



OMAHA
SYMPHONY

Ankush Kumar Bahl, Music Director

program notes

2022/23 SEASON

The Temptations

Saturday, April 22, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 23, 2023, at 2 p.m.

Holland Performing Arts Center

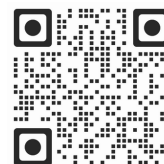
Ernest Richardson, conductor | Thomas Campbell, conductor

Selections to be announced from stage.

This printed program is a condensed version.

For more info about the orchestra, guest artists, and the full program notes, download the Omaha Symphony app or scan this QR code with your mobile device.

*program subject to change



Ernest Richardson, Principal Pops Conductor

Ernest Richardson is the principal pops conductor and resident conductor of the Omaha Symphony. Since 1993, he has been integral in the development of the Symphony's vaunted education and community engagement programs, in addition to his artistic leadership in the creation and curation of the successful Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks, and Movies Series. Richardson's innovation can be especially seen in the Symphony's Choral Collaborative, Celebrate Creativity, and Mission: Imagination programs, which remain mainstays of the organization's season.

In addition to his post in Omaha, Richardson holds the position of music director and principal conductor of the Steamboat Symphony Orchestra in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. During his tenure, the organization has grown from a community orchestra to a resident professional orchestra, attracting the finest musicians from the Front Range of Colorado. He is also the founding artistic director and CEO of the Rocky Mountain Summer Conservatory.

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Featured Artists



The Temptations

The Temptations, often referred to as American Music Royalty, are world-renowned superstars of entertainment, revered for their phenomenal catalog of music and prolific career. The group celebrated their 60th Anniversary through 2022, marking this milestone by releasing a brand-new album, *Temptations 60*, with nearly all-original songs, plus a tour throughout the U.S and abroad. Dr. Otis Williams, the sole surviving original member of The Temptations, turned 80 on October 30 of 2021.

Ranked #1 in *Billboard* magazine's most recent list of the "Greatest R&B/Hip-Hop Artists of All Time," The Temptations also appear in the magazine's 125th Anniversary list of the "125 Greatest of All Time Artists." In addition, *Rolling Stone* magazine named the group among the "100 Greatest Artists of All Time." In September of 2020, the editors of *Rolling Stone* commented that The Temptations are "Indisputably the greatest black vocal group of the Modern Era..." and listed the group's *Anthology* album among the "500 Greatest Albums of All Time." The *Anthology* album has appeared in all three of *Rolling Stone*'s 500 Greatest Albums lists.

The Temptations' heritage, influence, and contributions to not only American culture and African American communities but also to the global music landscape are monumental. The influence that The Temptations had on mainstream and global artists such as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and others, is undeniable.

The group's popularity is ever-increasing, and they are one of the most iconic, bestselling brands in the entertainment world today. While the group has evolved over the years, Dr. Otis Williams has continued to lead the group and carry the torch forward for the next generation of Temptations fans. The Temptations have been the subject of a smash hit Broadway musical, *Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of The Temptations*, which opened on Broadway at the Imperial Theatre on March 21, 2019. The musical received 12 Tony nominations and won the Tony Award for Best Choreography at the 73rd Tony Awards at Radio City Music Hall in New York City on June 10, 2019. It captivated thousands of theatergoers during sold-out performances on Broadway. By year end of 2019, *Ain't Too Proud* had broken the house record at the Imperial Theatre for a second time. The week ending December 29, the musical had the highest grossing week in the history of the Imperial Theatre. In June of 2019, the show's producers announced plans for a national touring production of the musical to travel to more than 50 cities, in 100+ weeks. The national touring production of the musical kicked off their tour in December 2021 at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Also in 2019, the original cast album for the smash hit Broadway musical *Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of The Temptations* was nominated for a Grammy® Award in the "Best Musical Theater Album" category.