



FERNANDA LASTRA

CONDUCTOR

Born in Mar del Plata, Argentina, Fernanda Lastra is a passionate and creative conductor recognized for her artistic leadership and engaging performances. Committed to featuring diverse voices in concert halls, Lastra is dedicated to creating well-balanced programs that enhance the overall concert experience, as she believes in the power of music to unite, heal, and develop emotional intelligence.

Fernanda Lastra holds the position of Assistant Conductor for the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra under the mentorship of JoAnn Falletta, concluding her fellowship term in August 2025. In this role Lastra serves as an assistant/cover conductor for the entire BPO season, as well as the main conductor for the Family Kids series, Music for Youth concerts and community engagement performances. She also designs engaging and innovative concert programs as part of the BPO's artistic team, and actively contributes with the BPO's music education committee and Diversity Council, among other duties. **In May 2025, Lastra made her debut with the Buffalo Philharmonic in the classic series** featuring pianist Avery Gagliano.

As an assistant and cover conductor, Lastra had worked alongside esteemed conductors such as JoAnn Falletta, Edward Gardner, Giancarlo Guerrero, Maximiano Valdés, and Joseph Caballé-Domenech, among others. Apart from her role with the Buffalo Philharmonic, Lastra regularly collaborates as a guest conductor with professional and youth orchestras. Past engagements involved collaborations with The Syracuse Orchestra, the Pennsylvania Chamber Orchestra, and the South Bend Symphony Orchestra. Upcoming performances include engagements with the **Great Falls Symphony**, the **Portland Symphony Orchestra** and the **Tucson Symphony Orchestra**.

2024 CAREER ADVANCE
AWARD RECIPIENT

Women in Classical Music Symposium
Dallas Symphony Orchestra

PORTFOLIO Highlights



MENDELSSOHN Symphony N.4 "Italian" mov. I (11')

[Access video](#)

SAINT-SAENS Piano Concerto No.5 "Egyptian," mov. I (11')

[Access video](#)

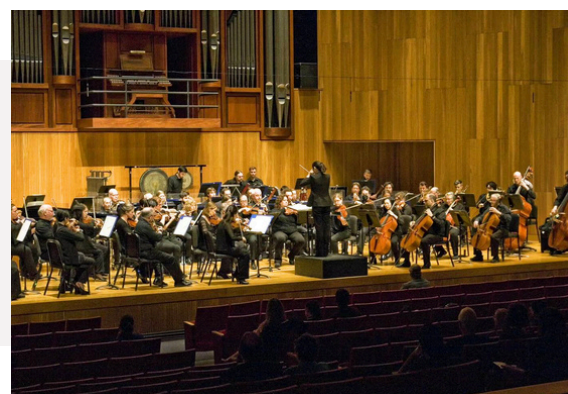


TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No.2, mov. IV (11')

[Access video](#)

WILLIAMS, Amy "Flood Lines" (6')

[Access video](#)



ENGAGEMENTS

UPCOMING

Nov. 8 | **Great Falls Symphony**

Guest Conductor, MD Candidate

Jan 11 | **South Bend Symphony Orchestra**

Guest Conductor

Feb 1 | **Portland Symphony Orchestra**

Guest Conductor, Family Concert

March 8 | **Tucson Symphony Orchestra**

Cover conductor



PAST

May 16 | **Minnesota Orchestra**

Cover conductor

May 10 & 11 | **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra**

Conductor - Berlioz, Saint-Saëns, Mendelssohn

May 4 | **The Syracuse Orchestra**

Guest Conductor - Soro, Ponce, Piazzolla, Dvorak



March 28 | **Portland Symphony Orchestra**

Cover Conductor



SAMPLE PROGRAMS

CLASSIC

"From River to River: Symphonic Streams"

ELLINGTON, Giggling Rapids (from "The River") orch. by Ron Collier (4')

SMETANA, Má Vlast, No. 2. Vltava (The Moldau) (12')

RIPPER, Rio São Francisco, Imagem Sinfônica (9')

Intermission

SCHUMANN, Symphony No.3, op. 97, "Rhenish"

"Celebrating the Americas"

FRANK, Apu, Tone Poem (13')

FREIBERG, Latin American Chronicles, clarinet concerto (20')

Intermission

DVOŘÁK, Symphony No.9 "From the New World" (50')

FAMILY

"Stories, Tales and Adventures"

OFFENBACH, Orpheus in the Underworld - Galop (2')

TCHAIKOVSKY, Sleepy Beauty Suite, Waltz (5')

KAHLER, Elyse, Lullaby for Orchestra (3')

GRIEG, Suite No. 1, Op. 46, In the Hall of the Mountain King (4')

MOZART, The Marriage of Figaro Overture (4')

SCHIFFRIN, Mission Impossible Theme (Custer arr.) (3')

LOPEZ-KROGSTAD, Music from Frozen (7')

ROSSINI, William Tell Overture. Finale (2')

SPECIAL

Hispanic Heritage Month

(Spain) **DE FALLA**, La Vida Breve: Spanish Dance No. 1 (arr Chapelier) (4')

(Cuba) **WHITE**, La Bella Cubana (strings) (4')

(Colombia) **MEJIA**, Aquarela for orchestra (3')

(Venezuela) **ROMERO**, Fuga con Pajarillo (7')

(Argentina) **GARDELIN**, (Argentina) "Furtivo" (tango) (4')

(Peru) **GRANDA**, La Flor de la Canela (3')

(Mexico) **MARQUEZ**, Danzon No.2 (9')

(Puerto Rico) **HERNANDEZ**, El Cumbanchero (4')

EXPERIENCE

Concerts created and/or conducted at the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

2022 - 23

Hispanic Heritage Month Concert

Music for Youth, 1-4 Grade, "Musical Passport" – 10-15 concerts

Music for Youth, 5-8 Grade, "Our Musical Heritage" – 10-15 concerts

Kids series: "Symphonic Spooktacular"

Kids series: "Jingle Bell Jam"

Holiday Pops concert

"Buffalo West Side Connection" Concert

Kids series: "Wild Symphony" by Dan Brown

Side by Side with the Buffalo Academy for Performing Arts

"June in Buffalo" New Music Festival concert

Summer season: 7 outdoor concerts

2023 - 24

BPO Pops series: Aida Cuevas

Music for Youth, 1-4 Grade, "The orchestra's secret formula" – 10-15 concerts

Music for Youth, 5-8 Grade, "What inspires a composer?" – 10-15 concerts

Kids series: "Symphonic Spooktacular"

Pops series: Neil Diamond by Jay White

Kids series: "Jingle Bell Jam"

"Buffalo West Side Connection" Concert

Kids series: "Kids sing"

Side by Side with Great Buffalo Youth Orchestra

Side by side with Buffalo Academy for Performing Arts

BPO special: "Symphony of Illusions" with Michael Grandinetti

"June in Buffalo" New Music Festival concert

Summer season: 7 outdoor concerts

2024 - 25

Music for Youth, 1-4 Grade, "Low bridge, everybody down" – 10-15 concerts

Music for Youth, 5-8 Grade, "Erie Canal 200 anniversary" – 10-15 concerts

Kids series: "Symphonic Spooktacular"

Kids series: "Jingle Bell Jam"

BPO special: "Troup Vertigo"

Side by Side with Great Buffalo Youth Orchestra

Side by side with Buffalo Academy for Performing Arts

"Buffalo West Side Connection" Concert

Kids series: "Carnival of the Animals"

Classics series: "Mendelssohn's Italian"

Summer season: 9 outdoor concerts

CONTACT



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