



Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

2121 Eisenhower Ave., Suite 608
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-548-0885 (phone) 703-548-0985 (fax)
www.alexsym.org



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Contact: Adrien Finlay, finlay@alexsym.org, 703-548-0885
Karyn Garvin, garvin@alexsym.org, 703-548-0885

*"I sat up and took notice of the incredible sound I heard on the stage.
The musicians and Maestro Kluge were as one."*

—ASO patron Fred Cohrs

Charlie Parker and Strings!

Symphonica Nova of the ASO continues its Jazz Series with Hammond Middle School's Vaughn Ambrose

Alexandria, VA – Saxophone legend Charlie "Bird" Parker's ambition to record popular standards with a string orchestra came to fruition after World War II when he recorded the album *Charlie Parker with Strings* with help from famous jazz producer Norman Gantz. On April 2, **Symphonica Nova of the ASO** brings this legacy to Northern Virginia: Charlie Parker's commissions of jazz and pop hit arrangements from his colleagues for himself and orchestra, featuring local favorite **Vaughn Ambrose** on saxophone.

The ASO is excited to welcome back **Mr. Ambrose as a soloist** after his successful conducting debut with the orchestra at last year's ASO Children's Festival under the new Symphonica Nova series. He is currently **Director of Bands at Francis C. Hammond Middle School in Alexandria**, teaching hundreds of students each year in the 6th, 7th and 8th grade symphonic, marching, and jazz bands. In addition to teaching, he leads his own jazz ensemble in the D.C. metro area and has performed with such famed artists as the **Temptations, Lou Rawls, Aretha Franklin, and Gladys Knight**. In March of 2009, he participated in a six-week long **U.S. State Department tour to the Middle East**, performing and lecturing in Afghanistan, Armenia, Iraq, and Lebanon.

Enjoy an evening of Duke's *April in Paris*, Gershwin's *Summertime*, and works by Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers, and Arthur Schwartz as Symphonica Nova of the ASO continues the second year of its Jazz Series at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, part of the new **Artisphere** center, in partnership with Arlington Cultural Affairs. The performance takes place on Saturday, April 2 at 8:00 p.m. For tickets and information, please www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885.

Symphonica Nova of the ASO is the name being used by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra for its 2010-2011 performances at Artisphere. The ASO intends to phase this new name into its operations as it captures what the ASO is all about – inspirational performances, new experiences, and programming across the artistic disciplines. Look for more Symphonica Nova in 2011-2012.

Symphonica Nova of the ASO presents *Charlie Parker and Strings!*

Saturday, April 2th, 8:00 p.m.

Kim Allen Kluge, conductor

Vaughn Ambrose, saxophone

Program to include Duke Ellington's *April in Paris*, George Gershwin's *Summertime*, and works by Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers, and Arthur Schwartz.

Tickets: **Youth tickets (up to age 18) always \$5**; \$10 student, \$15 senior, \$20 adult.

Spectrum Theatre at Artisphere

1611 N. Kent St.

Arlington, VA 22009

2 blocks from Rosslyn metro. Free garage parking.

Call (703) 548-0885 or visit www.alexsym.org for tickets and information. Press tickets available upon request.

Northern Virginia's premiere fully professional orchestra, the **Alexandria Symphony Orchestra** was founded in 1954 and has established a reputation for thematic and inter-arts programming that features a mix of classical and contemporary music. The ASO's move in 2002 to the critically acclaimed Schlesinger Center established its reach and reputation as one of the region's leading arts institutions. Under the baton of Music Director Kim Allen Kluge, the Symphony has distinguished itself through powerful performances marked by poetry and vision.

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