



SUNDAY. MAY 4. 2PM

Brian Dollinger, Artistic Director & Conductor

KAHILU THEATRE



VIEW FULL PROGRAM ONLINE



2024/25 SEASON

This concert is made possible with support from Annie & Tomas Hill, and Paul & Ursula Koehler.

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FROM THE MAESTRO



Aloha and welcome to our 2025 POPS! concert!

While I love all sorts of symphonic music spanning hundreds of years and countless masterpieces, our annual POPS! concert is one I always look forward to. Sharing music from some of my favorite movies and television shows with you is truly a thrill. Every tune, medley, and song could inspire a talk story that lasts for hours!

These concerts are also a wonderful way to introduce new audience members to live symphonic music through familiar melodies that "everyone will know!" Having that sense of recognition gives newcomers the confidence to experience what so many of us already love about the concert hall.

Today's performance spans a variety of cinematic themes and holds a special treat for Star Wars fans. The iconic line "May the Force be with you" has transformed into "May the Fourth be with you," making today a celebration of that beloved galaxy far, far away. I've been a fan since the first film debuted almost 50 years ago—and it's been a joy sharing that passion with my own children. George Lucas and John Williams truly captured lightning in a bottle (many bottles)!

One tradition I'm excited to bring from my mainland pops concerts is not listing the repertoire in the program. "WHAT?!?!" you might say! It's so much fun to hear the spontaneous reactions from the audience as each new piece is revealed. I hope today brings you a few delightful surprises.

The POPS! concert is always a bit bittersweet. We have an awesome program planned for you today, but it also marks the close of another wonderful Kamuela Philharmonic season. We've loved performing for you, and all of us on stage are already looking forward to diving into next season's music and performances with you and your 'ohana.

Mahalo nui loa for being here today, for supporting the Kamuela Philharmonic, and for supporting me as your humble conductor.

Now sit back, relax, and let's embark on a wondrous symphonic journey together!

Brian Dollinger

Artistic Director and Conductor Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra

EXPLORE THE FULL PROGRAM ONLINE

This print program is a condensed version.

Scan the QR code to view the **full musician roster**, **expanded conductor bio**, and **additional digital content** for today's concert.









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ABOUT OUR MAESTRO



Photo by Steven Roby

In 2016, Maestro Dollinger was appointed the Artistic Director & Conductor for the Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra. His charisma, energy, technical clarity, and deep musical passion continues to inspire musicians and audiences alike across the country. He continues into his 21st season as the Conductor and Music Director of the Muscatine Symphony Orchestra as well as celebrating his 18th season with the Clinton Symphony Orchestra as their Music Director & Conductor.

Whether on the concert stage performing masterworks or pops, or in the orchestra pit conducting opera and ballet, his personable approach combined with his clear conducting technique have come together to create a

fun, inviting, energetic, and enriching atmosphere at each rehearsal and performance. He has conducted a variety of orchestras including the Georgia Symphony Orchestra, Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra, Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra, Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, Marion Philharmonic Orchestra, Idaho Falls Symphony Orchestra, Muncie Symphony Orchestra, and Southwest Symphony Orchestra in Illinois.

Maestro Dollinger has collaborated with various dance companies in standard and non-traditional performances. He has worked with small, local studios as well as larger regional companies like Peoria Ballet, Gateway Ballet, and the Quad Cities Ballet. Since his appointment to the Philharmonic he has joined forces with musicians and dancers from the West Hawai'i Dance Theatre and Academy in performances of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. He has been appointed the Music Director & Conductor for the WHDT ballet orchestra.

Among his many interests, conducting staged performances of opera and musicals remains extra special for him. He has conducted many staged performances including *Die Fledermaus, The Tenderland, Showboat, My Fair Lady, Gianni Schicci,* and many more.

Maestro Dollinger is a frequent conductor and clinician for various youth string festivals, competitions, and workshops. When Mr. Dollinger is on Hawai'i Island, he enjoys working with student ensembles as well as speaking to the youngest students about music. He was the guest conductor for the Illinois Music Educator's District Festival held on the campus of Western Illinois University in November of 2018 and 2019. He conducted the IMEA District #3 Festival in 2019 as well. In March of 2019, he was the featured wind ensemble conductor at the NUIC Music Conference Festival. During the '16-17 season, Maestro Dollinger was the guest conductor at the Iowa Junior Honors Festival held in Ames, Iowa. He has been invited on numerous occasions to conduct at Illinois Music Educators Association events, including

ABOUT OUR MAESTRO

all-day festivals rehearsing, teaching, mentoring, and performing with some of the state's best high school symphonic musicians. He was the conductor of the 2014 Metro Orchestra Festival in Cedar Rapids (IA) and was a guest clinician at the Jefferson Orchestra Invitational in 2016, which was also held in Cedar Rapids. Mr. Dollinger has been a recurrent guest conductor with the Northwest Indiana Youth Symphony Orchestra.

When here on Hawai'i Island, Maestro Dollinger makes it a point to work with young musicians in their school environments. He has spent countless hours with music students all across the island as well as with young elementary school students. Mr. Dollinger has partnered with the Kailua-Kona Public Library and presented a wide variety of music sessions with children of all ages.

During his studies, he has studied with many prestigious pedagogues. Larry Rachleff, Adrian Gnam, Leonid Korchmar, Manual Alvarez, and Glenn Block are but a few of his mentors. Mr. Dollinger has also been awarded a number of academic honors including induction into the Phi Kappa Lambda Honor Society.

Maestro Dollinger has a unique perspective for a symphony orchestra conductor having served in the United States Marine Corps where he was a part of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. During his time in the Marine Corps, he also took part in numerous humanitarian joint task force missions to impoverished Central American countries.

For more information about Maestro, visit briandollinger.com.



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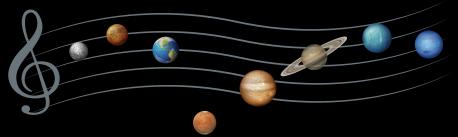
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