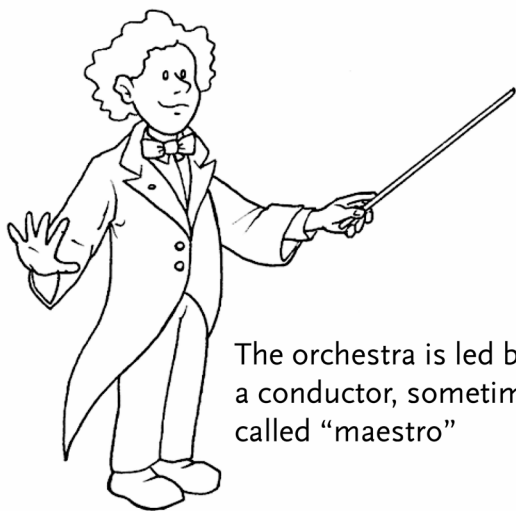
Gong



Triangle



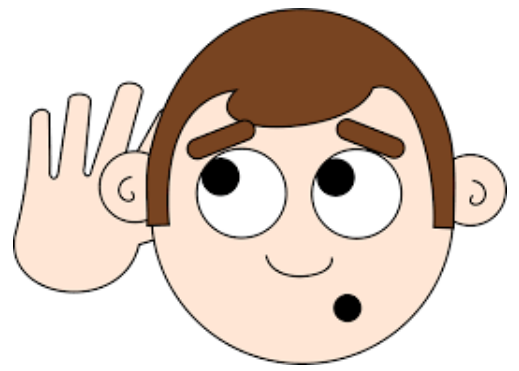
Tambourine



The orchestra is led by a conductor, sometimes called "maestro"

and more!

# Listening to JOHANNES BRAHMS



**Johannes Brahms** (Yo-hon-es Broms) was born in Hamburg, Germany, but spent most of his life in Vienna, Austria. He started playing piano when he was 7 years old. Since he came from a very musical family, his father gave him his first music lessons.

Tonight we will hear two beautiful pieces of his that feature voices. One has many voices, called a **choir**, while the other has one person singing a **solo** by herself in front of the whole orchestra with some members of a male choir as well.

Brahms became a famous composer during his career, but was always nervous about being compared to **Ludwig van Beethoven**...How do you think he would have felt about having two of his pieces being played BEFORE Beethoven's on a concert?!

## Schicksalslied (Song of Destiny)

Schicksalslied (Shick-sulls-leed) is the German word for "Song of Destiny." When someone talks about **destiny**, they're really talking about all the things that will happen in the future. The **lyrics**, or words that the singers are singing, talk about this. The piece has three **movements**, which are different sections of the work (kind of like chapters of a book):

I. Adagio: Ihr wandelt droben im Licht

**Translation:** Slowly: Ye wander gladly in light

These lyrics describe walking through a place that is like heaven. It is full of light and is beautiful.

II. Allegro: Doch uns ist gegeben

**Translation:** Quickly: To us is allotted

These lyrics are a bit more sad. They talk about how some people might not end up happy in life.

III. Adagio: Orchestral Postlude

The third movement is just the orchestra playing by itself - there is no singing in it. It should sound happy again, like how you felt listening to the first movement.

## Alto Rhapsody

Brahms took a break from writing his *Schicksalslied* to write his *Alto Rhapsody*. He wrote it for a contralto, which is the lowest voice that a woman can have.

The lyrics talk about being sad in life and wandering through it while looking for someone to help out. At the end, the voice is hoping that God might be able to help her out on the journey.



**Jennifer Johnson**

**Cano** is tonight's alto in both Brahms' *Alto Rhapsody* and Beethoven's *Symphony Number 9*.

She was born in St. Louis, Missouri, but now travels all over the country performing in different operas and concerts.

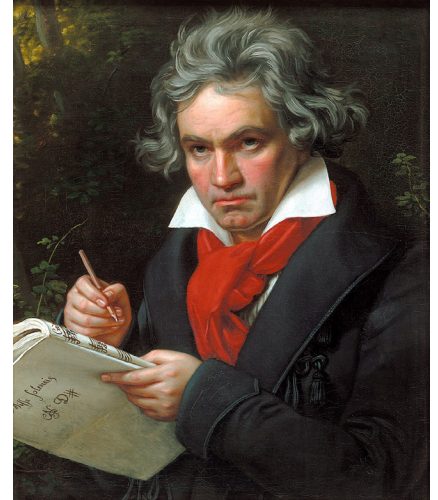


# Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

**Ludwig van Beethoven** (1770-1827)

Ludwig van Beethoven was a gifted pianist and composer who wrote many different types of music, including an opera, church masses, symphonies, and concertos. At the age of 28, he began to lose his hearing, and was almost completely deaf by age 44. Despite his hearing loss, he continued to write beautiful music that is still loved by many people today.

Tonight, you'll hear the last symphony that Beethoven ever wrote. He was fully deaf when he wrote it, so he never really got to hear what it sounded like when it was played by an orchestra! Can you imagine what it would be like to work really hard on something, but not be able to see or experience the final product?



A **symphony** is one piece of music that normally has four **movements** (kind of like chapters in a book). They usually sound different from one another: the first movement is fast, the second is slow, the third is medium/fast, and the last is fast again.

There are short pauses between movements. Usually, people don't clap then, but sometimes they get really excited and can't wait until the end of the whole piece to clap for the orchestra!

In this symphony, Beethoven plays with the order of his movements. Can you hear which two he switches around?

## Beethoven's Ninth Symphony movements:

**1. Allegro ma non troppo, un poco maestoso**  
(cheerful but not too much, a little majestic)

**2. Scherzo: Molto vivace – Presto**  
(very lively - fast)

**3. Adagio molto e cantabile**  
(very slow and in a singing style)

**4. Recitative**  
Song-like

in the  
Spotlight:

The singers will only sing in the fourth movement. The lyrics talk about how the world should all love each other and be like one big family. If that happens, the world would be full of joy. Listen for a really famous melody in this movement, which is actually called "Ode to Joy."



**The Yale Glee Club** is Yale's principal undergraduate mixed choir and oldest musical organization, currently in its 157th season! They've performed across the country in some really famous places.

# Scavenger Hunt

How many questions can you answer?

1. How many columns are there around Woolsey Hall? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many organ pipes are there behind the stage? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many bassoons are on stage? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many brass instruments are on stage? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many lights are hanging from the ceiling? \_\_\_\_\_

If you were writing a review of Jennifer Johnson Cano's performance tonight, which words would you use to describe them? Check all that apply!

- |                                       |                                  |                                      |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Captivating  | <input type="checkbox"/> Boring  | <input type="checkbox"/> Effortless  | <input type="checkbox"/> Quick   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhilarating | <input type="checkbox"/> Amazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Fascinating | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet        | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast    | <input type="checkbox"/> Strong      | <input type="checkbox"/> Slow    |

The "Ode to Joy" melody is found in the fourth movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. It is very famous - you may have heard it before! How many times do you hear it throughout the piece? Make a mark each time you hear it.

Out of all the pieces of music that you heard tonight, which one is your favorite? Why?

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# Concert Review

Write about your experience at the concert tonight.

Who did you see? What did you hear?

What did you think about the music and the experience?

What would you like to tell the Maestro and the musicians?

We would love to know what you think!  
Scan or copy this page and send it to us:

Education Department  
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4 Hamilton Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
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## KidTix

**Did  
You  
Know?**

**Frontier**  
COMMUNICATIONS

### **Kids go FREE to ALL NHSO concerts!**

The NHSO offers free KidTix for children age 17 and under with the purchase of an adult ticket. Additional child tickets available for \$10 each. KidTix must be purchased by phone by calling the NHSO box office at 203.865.0831 x20.



## Family Concert Series:

### “THE SYMPHONY GOES TO THE ZOO!”

The NHSO Family Concert Series provides fun, interactive concerts for students ages 3-9 to meet the instruments of the orchestra. These concerts will be held from January - March at Davis Street School in New Haven and Shelton Intermediate School.

Before each concert, the NHSO offers an Instrument Petting Zoo where children can tap, tickle, and toot real orchestral instruments before the performance. Following the concert, families are invited to stay for a healthy snack. New Haven Reads provides free children's books for everyone who attends the concert. Attendance is FREE but donations are welcome!

**BABAR THE ELEPHANT**  
Piano music with special guest Michael Boudewyns of Really Inventive Stuff

**THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE**  
Brass quintet with a special appearance from the Beardsley Zoo.

**THE CAT IN THE HAT**  
Piano, violin, and cello with local storyteller Tom Lee.

*Visit [NewHavenSymphony.org/Family](http://NewHavenSymphony.org/Family) to learn more.*



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