



**Tanglewood
Learning Institute**

2025-26 Season

For immediate release:
Thursday, April 30 at 12 p.m.

**Tanglewood Learning Institute Closes Spring Season
with *The Birch Festival — When Voices Meet*, Featuring
the Borromeo String Quartet, Pianist Llewellyn
Sánchez-Werner, and Violinist Yevgeny Kutik
(Sat., May 9, 3 p.m.)**

**Program celebrates musical collaboration works by Florence
Price, Louis Moreau Gottschalk, and Ernest Chausson**

**And the Massachusetts premiere of Jonathan Leshnoff's
Scattered Light, based on George Washington's 1790 letter to
the Hebrew Congregation of Newport and featuring
Massachusetts Poet Laureate Regie Gibson**

Tickets available at tanglewood.org

[Click here](#) for artist photos and bios



Tanglewood Learning Institute concludes its most ambitious spring season yet with ***TLI Presents: The Birch Festival — When Voices Meet***, a concert celebrating how distinct voices learn to coexist, collaborate, and build something shared (Sat., May 9, 3 p.m.). Featuring the **Borromeo String Quartet**, pianist **Llewellyn Sánchez-Werner**, and violinist **Yevgeny Kutik** in both solo and chamber configurations, *When Voices Meet* offers an afternoon of music that celebrates difference not as division, but as the raw material of community. Tickets are available at tanglewood.org for the afternoon concert; a free open dress rehearsal at 10:30 a.m. the same morning is sold out.

The program begins with pianist **Llewellyn Sánchez-Werner**, a Gilmore Young Artist and first prize winner of the Concert Artists Guild International Competition, performing Louis Moreau Gottschalk's virtuosic and rhythmic solo *The Banjo*. Gottschalk, a virtuoso pianist from New Orleans with a Creole mother and a Jewish father, helped shape an early American concert voice. The **Borromeo String Quartet**, Ensemble-in-Residence at New England Conservatory of Music, then offers trailblazing African-American composer Florence Price's *Five Folk Songs in Counterpoint*, which draws from and transforms spirituals from the Black American tradition.

Acclaimed violinist and Birch Festival Artistic Director **Yevgeny Kutik** joins Sánchez-Werner for the Massachusetts premiere of *Scattered Light*, a new work by Jonathan Leshnoff for violin and piano commissioned by Newport Classical. The piece is inspired by George Washington's 1790 letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, an affirmation of religious freedom that we still aspire to realize. Massachusetts Poet Laureate **Regie Gibson** will read both the letter from the Hebrew Congregation of Newport to President Washington and the president's response.

When Voices Meet culminates with all six musicians performing Ernest Chausson's monumental Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet. With its unique chamber instrumentation, the brilliant and dramatic work is itself a metaphor for community building, as individual voices trade off listening, yielding, leading, and supporting.

When Voices Meet marks TLI's first collaboration with The Birch Festival, a nonprofit which brings world-leading musicians to work with Berkshire schools, local business, and in tandem with cultural partnerships for a twice-a-year classical music festival. For more information on [The Birch Festival](#), visit their website.

Following *When Voices Meet* and the conclusion of the spring season, TLI activity resumes on Wednesday, July 1 with the first of more than 70 programs this summer. Highlights include the annual Spotlight Series, Talks and Walks led by Anthony Fogg, Audubon Tours, Focal Point photography classes, and a new course, *Arts and the Rule of Law*, led by Juilliard's Lesley Rosenthal. [Click here](#) for upcoming TLI programs.

Quote from Yevgeny Kutik, Artistic Director and co-founder of The Birch Festival:

"I'm thrilled for this spring's Birch Festival to unfold in collaboration with the Tanglewood Learning Institute. From the beginning, Birch has been about making world-class music-making inviting and accessible for the Berkshires community, and TLI feels like an especially fitting partner in that spirit. This program brings together an extraordinary group of artists and works, each with its own history, sound, and perspective, coming into conversation with one another to build something larger.

"Particularly exciting for me is the chance to give the second-ever performance of a new work by Jonathan Leshnoff, inspired by George Washington's 1790 letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport—a remarkable statement of religious

freedom and human dignity at the very beginning of American democracy. The letter's message, that this country should give 'to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance,' still feels both profound and urgent. Jonathan's piece reflects those ideals with great depth and beauty, and I'm honored that Birch and TLI can help bring that message to life through music."

Program Listing

Saturday, May 9, 3 p.m., Studio E, Linde Center for Music and Learning

TLI Presents: *The Birch Festival — When Voices Meet*

GOTTSCHALK *The Banjo*

Llewellyn Sánchez-Werner, piano

PRICE *Five Folk Songs in Counterpoint*

Borromeo String Quartet

Jonathan LESHNOFF *Scattered Light*

Yevgeny Kutik, violin

Llewellyn Sánchez-Werner, piano

Regie Gibson, narrator

CHAUSSON Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet

Borromeo String Quartet

Yevgeny Kutik, violin

Llewellyn Sánchez-Werner, piano

About the Linde Center for Music and Learning and the Tanglewood Learning Institute

The four-building Linde Center for Music and Learning opened in the summer of 2019 and serves as the home for the Tanglewood Learning Institute (TLI)—a wide-ranging enrichment and education initiative offering a variety of activities for exploration and discovery alongside Tanglewood's traditional concert schedule. The Linde Center is Tanglewood's first new performance facility since the highly acclaimed Seiji Ozawa Hall opened in 1994, and its climate-controlled studios with webcasting and broadcast capabilities provide additional concert and rehearsal space for the Tanglewood Music Center—the BSO's acclaimed summer music academy for young professional musicians—and also play an essential role in establishing Tanglewood as a multi-season facility. The Tanglewood Learning Institute has presented over 300 programs since 2019.

Press Contacts

Jan Devereux, Senior Director of Public Relations & Communications, BSO
(jdevereux@bso.org)

Matthew Erikson, Senior Publicist and Media Relations Lead
(merikson@bso.org)

Rena Cohen, Publicist (rcohen@bso.org)

More BSO News

For more news about the BSO and Boston Pops, [read our recent press releases](#) or follow us on social media.



[PRIVACY POLICY](#) [CONTACT US](#)

Tanglewood | 297 West Street | Lenox, MA 01240 | [Box Office Hours](#)

Symphony Hall | 301 Massachusetts Avenue | Boston, MA 02115 | [Box Office Hours](#)

Ticketing & Customer Service | 617.266.1200 (M-F: 10-4pm & Sat: 12:30pm-4:30pm) Service & Tickets | Subscriptions 888.266.7575

© 2007-2026 bso.org | [Terms of Use](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

To make sure our email updates are delivered to your inbox, please add mybso@bso.org to your email address book. E-mail customerservice@bso.org. This message was sent to rcohen@bso.org by Boston Symphony Orchestra, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Symphony Hall, Boston, MA 02115, United States.

[View a web copy of this email](#)

Email Marketing by ActiveCampaign