

Artistic Mission

Oakland East Bay Symphony (OEBS) is as a regional orchestra serving the diverse population of Oakland and the East Bay. The Symphony has gained regional and national recognition for its unique convergence of artistic excellence and community service.

OEBS aim to make classical music accessible, particularly to those individuals in the community who might otherwise never hear live symphonic music.

In the pursuit of our mission, we have established the following goals:

- 1) To present live professional symphonic and collaborative artistic performances to diverse audiences in Oakland and East Bay communities;
- 2) To serve as a community resource, offering education, performances and outreach to schools and the community, introducing new audiences of adults and children to symphonic music;
- 3) To help ensure the future of symphonic music through the commission and performance of works by contemporary American composers;
- 4) To provide leadership in the artistic community by fostering unity, collaboration and co-creation among Oakland and East Bay arts organizations.

Under the artistic leadership of Maestro Morgan, the Symphony reaches over 75,000 children and adults annually, with more than 35% of the operating budget dedicated to education and outreach programs. These programs include Young Peoples Concerts, Ensembles in the Schools, School Visits by Michael Morgan, Young Artist Competition and Free Ticket Distribution. A major accomplishment was the implementation of the MUSic for Excellence Program (MUSE) in 1998-99, which provides comprehensive instrumental music instruction in grades K-12. MUSE currently serves 3,000 students in 18 Oakland public schools.

To help develop the arts, Oakland East Bay Symphony fosters collaborations with local arts organizations from children's choruses to jazz ensembles to the Oakland Ballet. OEBS showcases new American works in performance and encourage young artists. In our efforts to support the future of symphonic music, we formed a multi-year partnership with The James Irvine Foundation in 1998 to initiate the Irvine Commissioning Project - a commissioning and performance program for new symphonic works by living American composers.