



The Philadelphia Orchestra 260 South Broad Street, 16th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102, Phone: 215.893.1900 [www.philorch.org](http://www.philorch.org)

Dear School Concert Group Leader,

Thank you for reserving your seats for a Philadelphia Orchestra School Concert Elements of the Earth: A Musical Discovery. This interactive program blends classical music, live theater, and scientific imagery in an innovative concert experience designed to entertain, inspire, and educate, written and directed by award-winning dramatist Didi Balle. Students will hear the symphonic sounds of our vibrant planet as our world-renowned musicians are transformed into the running river of Smetana's "The Moldau," the tumultuous tempest in Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, and more.

Enclosed you will find supplemental materials designed to enhance your classroom preparation and instruction. We hope you find these resources useful as you prepare your students to attend this year's program. Philadelphia Orchestra School Concerts have been commended by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as a model program in alignment with the state's Standards Aligned System.

Included in this packet:

- *Inside the Music*, the accompanying curriculum guide that provides detailed background information about the music as well as lessons and activities connected to national and state academic standards
- iTunes gift certificate with a playlist of music from the program and step-by-step download instructions
- Inclement weather policy

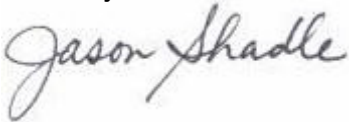
Visit our online Teacher Resources site at [www.philorch.org/resources](http://www.philorch.org/resources) for materials that will help you plan your visit to the Kimmel Center or Academy of Music. There you will find important information for the group leader(s) and bus driver(s), a guide for audience behavior, directions to the concert hall, and more.

**Approximately two weeks before the School Concert, you will receive additional information about the day of the performance**, including your seating assignment, a group ticket sign, final head count sign, and signs for your buses. Please plan to arrive 30-35 minutes before the start of the School Concert. To ensure you're able to locate your bus after the concert, we encourage you to exchange names and cell phone numbers with your bus driver(s). Philadelphia Orchestra staff cannot be responsible for locating your bus after the concert.

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We want to make your experience as smooth, seamless, and enjoyable as possible. Contact [school\\_concerts@philorch.org](mailto:school_concerts@philorch.org) for questions about your seat reservations or payment. And, for questions about supplemental materials, teacher workshops, or scheduling a visit with a knowledgeable Orchestra Docent, send an email to [education@philorch.org](mailto:education@philorch.org). The Philadelphia Orchestra believes in the power of music to transform lives. Thank you for sharing that vision with us and we look forward to seeing you and your students at the School Concert!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Shadle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Jason Shadle  
Manager, Education and Community Partnerships