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In addition to limited capacity, the Fall Concert will be performed Sunday only, albeit twice, at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., instead of the usual three consecutive days of performances of yore.

Along with more concentrated performances, the one-hour concert program will be shorter than traditional programs, and in keeping with the zeitgeist, the orchestra is pared down to about 40.

Things will be, in a word, different.

“The whole philosophy of it was based in the pandemic predicament of ‘We just don’t know,’” said Michael Gesme, music director. “We didn’t know if we could. We didn’t know if people wanted to come. We didn’t know if musicians wanted to participate. ... So we thought we wanted to go small.”

“There’s a lot of things surrounding how long that people are in spaces,” Gesme said. “So we’re like, why don’t we just do a half a concert. So we’re in the space gathered for an hour, and then everybody leaves. The thinking was all going, ‘How can we set this up so that we have the most likelihood of being successful?’”

As for attending in person, unless you are or quickly become a Central Oregon Symphony Association member, that’s not likely to happen. Tickets for the Fall Concert will not be available at the usual in-person outlets, or at will-call, Gesme said, adding that because

of the reduction of seats, members will make up this concert weekend’s audience.

“It’s something that I have so valued being here, and it’s like this serious, major part of my heart, is that I want the orchestra concerts to be available for anyone. For these particular concerts, as we’re starting back up, we won’t be able to do that. Normally, we would say, ‘Show up at the door, you’ll get a seat.’ And we can’t do that, because we want to make sure that this absolutely is safe and follows the protocols that we’ve set in place.”

Don’t fret just yet, ticketless reader: Gesme said that the cause of providing everyone the opportunity to hear the concert is now focused on a livestream of the 2 p.m. performance, “So that folks who aren’t comfortable with whatever the circumstances are can catch the show at 2.”

“Don’t expect a multicamera extravaganza, though the sound quality should be great, Gesme said.

The livestream is also good news for those farther afield and their ability to tune in. His father in Illinois, for one, is thrilled he’ll get to see and hear his son conducting, as should anyone with a computer. Gesme expects that subsequent concerts will also be livestreamed, he said.

Information on membership and the livestream is available at [cosymphony.com](http://cosymphony.com).

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- **Top Shelf Medicine:** 815 NE Greenwood Ave., Bend; 541-389-1043 or [topshelfmedicine.com](http://topshelfmedicine.com)

## art notes

■ More news from Central Oregon’s arts scene

### Bend Design events go hybrid in 7th year

Bend Design returns Friday for its seventh year, offering its talks and other events for “designers, changemakers and the curious” online and in person. Bend Design 2021 dives into eco-design, social justice, education, sustainable fashion and social media in its exploration of being human in a world where the role of design is ever shifting.

A program of the arts nonprofit Scalehouse, Bend Design is offering a limited amount of virtual passes as well as in-person passes to watch in real-time, according to a press release.

“Following a profoundly transformative year, how we show up for our communities matters more than ever,” said René Mitchell, Scalehouse executive director. “Collaboration, relentless curiosity and a daring expression of design can be used to look at how we shape our world around us.”

For info on the day’s events, visit [scalehouse.org/benddesign-agenda](http://scalehouse.org/benddesign-agenda). All-Access In-Person Passes are \$175, \$50 for students. All-Access Virtual Program Passes start at \$10. A la carte tickets are \$25 per speaker (virtual only). More info at [scalehouse.org/benddesign-passes](http://scalehouse.org/benddesign-passes).

—David Jasper, *The Bulletin*

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