MICHAEL STERN, Music Director

Music Director Michael Stern has embarked on his second decade with the Kansas City Symphony, hailed for its remarkable artistic growth and development since his tenure began. Stern and the orchestra, joined by an amazing collection of guest artists, have performed to critical acclaim and sold-out audiences in their world-class performance home, Helzberg Hall at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.

Stern also serves as the founding artistic director and principal conductor of the IRIS Orchestra in Germantown, Tenn. Other positions include a tenure as the chief conductor of Germany’s Saarbrücken Radio Symphony Orchestra (the first American chief conductor in the orchestra’s history), as permanent guest conductor of the Orchestre National de Lyon in France, a position which he held for five years, and a stint as the principal guest conductor of the Orchestre National de Lille, France. He has led orchestras throughout North America, Europe and Asia.

Stern received his music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and is a 1981 graduate of Harvard University, where he earned a degree in American history. He is the son of renowned violinist Isaac Stern.

ALEXANDER FITERSTEIN, clarinetist

Clarinetist Alexander Fiterstein, considered one of today’s most exceptional artists, has performed in recital and with distinguished orchestras and chamber music ensembles throughout the world. He won First Prize at the Carl Nielsen International Clarinet Competition in 2001 and a prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2009.

As a soloist he has appeared with the Belgrade Philharmonic, Czech and Israel Chamber Orchestras, Danish National Radio Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic, Jerusalem Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Vienna Chamber Orchestra and Orchestra of St. Luke’s at Lincoln Center among others. He has performed in recital on the "Music at the Supreme Court" Series, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, Kennedy Center, National Gallery of Art, the Louvre in Paris, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Tel Aviv Museum and NYC’s 92nd Street Y. Mr. Fiterstein has a prolific recording career and has worked with composers John Corigliano and Osvaldo Golijov and had pieces written for him by Samuel Adler and Mason Bates, among others.

Mr. Fiterstein was born in Belarus and immigrated to Israel at age of two with his family. He graduated from the Juilliard School and is now the clarinet professor at the University of Minnesota, living in Minneapolis with his wife and two children. He enjoys performing Jewish music and is the founder of the Zimroa Project.
On this special occasion, congratulations! Thank you Blanche and Neil Sosland and Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy for all you do to support our community.

TRUMPETS
Julian Kaplan*, Principal
James B. and Annabel Nutter Chair
Philip Clark, Associate Principal
Brian Rood

TROMBONES
Roger Oyster, Principal
Porter Wyatt Henderson, Associate Principal
Adam Rainey

BASS TROMBONE
Adam Rainey

TUBA
Steven Seward, Principal

TIMPANI
Timothy Jepson, Principal

PERCUSSION
Christopher McLaurin, Principal
Joseph Petrasek, Associate Principal

HARP
Deborah Wells Clark, Principal

LIBRARIANS
Elena Lence Talley, Principal
Fabrice Curtis

DOUBLE BASSES
Jeffrey Kall, Principal
Evan Hollin, Associate Principal
Owen Levine* Δ
Brandon Mason^ Δ
Richard Ryan
Keith Wymer Δ

FLUTES
Michael Gordon, Principal
Shannon Finney, Associate Principal
Diane Schick

OBUES
Kristina Fulton, Principal
Shirley Bush Helzberg Chair
Adam DeSorgo^ Δ
Acting Associate Principal
Barbara Bishopt, Associate Principal
Kenneth Lawrence

ENGLISH HORN
Kenneth Lawrence

CLARINETs
Raymond Santos, Principal
Gabriel Campos Zamora, Associate Principal
John Klinghammer Δ

E-FLAT CLARINET
Gabriel Campos Zamora

BASS CLARINET
John Klinghammer Δ

BASSOONS
Ann Bilderback, Principal
Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen Chair
Thomas DeWitt, Associate Principal
Marita Abner

CONTRABASSOON
Thomas DeWitt

HORNs
Alberto Suarez, Principal
Landon and Sarah Rowland Chair
David Sullivan, Associate Principal
Elizabeth Gray
David Gamble
Stephan Mullen, Associate Principal Emeritus

* Non-Rotating Musician
^ New Member
Δ On Leave of Absence
Δ One-Year Member