



Duke Ellington

school of the arts

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NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORMS AT DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Washington, DC—On Friday, January 11 at 2 p.m., The National Symphony Orchestra will make its premier concert appearance at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts. Ellington's full student body and 250 students from other DC public schools will attend.

The concert will feature NSO's Associate Conductor Emil de Cou and cellist Desmond Neysmith, a winner of the Sphinx Competition, in an exciting one-hour program. Musical selections include works by Tchaikovsky, Ellington, Copland and Schuman.

The Ellington School has an ongoing partnership with the John F. Kennedy for the Performing Arts. "When the NSO suggested the performance, I was incredibly excited," says Rory Pullens, Ellington's Head of School. "When an internationally acclaimed symphony visits our students, it's huge for them. These are students who aspire to be artists and performers like the ones they'll see on stage on Friday. The NSO's effort to make the arts tangible through education is critically important."

The concert is made possible by a grant from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts is an accredited college preparatory public school of the District of Columbia offering pre-professional training in museum studies, literary media, visual arts, dance, theater, technical theater, instrumental and vocal music. Ellington offers students an educational experience that combines both academic studies and artistic development. Our vision is to meet the needs of talented students who are considering careers in the arts by providing intensive arts instruction of the highest quality and strong academic curriculum and to prepare students for post-secondary education and/or careers in the arts. Ellington's unique partnerships with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and The George Washington University provides significant opportunities to the students, faculty, and staff.

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