

# Pops leaves Bach behind this weekend

By **Melissa Gollob**  
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The Michigan Pops Orchestra, the only completely student-run and directed orchestra on campus, performs this Sunday at the Michigan Theater. Unlike conventional orchestras that perform Beethoven and Mozart, the Pops Orchestra traditionally performs popular music. It was founded on

**PREVIEW**

**Michigan Pops Orchestra**

Michigan Theater  
December 2, 2001

the basis of entertaining a broader audience and exposing more individuals to the culture of instrumental symphonic music.

The Michigan Pops Orchestra consists of members from all schools across campus including Music, LSA, and Engineering. Mostly undergraduate students audition at the beginning of both fall and winter semesters. They rehearse once during the week to prepare for their end of the semester concert.

Engineering sophomore Steve Skripnik is the business manager of the Pops Orchestra and said, "I love the music and love to perform." Skripnik, like many others, devotes time out of his already packed schedule to rehearse and flex his musical muscles to bring instrumental music to the University.

This semester the orchestra focused on the musical theater genre with hopes to attract people who otherwise, "would not touch symphonic music with a ten foot pole."

With this goal in mind, their new director Karl Shymanovitz put together Sunday's concert. The title

of the performance, "POPS: 613 miles from Broadway," is well suited for the show's theme. Shymanovitz put this program together with inspiration from his past experiences. He came to the orchestra from MUSKET, another student-run organization, with a background in musical theater.

Sunday's program includes selections from successful musicals such as "Evita" and "Les Miserables." These classic stories will come to life inside the audience's mind when they hear the Pops Orchestra narrate the plots with selected music. Newer hits, such as "Rent" will also appear on the program and

represent the new age musical theater. Performing these well-known tunes generate a bond between the players and the audience so that they feel each other's emotions, just as an audience feels the emotion of an actor on stage.



Michigan Pops Orchestra gets ready to groove.

Courtesy of Paul Dobryden

UAC  
UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES CENTER

**POPS**

MICHIGAN Pops ORCHESTRA  
Presents

**613 Miles off Broadway**  
a collection of contemporary Broadway hits

**Sunday, December 2, 7:00pm**  
**Michigan Theater**

Tickets available at MUTO (Michigan Union Ticket Office) and at the door  
\$5 for students, \$10 general admission

[www.unich.edu/~uac/ups](http://www.unich.edu/~uac/ups)

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