Orchestra New England
Facts Sheet

Founded as the *Yale Theatre Orchestra* (at Yale University School of Music) in March 1974; name established as *Chamber Orchestra of New England* by James Sinclair and Kenneth Singleton with 30 co-operating musicians (of the Yale School of Music faculty and graduate student body) in November 1975 (incorporated as a not-for-profit 501(c)3 in August 1977).

First concerts:
- *Yale Theater Orchestra*: March 3, 1974 (Sprague Hall, Yale) New Haven (program of premieres of works of Charles Ives);
- *Chamber Orchestra of New England*: November 2, 1975 (Sprague Hall, program of Handel, Stravinsky, Babbitt, Copland and HaydnCPhyllis Curtin, soprano soloist);
- *Orchestra New England*: June ‘85

Subscription concerts began in October 1978 (Sprague Hall).

Previous concert marks reached:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Nov. 14, 1982</td>
<td>New London (Leamy Hall), Dvorak &amp; Stravinsky</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Dec. 31, 1984</td>
<td>Chapel Square Mall, <em>New Year=s Eve Ball-at-the-Mall</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>May 15, 1989</td>
<td>New York (Pierre Hotel), Broadway stars gala</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Nov. 22, 1992</td>
<td>United Church on the Green, <em>Colonial Concert XIII</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>Feb. 20, 1999</td>
<td>Battell Chapel, MozartBTorkeBStraussBHindemith</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700</td>
<td>Apr. 28, 2007</td>
<td>Battell Chapel, Mendelssohn <em>A Midsummer Night=s Dream</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>Apr. 22, 2023</td>
<td>Unitarian Society of New Haven</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Home concert halls (all New Haven):

- Sprague Hall Mar 1974 – Mar 1979 (10x)
- Shubert Theater Mar–Apr 1984 (54x)
- Palace Theater Oct 1984 – Oct 1985 (18x)
- United Church on the Green Nov 1980 – present (71x)
- Battell Chapel Feb 1986 – Mar 2019 (122x)
- Unitarian Society of NH Apr 2017 – present (9x)

No. of performances since founding – 802 (average of 20 performances per year)

No. conducted by music director James Sinclair – 728 (91%) [67 by guest conductors or jointly]

No. of Connecticut towns/cities performed in – 61
No. of states performed in – 9

No. of states broadcast in – 50

Most notable guest conductor – Aaron Copland (Jan 24, 1977)

No. of *Nutcracker Ballet* performances – 151

No. of *Nutcracker Ballet* productions – 5

No. of commercial recordings of ONE available – 6

No. of commercial recordings by other CT orchestras combined – 5

Largest single live audience – 110,000 (Stamford, July 6, 1991)

Largest TV audience – 7 million (est., PBS December 1982-85)

Most financially successful fundraiser – Garrison Keillor (Palace Theater, April 14, 1992); raised over $31,000

Most financially disastrous fundraiser – Michael Bolton (Woolsey Hall, April 22, 1994); lost over $4,000

**DISTINCTIONS:**

# First professional Connecticut orchestra to be broadcast over CT Public Radio (1978)

# "Connecticut's Best" – Connecticut Magazine 1989

# Only Connecticut orchestra on national TV (Colonial Concert, 1982-85)

# Featured orchestra for 350th celebrations of Stratford, Fairfield and Stamford

# Premiered more works of Charles Ives (26) than any orchestra in the world, ever

# Survived the Woodstock Fair, twice (1988 & 1989)

# Spectacular Viennese balls—Connecticut Savings Bank (May 16, 1981); Woolsey Hall (Dec 31, 1982)
# Five New Year's Eve “Ball at the Mall”—Chapel Square Mall (Dec 31, 1983–87)

# Annual “Colonial Concerts” in historic United Church on New Haven Green, period-costume concerts that “could have been” 200+ years ago; special guests have included George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Roger Sherman


**LOCATIONS** (and no. at each) of ONE’s performances --

In **Connecticut** (61):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ansonia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Glastonbury</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avery Point</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Goshen</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branford</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Guilford</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Simsbury</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgeport</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hamden</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Southport</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Hartford</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Stamford</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canaan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Litchfield</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Storrs</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Stratford</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheshire</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Torrington</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Meriden</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Trumbull</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>West Haven</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danbury</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mystic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wallingford</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielson</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Naugatuck</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darien</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>New Britain</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Waterbury</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep River</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>New Canaan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>West Haven</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>Westport</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Hampton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>New London</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wethersfield</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Haven</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>New Milford</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Willimantic</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Woodbridge</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Norwalk</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Woodstock</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Norwich</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmington</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Old Lyme</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance locations out of Connecticut (total 42):

In Washington, DC (1)
In Maine: Portland (1)
In Massachusetts (total 6): Boston (1), Edgartown-Martha's Vineyard (1), Fall River (1), Holyoke (2), Springfield (1)
In New Hampshire (total 3): Claremont (1), Exeter (1), Plymouth (1)
In New Jersey (total 4): East Brunswick (1), Garden State Center (1), Stockton (2)
In New York (total 25): Bronxville (2), Cooperstown (1), Clinton (1), Elmira (1), Geneseo (1), Nyack (1), Pawling (6), New York City (12)
In Rhode Island: Providence (1)
In Vermont: Burlington (1)

SOLOISTS: 403, including --

Metropolitan Opera stars:
June Anderson
Sasha Cooke
Phyllis Curtin
Wilhelmenia Fernandez
Jerry Hadley
Roberta Peters
Tatiana Troyanos
Dawn Upshaw

Broadway/TV stars:
Harry Belafonte
Peggy Cass
Barbara Cook
Kim Criswell
Judy Kaye
Werner Klemperer
John Rait
Tony Randall
Regina Resnick
George Rose
Jean Stapleton

Prima ballerinas:
Merrill Ashley
Patricia McBride
Heather Watts

Rock star:
Michael Bolton

Dancers:
Ib Anderson
Pilobolus
Jock Soto
Damian Woetzel

Narrators:
James Andreassi
Charles Osgood
Lloyd Richards
John Shea
Joan Kennedy

Instrumentalists:
Igor Kipnis
Joseph Silverstein
GUEST CONDUCTORS (total 32):

Paul Althouse
Kurt Anderson
Frank Brief
Keith Brion
Marguerite Brooks (4)
Allen Brown (4)
Neely Bruce
Phillip Brunell
Jack Close
Richard Coffey (8)
Aaron Copland

Wayne Davidson (2)
Joseph D'Eugenio (2)
Paul Dunkel (3)
John Owen Edwards
Eugene Gwozdz
Evans Haile (9)
Andrew Heath
Doris Kosloff
Robert J. Lurtsema
Mitch Miller (2)
Walden Moore (1)

Paul Mueller (6)
Victor Norman (3)
Arthur Post (2)
Peter Sacco (2)
Keneth Singleton (3)
Robert Sirota
Arthur Sjogren (2)
Perry So
Johannes Somary (18)
David Thomas (6)

COLLABORATIONS --

American Ballet Company (Nutcracker production)
Connecticut Ballet (Nutcracker and other productions)
CONCORA [Connecticut Choral Artists] (joint concerts and recording)
Connecticut Opera (touring opera productions)
Fairfield County Chorale
Greater Middletown Chorus
Long Wharf Theater (Stravinsky touring production)
New Amsterdam Opera Theater (Broadway show revivals and recording)
New Haven Symphony Orchestra (AIDS benefit)
Nutmeg Ballet (Nutcracker production)
Pilobolus (specially commissioned choreography)
Shubert Opera Ensemble (AIDS benefit)
The New Sousa Band (touring and recording)
Stamford City Ballet (Nutcracker production)

PREMIERES: 72 World Premieres (and numerous US & local first performances)

COMMERCIAL RECORDINGS --

Columbia Masterworks M-32969: Charles Ives: "Old Songs Deranged" (Music for Theatre Orchestra); Yale Theatre Orchestra [the precursor of ONE]/Sinclair, 1974


Naxos [forthcoming 2024]: *Charles Ives: Miscellaneous Works*; Orchestra New England/Sinclair, rec. March 2024 (including five premieres)


and one recording made under another name ("The New Sousa Band"); Delos, 1990

**SOUND TRACKS** for PBS docu-dramas --

*A Good Dissonance Like a Man* (life of Charles Ives); 1976 (Peabody Prize)

*Augustus Saint-Gaudens*; 1984

*Thomas Eakins*; 1986

**BROADCASTS** --

Voice of America (1984 "Wall-to-Wall Ives" from NYC)

PBS-TV network (1982–1985 "The Colonial Concert")

National Public Radio network (Performance Today & other syndicated shows)

Connecticut Public Radio network (all subscription concerts since 1978–95, "The Connecticut Concert Hall" & other formats)

Connecticut Public Television network (Connecticut Arts Awards, The Colonial Concert)