#### MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC • 2023-2024







# We can't help you know when to clap.

But we can help support the Michigan Philharmonic.





## Music at Schoolcraft

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#### All we Need is Music - Season 78

We've named this season, "All we need is Music" because we know what music does for us and hope you're as excited about the 78th season of the Michigan Philharmonic as we are.

The season pays tribute the powerful idea that music brings us together, even in times of challenge, and what we have planned for our year is nothing short of spectacular. In addition, we are celebrating our conductor, Nan Washburn's 25th season leading the Phil!

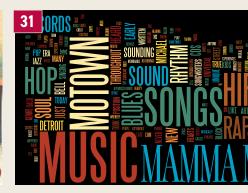
















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For tickets and information on all these concerts and events call 734.451.2112, or visit michiganphil.org

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Michigan Philharmonic performance dates, times and locations are subject to change as well as all of the State of Michigan's health and safety guidelines.

#### **Greetings from our Season Sponsor, President and Executive Director**

Letter from the Season Sponsor

For more than 12 seasons, Bank of Ann Arbor has proudly supported the Michigan Philharmonic as it continues to enrich our community with live performances of beautiful classical music and other music we have come to know and love.

With all of the challenges our communities have had to overcome over the past few years, it is exciting for us to see so many still strongly supporting such a great organizations as the Michigan Philharmonic. Our own investment in this wonderful 78th season of the Philharmonic known as "All We Need is Music" is just one way we seek to give back to the community.

We are committed – as always – to this community, to cultural jewels like the Philharmonic and to you the men and women who make this region such a powerhouse for culture, business, education, faith and leadership.

Here's to a another unique season ahead. Enjoy!

Tim Marshall, President and CEO



Letter from our President

If you are reading this then you know what I am about to say means so much to each one of us – thank you for supporting us at the Michigan Philharmonic as we continued to bring live music back to the forefront of our lives. Your commitment is a celebration of hope that we cherish. So, thank you so much.

This year we continue to focus on the future and offering joyous musical moments, the kind that lifts up our lives and reminds us that we all need music. Truly, music is one of the soulful pleasures we hold dear, no matter the circumstances, no matter the struggles or time we are in personally or as a society.

As always, our success is really all about you. I can only humbly thank each and every one of you for being a part of our joyous return to live performances during a 78th season that includes some incredibly special concerts, amazing guest artists, beautiful venues and timeless music as well as adventurous sounds we have not experienced before in a traditional classical music setting.

With support of our sponsors, our concert goers like you, the many volunteers and the staff who make things happen on the stage, and around the community, we can move forward and celebrate not only 78 years, but look ahead to many more decades as one of Michigan's cultural treasures.

We love partnering with the community through our CLASSical Music education outreach program, working with PARC (the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex), offering the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (MPYO) and performing throughout southeast Michigan, from Kensington Metropark to downtown Detroit's Campus Martius to Port Austin.

We also are bringing back for a second season a music series just for children. "Tiny Tunes: Music for Little Ears" will offer four concerts from September to May of next year designed for kids as young as pre-school. This is an exciting new venture for us and we hope families will experience music together.

On behalf of the entire board of directors of the Michigan Philharmonic, I want to deeply thank you for your encouragement in tough times, for your passionate embrace of good music and for your generous giving through tickets, donations and sponsorships that helps us offer a unique, bold and innovative approach to all kinds of music, from classical to pops, from contemporary to the masterpieces.

Let me welcome you to our 78th season, and I hope you do indeed experience the extraordinary through the powerful sounds of the Michigan Philharmonic.

Chris Belcher, President, Michigan Philharmonic Board

Letter from our Executive Director

It is again our great joy and honor to offer stellar musical performances during our 78th season along with great education programs and wonderful partnerships with our patrons, volunteers, musicians, sponsors and the amazing group of people who make up our board of directors.

There really isn't anything else like the power of music to bring people together. And clearly we can all use a little music in our busy lives. That's why this season we are focused on reminding everyone that sometimes "All We Need is Music."



This is also a special year as we celebrate the leadership of Nan Harrison Washburn, our music director and conductor for 25 season. She has been an inspiration to many and played an integral part in making the Phil what it is today, committed to innovative programs and enriching experiences.

Our hope is that everyone who experiences the Phil can make a deep connection with the music and those who perform it. As one of the longest running regional orchestras in Michigan, we provide cultural programs and musical innovation and connect those who love music and those who love play music.

For 78 years the Michigan Philharmonic has remained committed to the values we cherish the most – providing a community experience second to none, fostering the future of music through our youth programs and showcasing little known composers while still recognizing the great masters who made classical music what we have all come to love.

I could go on and on about the amazing array of concert experiences that lie ahead this year but you already know – if you have experienced the Phil before – that what we have planned will enrich and engage young and old alike

I have no doubt that we will again enrapture audiences who love in-person, live, dynamic music as our orchestra, led proudly by Nan as she takes to the stage once again.

For me, summer time is a great one for us to perform outdoors, often for free, but I can't wait to see everyone again during our regular season. We look forward to presenting the extraordinary sounds of a live music for all of our supporters, families and friends. So, settle in and get ready for an exploration of musical adventures.

**Beth Stewart, Executive Director** 

## Michigan Phil conductor celebrates 25 years 78th music season milestone for Nan Washburn

This year marks a milestone 25th season for the Michigan Philharmonic and our award-winning conductor and music director, Nan Harrison Washburn.

Washburn's leadership role is the second longest held by one person throughout the Philharmonic's 78-year history, and she is the only woman to ever have led the orchestra.

Washburn, who has steadfastly focused on an innovative approach to performances, remains deeply dedicated to engaging with audiences of all ages and interests with a devotion to also educating young musicians in the intricacies of all forms of classical and pop music.

Throughout her 25 seasons, the Plymouth resident has led the orchestra through unprecedented growth, artistic excellence and increased the scope and diversity of its programs while overcoming

challenges, including a major name change, a broadening regional reach and a world-wide health pandemic.

"I just want this year to be about great music," says Washburn. "We have a lot of stuff built into our schedule. It's not strikingly different than other seasons, just some new and different music, and some things we haven't done before. I'm always excited to share our music with the community."

National recognition for the orchestra during Washburn's tenure includes six ASCAP Awards, several prestigious grants from Knight Foundation and second place honors from the American Prize, professional orchestra division.

From 2009-2017, Washburn also served as the artistic director and principal conductor for the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, an ensemble that she founded in 2003 as the Celebration Youth Orchestra. She has also held the posts as music director of Orchestra Sonoma, the Camellia Symphony in Sacramento, principal conductor of the Channel Islands Symphony, the Acalanes Chamber Orchestra, the American Jazz Theater, and director of the San Francisco State University Symphony Orchestra.

Born in Denver and raised in southern California, Washburn has conducted throughout the U.S., including the symphony orchestras of Richmond, Sacramento, Wyoming, Eugene, Berkeley, Marin, Cheyenne, Dubuque, Perrysburg, Stockton, Napa Valley and San Luis Obispo.

While serving with the Michigan Philharmonic she has won the American Prize in Orchestral Conducting, professional division 2013, the American Prize Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music, professional division, 2016, and 19 ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming from the League American Orchestras.

One of Washburn's proudest accomplishments was receiving the Jeanine C. Rae Award for the Advancement of Women's Culture given by the Women in the Arts producers of the National Women's Music Festival for programming more works by women composers than any other conductor of any orchestra of any size in the United States!

Two years ago, Washburn was honored for her timeless efforts to promote the Philharmonic as the face of music culture in our community by being named one of Crain's Notable LGBTQ in Business leaders for 2021.

"With the full support of our board and musicians I am proud to say that the Michigan Phil has, and will remain, focused on diversity, equity and inclusion as our core values and a key aspect of our mission," says Washburn.





#### **Michigan Philharmonic Educational Programs**









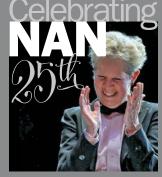






## Celebrate Nan's 25th Season Become a NAN FAN

We invite you to become part of the exclusive "NAN FAN" CLUB.
We are looking for 100 people to donate \$250 to celebrate with Nan.





Scan the QR code or call 734.451.2112

78th Season • 2023-2024 7

### For Our Young Musicians

Education Programming of the Michigan Philharmonic





Children in that magical age of pre-school to eight years can benefit from connecting with music, especially classical music. Back for a second year, Tiny Tunes, created for our youngest audiences begins this fall and takes youngsters on a magical, musical journey where they will discover the beauty of music in its purest form – the sounds of the symphony.



The whole family will enjoy attending this special fourpart series featuring concerts especially designed for young audiences and performed in the beautiful Jack Wilcox Theater at PARC.

#### Four "Tiny Tunes" concerts are planned:

Saturday, September 16, 2023 • 10:00 am "Meet & Greet the Instruments of the Orchestra" A great introduction to the strings, winds, brass and percussion instrument families of the orchestra. Kids learn how the instruments work while hearing music from Mozart to Star Wars.

Saturday, November 18, 2023 • 10:00 am "Musical Storytelling" A journey through musical Storytelling and the storytelling of t

"Musical Storytelling" A journey through musical storytelling featuring "Peter & the Wolf" and other great musical stories with student narrators from the Ovation Children's Theater Company.

Saturday, February 24, 2024 • 10:00 am

"Movin' to the Beat" Exploring musical rhythms and dance with special guests from Artistry Dance.

Saturday, May 11, 2024 • 10:00 am "Live with the Michigan Phil Youth Orchestra

A perfect musical introduction to our own young musicians of the MPYO.



#### The Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (MPYO)

The Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra provides a unique, enriching and exciting musical



experience for young musicians throughout Southeast Michigan. The full program for students ages 8-18, includes two string ensembles, a flute choir, a wind ensemble and a full youth symphony. Students in this program meet weekly to rehearse and give three concert performances in addition to the unique opportunity to perform side-by-side twice a year with the Michigan Philharmonic.

For more information on the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra please visit <a href="mayo.org">mpyo.org</a>.

#### **Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Schedule**

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 • Winter Concert Tuesday, May 7, 2024 • Spring Concert Tuesday, June 4, 2024 • MPYO Pops in the Park

#### **CLASSical Music Outreach**

One of the premier youth education programs for elementary students in the State of Michigan is our CLASSical Music Outreach program which now serves all 3rd and 4th graders in Plymouth-Canton, Wayne Westland, Taylor, Garden City and Van Buren School districts. This unique music program is designed to introduce third and fourth grade students to classical music and the various instruments of the orchestra while supporting the music teachers and enhancing the elementary music curriculum.

#### **Michigan Philharmonic Educational Programs**

#### Daniel Winnick, Co-Concertmaster

Daniel Winnick moved to Michigan from New Jersey in 2005 and since then he has built a career as a violinist in metro Detroit and beyond. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he studied with Andrew Jennings. His relationship with the Michigan Philharmonic began with



appearances as guest concertmaster in 2016. He also performs with the Flint Symphony Orchestra, Battle Creek Symphony Orchestra, Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, and ÆPEX Contemporary Ensemble. He has previously served as concertmaster for Arbor Opera Theatre and assistant/acting concertmaster for the Dearborn Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to his work with orchestras, Daniel performs regularly with the CutTime Simfonica of former Detroit Symphony Orchestra bassist Rick Robinson. He is a member of the Troubadours, a musical storytelling group representing the Flint Institute of Music. Other chamber music appearances have included guest performances with the Burdick-Thorne String Quartet of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. Formerly a member of the indie-folk band The Thornbills, Daniel has joined string sections for recordings by nationally-known artists, including the R&B singer Kem in sessions led by the legendary Motown musician Paul Riser. He has appeared with the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Mannheim Steamroller, and a national tour of the musical "Chicago."

Daniel teaches violin and viola lessons for Cultural Art Strings in Manchester and also maintains his own private studio. He has taught for the Sphinx Organization's Overture Program in Flint, and for Friends Music Camp in Richmond, Indiana. He has also worked in the field of string instrument preparation and repair, both at Shar Products Company of Ann Arbor and at Instrumental Distribution, LLC of Livonia. Daniel is an avid runner and kayaker.

#### Yuri Popowcyz, Co-Concertmaster

Yuri Popowycz is a violinist living in Russell Woods, Detroit. He received his training through the Suzuki Strings of Madison, Interlochen Arts Academy, and the Oberlin Conservatory. He was raised in a house of music and enjoys carrying on the tradition of performing and teaching. He serves as



co-concertmaster of the Michigan Philharmonic, as well as performs regularly around southeast Michigan; playing with the Michigan Opera Theatre, Orchestra Sono, Dearborn, Toledo, and wherever else his strings take him.

Alongside averaging 90 performances a year since his move to Detroit in 2015, Yuri records for local groups around the city, as well as produces electronic music, and manages music labels of his own. On occasional weekends, you can find him behind the mixing desk in his home studio, running his "Studio Sunday" sessions, which see collaboration from artists across many genres.

Yuri teaches violin through the Sphinx organization at elementary schools within Detroit, as well as with Compás in the southwest area of the city, and operates a small private studio. He plays on a 1941 violin by Piero Parravicini, and his bow is a David Samuels.

#### Hektor Qyteti, Principal Second Violin

Hektor Qyteti served as the assistant concertmaster for the Michigan Philharmonic for the seven years before being promoted to his current position of principal second violin. He is also the assistant concertmaster of the Grosse Pointe Symphony as well as playing in the violin section of numerous other



Detroit area orchestras, including symphonies in Dearborn, Warren, Rochester and Pontiac.

Prior to moving with his family to the U.S., he had a five-year tenure as concertmaster of Korce Philharmonia Orchestra in Albania, during which time he performed as soloist on the Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven and other major concertos. A dedicated and highly sought-after teacher, Hektor maintains a busy schedule teaching violin and chamber music privately at PARC and Evola Music Center. He has also served on the faculty of Steppingstone School for the Gifted in Farmington. He now serves as the artistic director and principal conductor of the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, directing the Strings, Sinfonia and Youth Symphony ensembles.

For 10 years in Albania, he was the Music Director of the Board of Education at the prestigious Korce Tefta Tashko School, the equivalent of magnet/pre-conservatory schools in the U.S. He received a performance and teaching degree from the Academy of Arts in Albania and later continued with advanced studies in teaching at Oakland University.

#### Jessica Lipon Principal Viola

Violist Jessica Lipon is an active performer and teacher based in Detroit, Michigan. After time spent in Boston and Chicago, she returned to her hometown in 2020, and serves as Principal Violist with the Michigan Philharmonic and Co-Principal with Dearborn Symphony Orchestra, while continuing her work as a member of the Chicago based Fermi String Quartet.



Jessica holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wayne State
University and a Master of Music and Performance Diploma from
Boston University. Her primary teachers were Patricia Reiter, Caroline
Coade and Michelle LaCourse. While living in Boston, Jessica
performed with New Bedford Symphony, Plymouth Philharmonic,
Cape Cod Symphony, Boston String Players, and Serenata Chamber
Musicians.

During her time in Chicago, Jessica taught at The People's Music School while performing with Northbrook Symphony, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Rockford Symphony, and Peoria Symphony.

Continued on next page

#### **Meet the Principal Players of the Michigan Philharmonic**

#### **Andy Monefeldt, Principal Bass**

Andy Monefeldt originally began his music studies on violin, which he played throughout high school, adding electric bass his senior year, since the jazz band was in need of a bassist. He didn't begin his college studies as a music major, but after two years switched to music education,



eventually transferring to the University of Wisconsin and completing his bachelor's in music education there, studying with Richard Davis. He taught in the Madison area for several years and moved to Michigan to continue his bass studies at the University of Michigan where he earned a master's degree in music performance, studying with Diana Gannett and DSO assistant principal bass, Stephen Molina. Andy currently is contracted to play with three Michigan orchestras. He also maintains a bass studio of local middle and high school students, both jazz and classical players.

#### Dennis Carter, Principal Flute

Dennis Carter is a busy freelancer in the Detroit area, serving as principal flutist for the Michigan Philharmonic and the Dearborn Symphony, and as an additional musician with the Michigan Opera Theater, the Flint Symphony, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He is a well-known soloist in the



area, performing concerts with the Dearborn Symphony and the Rochester Symphony as well. Active in theater orchestras, he serves as the principal flutist for the Fisher Theater Orchestra, the Bijou Orchestra, and the R4Revue, and has toured the United States with the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players, the New Sigmund Romberg Orchestra, and the Carl Rosa Opera Company (UK). He also is a part of the Sphinx Organization, serving as an assistant in their Overture Strings Program and as Principal of the Sphinx Orchestra, which recently was on tour at the Napa Valley Music Festival in California. He taught for many years as an assistant music teacher in the Southfield Public School system, taught at Henry Ford Community College, and currently has a studio of private students. He holds a B.M. in music performance from Wayne State University where his teachers were Ervin Monroe and Clement Barone.

For tickets and information on all these concerts and events call 734.451.2112, or visit michiganphil.org





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#### **Chris Wheeler, Principal Oboe**

Chris Wheeler is an oboist based in the mid-Michigan area, performing regularly with ensembles including the Michigan Philharmonic and Adrian Symphony, and has subbed with many others, including the Lansing Symphony and Southwest Michigan Symphony. He is also active as a chamber



musician, performing with the Pure Winds quintet and Shift Ensemble Detroit. In addition to performing, Chris also maintains a private studio for oboe students in both the metro Detroit and Lansing areas. He completed master's degrees in oboe performance and chamber music, studying with Nancy Ambrose King at the University of Michigan and received his bachelor of fine arts in oboe performance from the California Institute of Arts (CalArts), studying with Allan Vogel. While at CalArts, he was an exchange student at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, studying oboe with Stephen West and composition with Gareth Williams. Though classically trained, Chris's other musical interests lie in expanding the boundaries and genres of his musical influences via his own original compositions and songs. In this vein, he's recorded and released an album of original music, "Day by Day."

#### Ryan King, Principal Clarinet

Ryan King holds a bachelor's of music in clarinet performance from the University of Michigan, where he studied with Daniel Gilbert. He has studied with many notable musicians, including Joaquin Valdepenas and Bill Jackson at the Aspen Summer Music Festival, Steve Cohen at the Brevard Music



Festival, and the Imani Winds at their Chamber Music Festival in New York City. Ryan has performed and recorded with many notable ensembles, such as the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the River Raisin Ragtime Revue, the Dearborn Symphony, and the Cut-Time Players. In addition to his classical performance, Ryan has a strong presence in the Michigan rock scene. As a founding member of Ypsilanti-based progressive jam band Stormy Chromer, Ryan has spent years touring the Midwest's rock clubs and bars. Though his role is primarily that of bassist and songwriter, every now and again the clarinet will make a guest appearance.

#### Alex Carlucci, **Principal Bassoon**

As the Michigan Philharmonic's principal bassoon, Alexander Carlucci is an active orchestral player, chamber musician and soloist in Michigan and the Midwest. In concert, he has appeared with the Adrian and Jackson Symphonies as well as in Washington D.C. as a member of the



Washington Chamber Orchestra. An advocate for new music, he

#### **Meet the Principal Players of the Michigan Philharmonic**

has performed in events for New Music Detroit with the AEPEX Contemporary Performance ensemble and in concerts with the SONAR New Music ensemble in Baltimore and the Occasional Symphony of Baltimore. Alex's interests in music of the 21st century have also led to frequent premiers of new works with the Peabody Camerata New Music Ensemble. As a member of the Washington Chamber Orchestra, he has recorded with Centaur Records and has recorded on the Naxos Label under the direction of Baltimore Symphony Conductor, Marin Alsop.

Alex earned a master's of music degree from the University of Michigan where he was a graduate fellow studying with Jeffrey Lyman. Prior to that, he studied with Phillip Kolker of the Baltimore Symphony, earning a bachelor's of music at the Peabody Institute of Music while simultaneously completing a bachelor's of arts in natural sciences at the Johns Hopkins University. His scientific pursuits have led him to publish research studying heart arrhythmias as well as an iPhone application to detect atrial fibrillation.

#### John Hartwick, Principal Trumpet

John Hartwick plays trumpet throughout the Detroit metropolitan area, both as a freelance musician and long-time member of several orchestras. In addition to the Michigan Philharmonic, he holds positions with the Dearborn and Warren symphony orchestras. John has performed with the



Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Michigan Opera Theatre, Fisher Theatre Orchestra, Oakland Symphony Orchestra, among many others. When not playing the trumpet, John is an active music educator, teaching private lessons, working with school music programs, and as an adjunct professor of music at Henry Ford College in Dearborn. He also enjoys arranging and performing chamber music, having appeared with the Motor City Brass Quintet, Detroit Symphony Brass Quintet, and as a founding member of the Michigan Philharmonic Brass Quintet.

#### **Brooks Barnes, Principal Trombone**

Brooks Barnes was born and raised in Ann Arbor. In high school he studied with Joseph Skrzynski, second trombone of the Detroit Symphony. He received a bachelor's degree in music education from Northwestern University, where he studied with Frank Crisafulli, and earned a master's in trombone performance from the University



of Michigan. Brooks is currently second trombone in the Adrian Symphony Orchestra as well as principal trombone of the Michigan Philharmonic. He has performed with the Flint, Saginaw, and Traverse symphony orchestras and also enjoys playing chamber music and jazz. He has been trombonist in the Liberty Brass Quintet, the Burton Brass Quintet and currently in the Michigan Philharmonic Brass.

#### Neal Campbell, Principal Tuba

Neal Campbell is Tuba Artist-in-Residence for Custom Music International and is a B&S Perantucci Artist. Neal has been on the faculty at universities in both Michigan and Ohio, at the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, and the University of Michigan All-State Program. He has performed with the Detroit Symphony



Orchestra, Detroit Chamber Winds, the River City Brass Band, Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Toledo Symphony Concert Band and Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra. Neal has been a guest artist at regional, national and international music conferences and festivals. In addition to music, Neal is also a certified flight instructor and commercial pilot.

#### Dominic Hayes, Principal Horn

Dominic Hayes is an active orchestral and freelance hornist based in Michigan. Along with the Michigan Philharmonic, he is Principal Horn of the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and 2nd Horn of the Dearborn Symphony Orchestra. He has also performed with the Toledo, Ann Arbor, Flint, Kalamazoo, Billings (MT), Saginaw Bay, and Battle Creek symphonies.



Dominic is a member of the Pure Winds Woodwind Quintet; an award-winning ensemble based in Lansing, Michigan. With Pure Winds Dominic has performed and lectured across the United States. Pure Winds also recently released its debut album Pure Winds under the label Orpheus Classical.

Dominic is the Horn Instructor at the Flint School of Performing Arts, and is also the Horn Instructor at Belleville High School. Hayes earned his M.M. Degree in Horn Performance in 2020 from the University of Michigan, and his Bachelor's Degree in 2018 from Western Michigan University. His primary teachers were Adam Unsworth, Bryan Kennedy, and Lin Baird.

#### Maurice Draughn, Principal Harp

Maurice Draughn is an experienced harpist and a versatile performer. He has appeared as soloist with several orchestras and in performance with celebrated performers and artists across various genres. Maurice is also an arranger and composer of music that is performed nationally and internationally by



professional and educational ensembles. He is currently a freelance harpist performing in orchestras throughout southeastern Michigan and western Ontario. Maurice performs regularly in solo and chamber recitals and as a studio harpist on several recording projects. He is a founding member of the Modern Harp Quartet and Second Avenue Harp Duo. In addition to his professional life as a harpist, Maurice

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#### **Meet the Principal Players of the Michigan Philharmonic**

enjoys a career as an educator currently serving as the director of choral activities at Cass Technical High School.

Maurice began his harp studies at Cass Technical High School in Detroit with Patricia Terry-Ross. He continued his studies with Ross, earning a bachelor's of music with a concentration in harp performance and teacher certification in vocal music education from Wayne State University. Maurice completed two summers of study with Lucile Lawrence at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. He also earned a master's of church music with a concentration in harp and organ performance from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY, where he studied harp with Elaine Cook and Laura Byrne at the University of Louisville.

#### Ray Riggs, Principal Timpani

Ray Riggs grew up in Detroit, graduating from Cass Tech High School. He studied percussion with Norman Fickett and Salvatore Rabbio, both of the Detroit Symphony. He attended the Eastman School of Music in Rochester New York where he studied with John Beck, and at Wayne State University in



Detroit, resuming his studies with Salvatore Rabbio. Ray received a bachelor's of music from Wayne State in percussion performance. While at Eastman, Ray became interested in emergency work, became certified as a New York State Emergency Medical Technician and began working for the EMS system in Rochester. Upon returning to Detroit, he was the timpanist with Michigan Opera Theater (1978-80) as well as playing many other freelance jobs, including extra and substitute with the Detroit Symphony. Ray was hired by the West Bloomfield Fire Department in 1979 as a firefighter/paramedic. He rose through the ranks, retiring from the fire department in 2009 as the assistant fire chief in charge of emergency operations. He continued an active musical performing schedule during his time with the fire department.

Currently, in addition to his position as timpanist with the Michigan Philharmonic, Ray is principal percussionist with the Birmingham/Bloomfield Symphony, percussionist with the Dearborn Symphony, timpanist with the Rochester Symphony, and a member of the Golden Rain Percussion Ensemble. Ray is married to Tracey, an active freelance violist and middle school orchestra teacher. They have three grown children and two grandsons.

#### WAYS TO GIVE- see pg. 33

**ONLINE:** Go to www.michiganphil.org, click DONATE! button

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**KROGER REWARDS:** Sign up to support our youth programs every

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**LEAVE A LEGACY:** Please contact us to learn more about the Planned Giving opportunities available for support of the Michigan Philharmonic.

**BY CHECK:** Payable to Michigan Philharmonic 650 Church St., Plymouth, MI 48170

1 1911100001, 1411 10110

**VOLUNTEER:** Volunteer opportunities are available at the Philharmonic!

#### Ari Hájek, Principal Percussion

Ari Hájek is a freelance timpanist, percussionist, and drummer in the Detroit Metropolitan area. He has performed with notable artists such as The Who, Johnny Mathis, Celtic Woman, Earl Klugh, and Andrea Bocelli. He has also performed with the Lansing Symphony, Detroit Opera,



Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and other orchestras in the metro area.

Ari began studying percussion at the age of 9. At 16, he left high school to pursue a Bachelor of Music at Oakland University, studying with Dan Maslanka and members of the Detroit Symphony. He later earned a Master of Music from Rutgers University, where he studied with legendary percussionist Alan Abel and members of the New York Philharmonic and New York City Ballet. Lastly, he earned two Advanced Music Studies certificates from Carnegie Mellon University, where he worked with members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

In his free time, Ari enjoys pursuing his hobbies in 3D printing, instrument design, and digital photography. Ari and his family are in the process of building a new music venue in Detroit, slated to open in early 2024.

Ari is an Artifact Percussion Artist.



#### Michigan Philharmonic Board of Directors 2023-2024

The Board of Directors of the Michigan Philharmonic is a working board of community-minded individuals who see and appreciate the value of the arts and work very hard to support the orchestra and all the programs and activities.

#### **Executive Committee:**

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#### Michigan Philharmonic Staff and Volunteers 2023-2024

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#### **Finance**

Catherine Byrd, Business Manager

#### Michigan Philharmonic Youth Education Programs

Nancy Davidson, Education Programs Coordinator
Nan Washburn, Advisor, Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra
Hektor Qyteti, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor, MPYO
Dennis Carter, Flute Choir and Wind Ensemble Conductor, MPYO



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#### A FANTASTIQUE FIRST • September 30, 2023

#### MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### A Fantastique First

Opening Night of Michigan Phil's 78th Season

Saturday, September 30, 2023, 7:30pm

Salem High School Auditorium, Canton

Nancy Ambrose King, oboe

Ryan King, clarinet

Miguel del Águila, composer

Overture No. 1 in E minor (1834)

Louise Farrenc (1804-1875)

Concierto con Brio, Op.134 (2022) (World Premiere) Miguel del Águila (b. 1957)

I. Interrupted Tango

II. Blue

III. Sambeada

Nancy Ambrose King, oboe Ryan King, clarinet

-Intermission-

Symphony Fantastique Op. 14 (1830)

Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)

I. Reveries, Passions

II. A Ball

III. Scene in the Country

IV. March to the Scaffold

V. Dream of a Witches Sabbath

Celebrate a fantastic opening night with the lush and romantic sounds of Berlioz's "Symphony Fantastique" along with a rhythmic

world premiere by Uruguayan-born composer Miguel del Águila featuring the Phil's first mother/son duo, Ryan and Nancy King.







Ryan King

#### Miguel del Águila - Composer

Three-time Grammy nominated American composer Miguel del Águila was born in Uruguay. In over 135 works that combine drama, driving rhythms and nostalgic nods to his South American roots, he has established himself among the most distinctive and highly regarded composers of his generation.

His music, which enjoys over 200 performances yearly, has been hailed as "brilliant and witty" (New York Times), "sonically dazzling" (LA Times) and "expressive and dramatic" (American Record Guide). He was 2021 composer in residence with Danish Chamber Players/Ensemble Storstrøm, after residences with Orchestra of the Americas, New Mexico Symph, Fresh Ink, CTSummerfest, Talis, and Chautauqua. Aguila was honored with three Latin Grammy nominations, Kennedy Center Friedheim Award, New Music USA/Music Alive, Magnum Opus Award, Lancaster Symphony Composer of the Year, and Copland Foundation among others.

His music has international appeal and presence with performances by over 100 orchestras, thousands of ensembles and 56 CD recordings.

Artists who perform his works include Leonard Slatkin, JoAnn Falletta, Giancarlo Guerrero, Marin Alsop, Carlos Miguel Prieto and many others

A sought after guest lecturer, Águila also serves on Barlow Endowment's Board of Advisors. He's published by Peermusic, Presser and self-published.

After graduating from San Francisco Conservatory he studied at Vienna's Universität für Musik un Darstellende Kunst. Early premieres in Musikverein and Konzerthaus were followed by Carnegie Recital Hall and Lukas Foss/Brooklyn Philharmonic concerts. Soon after LA Times praised him as "one of the West Coast's most promising young composers."

#### **Nancy Ambrose King – Oboe**

Miguel del Águila

Nancy Ambrose King, oboe, is the first-prize winner of the Third New York International Competition for Solo Oboists, held in 1995. She has appeared as soloist throughout the United States and abroad, including performances with the St. Petersburg, Russia,

Continued on next page

#### A FANTASTIQUE FIRST • September 30, 2023

Philharmonic, Prague Chamber Orchestra, Janacek Philharmonic, Tokyo Chamber Orchestra, Puerto Rico Symphony, Orchestra of the Swan in Birmingham, England, Festival Internacionale de Musica in Buenos Aires, New York String Orchestra, Amarillo Symphony, Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, and Sinfonia da Camera.

She performed the North American premiere of Nigel Westlake's "Spirit of the Wild" concerto with the University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra, has performed as recitalist in Weill Recital Hall and as soloist at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. She has recorded eleven CDs of works for the oboe on the Boston, Cala, Equilibrium, Naxos and Centaur Record labels.

Recent releases include "IllumiNation" featuring concertos by Scott McAllister, Michael Daugherty, and Alyssa Morris; the "Halle" Trio Sonatas of G.F. Handel; "Global Reflections" recorded with the Prague Chamber Orchestra and featuring the works of Strauss, Skalkottas, Sierra, and Foss, as well as the premiere of Jennifer Higdon's Oboe Concerto with the University of Michigan Symphony Band.

She can also be heard performing on the Athena, Arabesque, and CBS Masterworks labels, as well as the Grammy-nominated recording of 'Sila' by John Luther Adams on Canteloupe Records. She was a finalist in the Fernand Gillet Oboe Competition held in Graz, Austria, and was a member of the jury for the esteemed 2009 Barbirolli and the 2016 Muri, Switzerland Oboe Competitions.

She has appeared as a recitalist throughout the world, on WQXR radio in New York City and NPR's "Performance Today." King has written a highly successful e-book for Apple I-Tunes titled "Making Oboe Reeds from Start to Finish with Nancy Ambrose King."

Her playing has earned high praise from a variety of critics, including the American Record Guide.

Currently professor of Oboe at the University of Michigan, she was elected as the first female President of the International Double Reed Society. She is on the faculty of the Sarasota and Round Top Music Festivals, as well as the Michigan City Chamber Music Festivals during the summer. She was previously Associate Professor and University Scholar at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and has also served on the music faculties of Indiana University, Ithaca College, University of Northern Colorado, and Duquesne University Schools of Music, as well as the Ostrava (Czech Republic) Oboe Festival,

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King received her doctor of musical arts, master of music, and performer's certificate from the Eastman School of Music, studying with Richard Killmer. A graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of music degree where she studied with Arno Mariotti and Harry Sargous, King was the recipient of the school's prestigious Stanley Medal upon graduation, and was honored with the 2010 Hall of Fame Award and the 2018 Harold Haugh Teaching Award by the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre and Dance.

#### **Ryan J. King - Principal Clarinet**

Ryan J. King is a Michigan-based professional clarinetist and teacher, who is principal clarinet of the Michigan Philharmonic. He holds a bachelor of music in clarinet performance from the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance, where he studied with Daniel Gilbert.

King has performed and recorded with many notable ensembles, such as the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the River Raisin Ragtime Revue, the Dearborn Symphony, and the Cut-Time Players. He attended the Aspen Summer Music Festival, Brevard Music Festival, and the Imani Winds Chamber Music Festival in New York City.

He performed as principal clarinetist on the Grammy award nominated recording of Milhaud's opera L'Orestie d'Eschyle with the University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra and on the premiere



recording of Alyssa Morris' 'Dreamscape', featured on Equilibrium Records' "IllumiNation" with the Ann Arbor Camerata Orchestra.

King performs each summer at the Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, where he has been featured as soloist. He performed the World Premiere of Miguel del Aguila's 'Concierto Con Brio,' commissioned by and written for him and Nancy Ambrose King, in both its chamber and orchestral versions. King's students have gone on to study at the country's leading music schools in college, and consistently place in Michigan All-State ensembles. In addition to his classical performance, he has a strong presence in the Michigan rock scene. As a founding member of progressive jam band Stormy Chromer, King has spent years touring the US with the group.

Beyond his passion for music, he enjoys spending his time hiking and traveling, and is working towards visiting all of America's National Parks.

#### **Program Notes**

Overture No. 1 in E minor (1834) **Louise Farrenc** (1804-1875)

Farrenc's first overture was inspired by Viennese classicism and is among the handful of orchestral works that the virtuoso pianist composed during her lifetime. Powerful and dynamic, full of contrast and texture, this overture offers a glimpse into the

impressive compositional style of the Paris Conservatory's only tenured female professor in the 19th century.

Concierto con Brio (2022) (World Premiere)

Miguel del Águila (b. 1957)

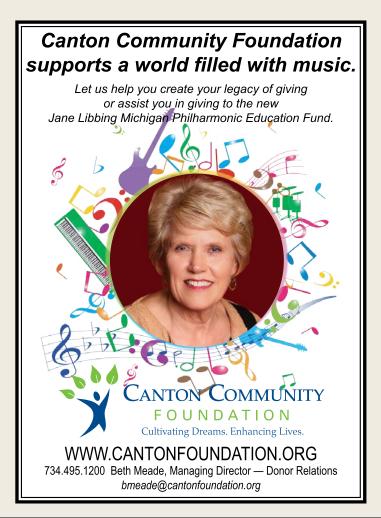
A double concerto for solo oboe-clarinet orchestra, the Concierto con Brio was commissioned by Nancy Ambrose King and Ryan King for the Michigan Philharmonic Orchestra with funding from the University of Michigan. The concerto consists of three movements, I. Interrupted Tango, II. Blue, III. Sambeada.

Symphony Fantastique Op. 14 (1830)

**Hector Berlioz** (1803-1869)

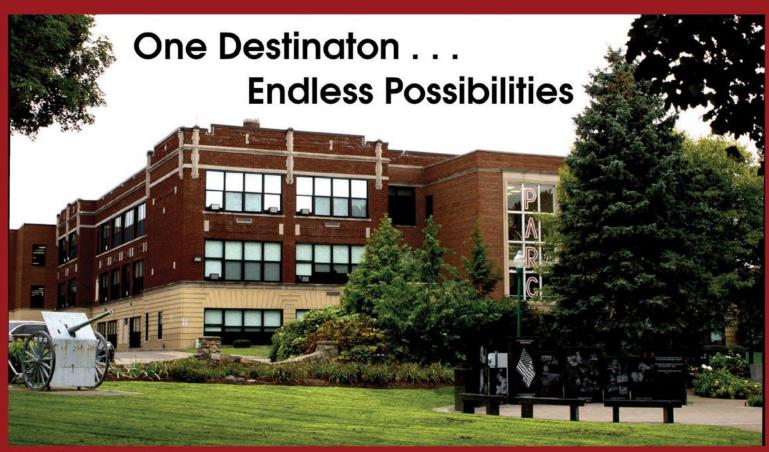
Symphony Fantastique tells the tale of a young man's opium-induced dreams in the aftermath of a failed relationship—the young man being Berlioz himself. Throughout each of the symphony's five movements, Berlioz depicted his love for Irish actor Harriet Smithson in the form of a recurring melodic theme, known as an *idée fixe*. This symphony is remembered for its musical and narratorial drama, the latter of which Berlioz made explicit in the form of explanatory program notes.

see insert for complete program notes





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#### **MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC**

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### Philharmonic Phright Night

Saturday, October 21, 2023, 7:30pm Marguis Theatre, Northville

Geff Phillips, vocalist and narrator Dave Wagner, guest organist

Toccata in D Minor, BWV 565 (c.1704) (keyboard solo)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Dave Wagner, organ

Witch's Ride from "Hansel & Gretel" (1892) **Engelbert Humperdinck** (1685-1750)

Funeral March of a Marionette (1872) **Charles Gounod** (1818-1893)

Danse Macabre (Dance of Death) (1874) Camille Saint-Saëns

(1835-1921)

Selections from "Sweeney Todd" (1979) Stephen Sondheim (1930-2021)

Selections from "Corpse Bride" (2005) **Danny Elfman** 

(b. 1953)

The Witches of Eastwick: Devil's Dance (1987) John Williams

(b. 1932)

-Intermission-

**Fantastic Beasts: James Newton Howard** 

The Secrets of Dumbledore (2022) (b. 1951)

John Williams Theme from "Jaws" (1975) (b. 1932)

Hans Zimmer Selections from "Man of Steel" (2013)

(b. 1957)

Monster Mash (1962) **Bobby Pickett & Leonard Capizzi** 

(1938-2007)/(1941-1988)

**Richard O'Brien** The Time Warp from "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" (1973) (b. 1942)

Florian Senfter

Kernkraft 400 by Zombie Nation (1999) (b. 1974)

For tickets and information on all these concerts and events call 734.451.2112, or visit michiganphil.org















"Let's do the Time Warp Again" as The Phil's annual Halloween concert returns to the historic Marguis Theater in Northville. Celebrating the City's Skeleton Festival, the Phil brings together a concert of haunting and quirky sounds featuring the music of J.S. Bach, John Williams, Danny Elfman and Hans Zimmer - while everyone awaits Nan's mystery costumed entrance!



Geff Phillips

#### **Geff Phillips - Vocalist**

Geff Phillips is proud and excited to perform with the Michigan Phil, with whom he has appeared in past pops and broadway concerts. He has been performing professionally for many years. In addition to singing and impressions, Phillips plays a variety of instruments and performs in numerous musical incantations. These include his band, Geff Phillips & Friends; MG Dueling Pianos music and comedy; The Best of Billy Joel & Elton John Tribute Show; and One Hand Band - a music and motivational message presentation.

Phillips would like to thank Nan Washburn for the opportunity to perform with the Philharmonic, along with the wonderful orchestra musicians. And, most of all, thanks to his patient wife Nancy Phillips, for allowing him to pursue his musical endeavors.



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#### MUSIC OF LA MER • November 10, 2023

#### MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### Music of La Mer

Friday, November 10, 2023, 7:30pm Saint Kenneth Church, Plymouth

Dennis Carter II, flute
Zhou Long, composer
Madonna Chorale, Daniel Greig, director
University of Detroit Mercy Chorus, Daniel Greig, director
MPYO Sinfonia, Hektor Qyteti, director (side-by-side)

Water Music (1717)

**George Frederick Handel** 

(1685-1759)

(arr. Douglas Stroud)

I. Minuet

II. Bourée

III. Air

IV. Rigaudon

Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Sinfonia Hektor Qyteti, director

Overture to "The Wreckers" (1906)

**Ethel Smyth** 

(1858-1944)

(arr. Nan Washburn)

The Deep, Deep Sea (2007)

Zhou Long

(b. 1953)

Dennis Carter II, flute

-Intermission-

Pavane Op. 50 (1887)

**Gabriel Fauré** 

(1845-1924)

(arr. Nan Washburn, text by Sarojini Naidu)

Madonna Chorale & University of Detroit Mercy Chorus
Daniel Greig, director

La Mer for Chamber Orchestra (1905)

**Claude Debussy** 

(1862-1918)

(arr. lain Farrington)

I. From Dawn to Noon on the Sea

II. Play of the Waves

III. Dialogue of the Wind and the Sea

For tickets and information on all these concerts and events call 734.451.2112, or visit michiganphil.org

Follow us on











Waves upon waves of lyrical music, will wash over you as we venture into "la Mer," and celebrate sounds of the sea with a variety of water music along with captivating piece from Pulitzer Prize winning Chinese-American composer, Zhou Long. Experience Handel's "Water Music as the orchestra is joined by students from the Sinfonia ensemble of the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.



Madonna Chorale



Dennis Carter II



Zhou Long

#### **Dennis Carter II - Principal Flute**

Dennis Carter, Director Flute and Wind Ensembles Dennis serves as Principal Flutist for the Michigan Philharmonic, and as an additional musician with the Michigan Opera Theater, the Flint Symphony, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

He is a well-known soloist in the area and serves as the Principal Flutist for the R4 Revue, Fisher Theater Orchestra and the Bijou Orchestra. He also is a part of the Sphinx Organization, serving as an assistant in their Overture Strings Program and as principal and section leader of the Sphinx Orchestra. He has toured with the Napa Valley Music Festival in California.

Continued on next page

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#### MUSIC OF LA MER • November 10, 2023

As a young student, Carter was fortunate to play with Detroit Civic Youth Orchestra and remembers the doors that opportunity opened for him. He wants to bring the same opportunities to his students in the MPYO ensembles. He holds a B.M. in Music Performance from Wayne State University.

He taught for many years as an assistant music teacher in the Southfield Public School System, taught at Henry Ford Community College, and currently has a studio of private students.

#### **Zhou Long - Composer**

Zhou Long is internationally recognized for creating a unique body of music that brings together the aesthetic concepts and musical elements of East and West.

Winner of the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for his first opera, Madame White Snake, Long also received the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award, the Elise Stoeger Prize from Lincoln Center Chamber

Music Society, and Barlow Prize. He has received commissioning awards from the Koussevitzky, Fromm Music foundations, Meet the Composer, Chamber Music America, and the New York State Council on the Arts. Fellowships are from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations, and the New York State Council on the Arts. Symphony Humen 1839 (commissioned and premiered by the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra) has been awarded the first prize at the 2009 China National Composition Competition for symphonic work.

Born on July 8, 1953, in Beijing. Long enrolled in the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing in 1977. Following graduation in 1983, he was appointed composer-in-residence with the China Broadcasting Symphony. He travelled to the United States in 1985 under a fellowship to attend Columbia University, where he studied with Chou Wen-Chung, Davidovsky and Edwards, receiving a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in 1993. Dr. Zhou is currently Bonfils

Distinguished Research Professor of Composition at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory.

Recently, he has completed a Symphonic Oratorio: Men of Iron and the Golden Spike for voices, choir and orchestra, co-commissioned by the Stanford University and Bard College, premiered at the Carnegie Hall in 2019; Classic of Mountains and Seas – Concerto for Orchestra, commissioned and premiered by the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra which received an award from the China National Arts Fund for subsequent performances.

In 2013, Long has composed a whole evening symphonic epic Nine Odes on poems by Qu Yuan for four solo vocalists and orchestra, commissioned by the Beijing Music Festival. Long's music of all genres has been widely performed and recorded, published by the Oxford University Press and the Shanghai Music Publishing House.



A home is more than a roof over your head or a backyard to play in. It's fertile ground for imagination to come to life. It's a space ship, a packed stadium, or a stage with screaming fans. A home is a space where dreams take shape and fantasies take form.

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#### **Program Notes**

Water Music (1717)

**George Frederick Handel** (1685-1759) (arr. Douglas Stroud)

Water Music consists of three orchestral suites that King George I commissioned from Handel for to be performed upon a barge. The mobile musicians' performance was intended to help boost the poor public opinion of the King by drawing attention away from his more popular son, George II, over the course of a three-mile procession up the River Thames. Regardless of its performance venue, the jolly dance-like movements of the suite make it evident why the

King demanded it be performed three times over the course of their trip. Thus, Water Music is perhaps one of the only works of classical music to be somewhat measurable by milesper-hour

Overture to "The Wreckers" (1906)

Ethel Smyth (1858-1944) (arr. Nan Washburn)

The Wreckers is an opera in three acts that tells of 18<sup>th</sup> century villagers who resist their community's murderous practices. The musical imagery, romantic string interludes, and bold brass effectively captures the opera's plot; a plot which, in turn, reflects Smyth's outspoken political activism for women's rights and suffrage. Though often overlooked by music historians, its dark narrative, violence, and remote costal setting is theorized to have contributed to Benjamin Britten's inspiration for Peter Grimes.

The Deep, Deep Sea (2007)

**Zhou Long** (b. 1953)

Dedicated to flutist Sharon Bezaly, Long revised an earlier work (*Green* for flute and pipa) on the request of Lan Shui for his "aquatic" themed album. Long's orchestration embodies the impressionistic style that was popularized by composers like Claude Debussy. The piece reflects the beauty of nature and humanity.

Pavane Op. 50 (1887)

**Gabriel Fauré** (1845-1924) (arr. Nan Washburn, text by Sarojini Naidu)

Composed for small orchestra with an optional chorus, Pavane highlight's the ease and elegance that embodies Fauré's stye. The work beings with a well-known melody that is temporarily interrupted by an orchestral outburst in the middle section. Nostalgic and delicate, *Pavane* was well-received and its growing popularity led Fauré to make a piano arrangement in 1889.

La Mer for Chamber Orchestra (1905)

Claude Debussy (1862-1918) (arr. lain Farrington)

La mer (The Sea) offers a glimpse into Debussy's childhood and his devotion to the sea. Inspired by the Horkusai wood-block print "The Great Wave off Kanagawa," the piece's lyricism depicts Debussy's experiences of the sea. The work was not well received at its premiere, largely because of interpersonal drama that involved other composers and influential Parisians. Later performances confirmed the Parisians' biases and the work grew to a prominent place in Debussy's compositional output.

see insert for complete program notes



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### COMING SOON





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#### MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### Holiday Pops with the Phil

Thursday, December 7, 2023, 6:00 & 8:00pm First United Methodist Church, Plymouth

> Friday, December 8, 2023, 7:30pm Marguis Theatre, Northville

> > Jessica Lipon, viola

Sleigh Ride **Leroy Anderson** 

A Canadian Brass Christmas arr. Calvin Custer [Ding Dong! Merrily On High, I Saw Three Ships, The Huron Carol, Here We Come A-Wassailing]

**American Folk Christmas Suite** arr. Bill Holcombe [Rise Up Shepherd and Follow, Brightest and Best (aka Star in the East), Go Tell It on the Mountain]

The Eighth Candle: Prayer and Dance for Hanukkah Steve Reisteter

Rebecca Clarke **Passacaglia** (7:30PM only)

Jessica Lipon, viola

A Most Wonderful Christmas arr. Robert Sheldon [Winter Wonderland, I'll Be Home for Christmas, Santa Claus is Comin' to Town, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year]

A Charlie Brown Christmas Vince Guaraldi [Christmas is Coming, Christmas Time is Here, Skating, Linus and Lucy]

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas **Albert Haque** [You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch, He Carves the Roast Beast, Welcome Christmas1

**Christmas Dance** Ralph Vaughan Williams

Jessica Lipon, viola

The Polar Express Suite Alan Silvestri & Glen Ballard [Believe, The Polar Express, When Christmas Comes to Town, Spirit of the Season]

Jingle Bells Forever James Pierpont/John Philip Sousa

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer Sing-Along **Johnny Marks** (6PM only)

Silver Bells Sing-Along Jay Livingston & Ray Evans (7:30PM only)

A Holiday Sing-Along arr. Audrey Snyder & John Moss [Deck the Hall, Jingle Bells, O Christmas Tree, We Wish You A Merry Christmas]

Hallelujah Chorus Sing-Along George Frederick Handel (7:30PM only)

For tickets and information on all these concerts and events call 734.451.2112, or visit michiganphil.org

Follow us on







Ring in the holidays with our traditional Holiday Pops performance. Two joyous performances at the First United Methodist Church and a new added performance at the Marquis Theater in Northville feature all your holiday favorites and own our violist, Jessica Lipon, Don't forget to bring your best voice as the evening wraps up with a sing-along.



Jessica Lipon

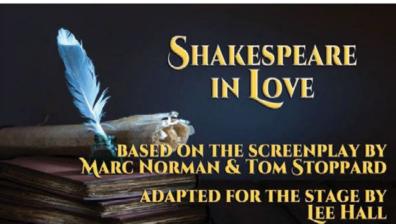
#### **Jessica Lipon - Principal Viola**

Violist Jessica Lipon is an active performer and teacher based in Detroit. After time spent in Boston and Chicago, she returned to her hometown in 2020, and serves as Principal Violist with the Michigan Philharmonic and Co-Principal with Dearborn Symphony Orchestra, while continuing her work as a member of the Chicago based Fermi String Quartet.

Lipon holds a bachelor of arts degree from Wayne State University and a master of music and performance diploma from Boston University. Her primary teachers were Patricia Reiter, Caroline Coade and Michelle LaCourse. While living in Boston, she performed with New Bedford Symphony, Plymouth Philharmonic, Cape Cod Symphony, Boston String Players, and Serenata Chamber Musicians.

During her time in Chicago, Lipon taught at the People's Music School while performing with Northbrook Symphony, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Rockford Symphony, and Peoria Symphony.







#### 2024Summer Season

#### The Wars of the Roses

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#### MINIATURE MASTERPIECES - CAPTIVATING KEYBOARDS • January 21, 2024

#### **MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC**

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### Miniature Masterpieces—Captivating Keyboards

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 2:00pm Saint John's Chapel, Plymouth

Angie Zhang, harpsichord and organ Dennis Carter II, flute Yuri Popowycz, violin Shruthi Rajasekar, composer

Sonata No. 3 in C major (1804)

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Allegro Andante Moderato

Son of Pandu (2018)

Shruthi Rajasekar (b.1996)

Cembalo Concerto in G (1734)

Wilhelmine von Bayreuth (1709-1758)

Allegro
Cantabile
Gavotte I—Gavotte II—Gavotte I

Angie Zhang, harpsichord

-Intermission-

Solace for Solo Organ (2020)

Shruthi Rajasekar (b.1996)

Angie Zhang, organ

Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, in D major, BWV 1050.2 (1721)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Allegro Affettuoso Allegro

Angie Zhang, harpsichord Dennis Carter II, flute Yuri Popowycz, violin

## Performing in the beautiful chapel at St. Johns', our mini chamber concerts" are always masterful, as we spotlight the keyboards, including harpsichord and organ. Centered around a dramatic J.S. Bach concerto as well as two

magical pieces from an Indian-American composer Shruthi Rajasekar showcasing the St. John's Chapel organ, the afternoon includes three soloists, Angie Zhang (harpsichord and organ), Dennis Carter II (flute) and Yuri Popowycz (violin).



Angie Zhang



Dennis Carter II



Yuri Popowcyz



Shruthi Rajasekar

#### **Angie Zhang - Harpsichord & Organ**

Recognized as an inquisitive and authentic musician, Angie Zhang is a unique 21st-century American artist, dedicated to the modern piano and fortepiano alike, who has boldly expanded her creative footprint to encompass conducting from the piano and entrepreneurial projects.

Praised as "warmly expressive, sensitive, and polished" as well as "a valuable advocate for classical music" by New York Concert Review, she has appeared in diverse venues including the Kennedy Center, LA County Museum of Art (LACMA), and the Metropolitan Club. Zhang combines a decorated performance career with a focus

on arts activism and interdisciplinary collaboration, and is one of a few concert pianists to win the Peter Mennin Prize for Outstanding Achievement and Leadership in Music.

A seasoned soloist with orchestra, she made her debut at the age of 10 under Grammy-nominated conductor Niel DePonte, and was quickly thereafter engaged with the Olympia Symphony Orchestra under Huw Edwards, with whom she has collaborated with almost ten times.

She has since performed with orchestras including the National Symphony Orchestra of the Dominican Republic, Juilliard Orchestra,

Continued on next page

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#### MINIATURE MASTERPIECES - CAPTIVATING KEYBOARDS • January 21, 2024

Juilliard Chamber Orchestra, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, and Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Her sold-out performance at Alice Tully Hall (NYC) of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21 under Fabio Luisi, was followed by her conducting debut at the piano of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9 with the Juilliard Chamber Orchestra.

As an educator, Zhang is the youngest Juilliard student to hold concurrent teaching responsibilities in the pre-college, college, and evening divisions. Zhang's pedagogical talent has been recognized by some of the world's leading educators, influencers, and international music festivals and she is currently in her seventh year of college teaching. She also maintains a private studio and is frequently sought after as a clinician and guest speaker.

Spending about equal time growing up first in Portland, OR, then in Princeton, NJ, she now resides in Ann Arbor where she is pursuing a doctor of musical arts in piano performance with Logan Skelton and a Master of Music in Fortepiano Performance with Matthew Bengtson at the University of Michigan. She completed her bachelor of music with honors and master of music at the Juilliard School as a proud recipient of the Kovner Fellowship, studying with Yoheved Kaplinsky and Joseph Kalichstein. She is a Yamaha Artist.

#### **Dennis Carter II - Principal Flute**

Dennis Carter, Director Flute and Wind Ensembles Dennis serves as Principal Flutist for the Michigan Philharmonic, and as an additional musician with the Michigan Opera Theater, the Flint Symphony, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

He is a well-known soloist in the area and serves as the Principal Flutist for the R4 Revue, Fisher Theater Orchestra and the Bijou Orchestra. He also is a part of the Sphinx Organization, serving as an assistant in their Overture Strings Program and as principal and section leader of the Sphinx Orchestra. He has toured with the Napa Valley Music Festival in California.

As a young student, Carter was fortunate to play with Detroit Civic Youth Orchestra and remembers the doors that opportunity opened for him. He wants to bring the same opportunities to his students in the MPYO ensembles. He holds a B.M. in Music Performance from Wayne State University.

He taught for many years as an assistant music teacher in the Southfield Public School System, taught at Henry Ford Community College, and currently has a studio of private students.

#### Yuri Popowcyz - Violin

Yuri Popowycz is a violinist living in Russell Woods, Detroit. He received his training through the Suzuki Strings of Madison, Interlochen Arts Academy, and the Oberlin Conservatory. He was raised in a house of music and enjoys carrying on the tradition of performing and teaching. He serves as co-concertmaster of the Michigan Philharmonic, as well as performs regularly around southeast Michigan; playing with the Michigan Opera Theatre, Orchestra Sono, Dearborn, Toledo, and wherever else his strings take him.

Alongside averaging 90 performances a year since his move to Detroit in 2015, he records for local groups around the city, as well as produces electronic music, and manages music labels of his own.

On occasional weekends, you can find him behind the mixing desk in his home studio, running his "Studio Sunday" sessions, which see collaboration from artists across many genres.

Popowyczi teaches violin through the Sphinx organization at elementary schools within Detroit, as well as with Compás in the southwest area of the city, and operates a small private studio. He plays on a 1941 violin by Piero Parravicini, and his bow is a David Samuels.

#### **Shruthi Rajasekar - Composer**

Shruthi Rajasekar, born in 1996, is an Indian-American composer and vocalist exploring identity, community, and joy. Chosen by The Guardian as a composer "who will enrich your life" in a list spanning centuries, Rajasekar creates intersectional music that draws from her unique background in the Carnatic (South Indian classical) and Western classical idioms.

She is a 2023 Jerome Hill Artist Fellow and her compositions have won numerous honors, including the 2020 Khorikos Ortus International Award, the 2018 Composers Guild of New Jersey Award, and the 2018 Global Women in Music Award from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights & Donne in Musica Adkins Chiti Foundation.

In 2020, she was named a "Rising Star" by the BBC Music Magazine. Performed across North America, Europe, and Asia, her music has reached hundreds of thousands of listeners on Spotify's Classical Releases, BBC Radio 3, Classical MPR (Minnesota, USA), WSMR Classical (Florida, USA), and WWFM Classical (Mid-Atlantic region, USA).

Her diverse output is inspired by her dual musical training and diasporic identity. Recent projects include Sarojini, a large choral-orchestral and Indian ensemble composition that had a sold-out premiere at St. Albans Cathedral, new choral works for VOCES8, The Gesualdo Six, ORA Singers, Seattle Pro Musica, and Yale University's Institute of Sacred Music, and large, chamber, and solo instrumental works for professional and student performers, including a new cross-genre piece premiering at Wigmore Hall in 2024.

In addition to working with today's leading musicians, Rajasekar is passionate about composing for early performers and has been commissioned by ABRSM to create educational music. Her work has been recorded by the BBC Singers, the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain, and many others.

An award-winning vocalist trained as a Carnatic singer and Western classical soprano, Rajasekar is equally adept in experimental and traditional settings. Performing in venues around the world.

She graduated summa cum laude from Princeton University, receiving the Edward T. Cone Prize. At Princeton, she was taught composition and theory by Donnacha Dennehy, Barbara White, Andrew Lovett, Dan Trueman, and Juri Seo. Currently based in Minnesota, USA, she completed her Marshall Scholarship in the United Kingdom at SOAS, University of London and the Royal Northern College of Music.

She serves on the board of directors of new music chamber ensemble Zeitgeist, and is an Honorary Music Patron of Hertfordshire Chorus.

#### **Program Notes**

Sonata No. 3 in C major (1804)

**Gioachino Rossini** (1792-1868)

Rossini composed six string quartets at just 12 years-old. Despite his youth, they demonstrate a fluency and finesse that far surpass what mature composers could achieve at the height of their careers. The third sonata concludes with variations that stylistically anticipate the composers' comic operas.

Son of Pandu (2018)

Shruthi Rajasekar (b. 1996)

Rajasekar describes this piece as an homage to the vigor and greatness of mythic figure, Arjuna. One of King Pandu's five sons, Arjuna's story is told in the ancient Hindu epic poem "Mahabharata." In this piece, Rajasekar weaves together elements of her Indian heritage with her classical training.

Cembalo Concerto in G (1734)

Wilhelmine von Bayreuth (1709-1758)

One of the earliest concertos of its kind, this work embodies the typical late Baroque style. Wilhelmine, daughter of King Frederick William I of Prussia, wove together elements of French and German musical traditions in this concerto.

Solace for Solo Organ (2020)

Shruthi Rajasekar (b.1996)

Rajasekar composed *Solace for Organ* in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The care and compassion she observed as family members came to the aid of neighbors was a source of inspiration. Rajasekar writes, "these times are of overwhelming loss, but I feel anchored by the stories of love and support."

Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 in D major, BWV 1050.2 (1721) **Johann Sebastian Bach** (1685-1750)

J.S. Bach composed his *Brandenburg* concerti while employed at the Köthen court. This concerto features flute, violin, and harpsichord soloists and demonstrates the typical fast-slow-fast configuration. Bach's contrapuntal genius can be heard throughout.

see insert for complete program notes

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#### **MOTOWN MEETS MAMMA MIA - HERE WE GO AGAIN! • February 10, 2024**

#### MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### Motown Meets Mamma Mia—Here We Go Again!

Saturday, February 10, 2024, 7:30pm

Dr. Edwin J. O'Leary Performing Arts Center, Garden City

Kathryn Calzone, Lauren Norris, & Taylor Haring, vocalists Garden City High School Choir, Kayla Cunnien, director

The Magic of Motown

arr. Lee Norris

[Get Ready, Stop! In the Name of Love, The Tears of a Clown, Ma Cherie Amour, What's Goin' On?, I Heard It Through the Grapevine, Reach Out I'll Be There]

**Burt Bacharach Medley** 

Burt Bacharach

(arr. Richard Ling)

[Alfie, I Say a Little Prayer, Walk on By, Close to You]

**Stevie Wonder Sounds** 

**Stevie Wonder** 

(arr. John Whitney)

[Isn't She Lovely, All in Love is Fair, You Are the Sunshine of My Life]

**Beach Boys Medley** 

**Brian Wilson** 

(arr. Calvin Custer)

[Good Vibrations, I Get Around, California Girls]

Children of Sanchez

**Chuck Mangione** 

(arr. Bob Phillips)

-Intermission-

Disco Fever

arr. Jay Althouse

[Stayin' Alive; Disco Inferno; It's Raining Men; Celebration, Turn the Beat Around]

Garden City High School Choir, Kayla Cunnien, director

Sounds of Simon and Garfunkel

**Paul Simon** 

(arr. Robert W. Lowden)

[Bridge Over Troubled Water, El Condor Pasa, 59th Street Bridge Song (Feelin' Groovy)]

The Rolling Stones on Tour

Mick Jagger

(arr. Patrick Roszell)

[Paint It, Black; Ruby Tuesday; (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction]

Mamma Mia! Medley (ABBA)

**Benny Andersson** 

(arr. Gary Fry)

[I Have a Dream, Mamma Mia!, Super Trouper, Chiquitita, Voulez Vous, The Winner Takes It All, Dancing Queen]

Kathryn Calzone, Lauren Norris, & Taylor Haring, vocalists

For tickets and information on all these concerts and events call 734.451.2112, or visit michiganphil.org

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Celebrate Valentine's weekend and get your "groove on" as we embark on a musical journey through Motown and Disco as well as pop legends, Abba and more. Expect a night of big arrangements and soulful singing from three soloists and a local choir with the music of Steve Wonder, "Mamma Mia," Burt Bacharach, Chuck Mangione and more!.







Kathryn Calzone

Lauren Norris

Taylor Haring

#### **Kathryn Calzone - Vocalist**

Katy Calzone is a mezzo-soprano who trained at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts after graduating from Interlochen Arts Academy. Graduating in 2010 with a bachelors of music in vocal performance, her operatic work spans from early Purcell to modern Menotti, including works such as: Le Nozze di Figaro, II Barbiere di Siviglia, La fille du régiment, Rusalka, Carmen, Candide, Giulio Cesare, Fairy Queen, La Cenerentola, L'enfant et les sortileges, Cosi fan tutte, Dido & Aeneas, Susanna, Old Maid and the Thief, The Proposal, and Turn of the Screw.

Upon moving back to Michigan and pursuing further education, Calzone joined the jazz ensemble, Swing City Big Band, in early 2015. As the vocalist of the Swing City Big Band, she has expanded her musical repertoire to include works influenced by Ella Fitzgerald, Dean Martin, Billie Holiday, Frank Sinatra, Nina Simone, Dinah Washington and many more. She performs regularly with the Swing City Big Band at Maraschino's Pub in Canton, every third Wednesday of every month. Outside of this regularly featured evening of music,

Continued on next page

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Swing City Big Band has been a feature at the MotorCity Casino, outdoor festivals, fundraising events, and alongside the Paul Keller Orchestra in Ann Arbor, MI.

Calzone has been a featured vocalist for the Michigan Philharmonic in the past, celebrating the music of ABBA through a fantastic Mamma Mia! medley, in 2018 to bring the music of Argentine composer, Astor Piazzolla, to life in his beautiful Ave Maria. This concert also featured her versatility, trying to channel her inner Dean Martin, for a performance of Sway (Quien Sera) to close the performance. In 2022, she was a featured soloist during the Michigan Philharmonic's performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. Lastly, for over 20 years, she has also been a featured soloist for the Plymouth Community Band, performing works ranging from Gershwin to Mozart.

#### **Lauren Norris - Vocalist**

Lauren Norris earned her master's in musical theatre performance from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and a BA in theatre performance from Marymount Manhattan College. She is a Michigan native who graduated from Salem High School, where she spent her years performing at the Gloria Logan Auditorium stage.

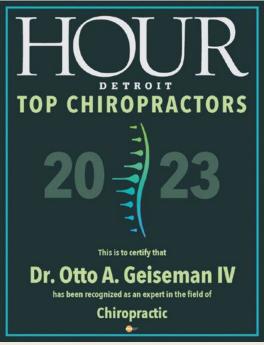
Performing in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and being featured on a BBC radio broadcast are some of her most treasured experiences. Norris has been lucky to have worked internationally with a wide variety of artists but still counts her past experience with the Michigan Philharmonic as one of the most rewarding. She was last heard with Michigan Phil as a soloist at In The Mood for Swing! in February 2019. She is very much looking forward to collaborating with this wonderful group again.

#### **Taylor Haring - Vocalist**

Taylor Haring is a classically trained, powerhouse vocalist with a love for country music. Since deciding to make her childhood dream of becoming a "singer" a reality, she has been blessed with opportunities to perform all around the state of Michigan and across state lines, write and record with her band - Athens Creek, lead worship at her childhood church, graduate Madonna University with a bachelor of arts in music management, and even make it to Hollywood in back-to-back seasons of TV's American Idol.

Haring is currently recording in Nashville and will be releasing music of her own very soon.







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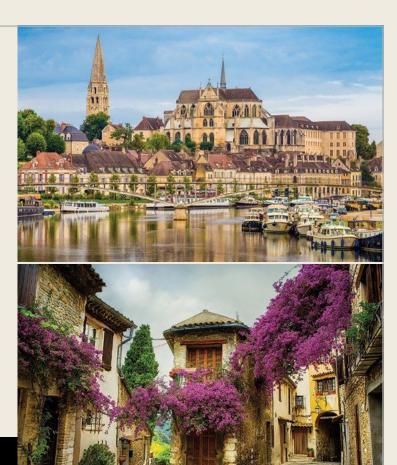
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#### TCHAIKOVSKY SPECTACULAR! · March 10, 2024

#### **MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC**

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### **Tchaikovsky Spectacular!**

Sunday, March 10, 2024, 2:00pm First United Methodist Church, Plymouth

Deborah Pae, cello

Overture to Così fan tutte **K. 588** (1789)

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** 

(1756-1791)

**Dance for Cello and Orchestra** (2019)

**Anna Clyne** (b. 1980)

I. when you're broken open II. if you've torn the bandage off III. in the middle of the fighting IV. in your blood V. when you're perfectly free

Deborah Pae, cello

—Intermission—

Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, **Op. 64** (1888)

(1840 - 1893)

Andante—Allegro con anima Andante cantabile con alcuna licenza Valse: Allegro moderato Andante maestoso—Allegro vivace

**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** 



All superlatives asides, this spectacular afternoon brings Tchaikovsky's beloved "Symphony No. 5" to life in a concert which opens with a lighthearted overture by Mozart and a new piece from British composer, Anne Clyne, featuring renowned International soloist, cellist, Deborah Pae.



Deborah Pae

#### **Deborah Pae - Cellist**

Praised by critics for her "extraordinary musicianship" (San Diego Union Tribune) and "magical" playing (Cleveland Classical), Korean-American cellist Deborah Pae has received international acclaim for her powerful performances and devotion to the arts.

Pae emerged onto the international stage in 2003, making her debut at the 45th Grammy Awards at Madison Square Garden and the Recording Academy's Seventh Annual Salute to Classical Music honoring the late Mstislav Rostropovich.

Shortly thereafter, in 2005, she gave her European recital debut at the Musée du Louvre in Paris. Over the span of 25 years, Pae has enjoyed an award-winning career as a soloist and chamber musician whose performances at major festivals and concert series throughout North America, Europe, and Asia have garnered critical acclaim.

Pae is the cellist of two award-winning ensembles: the Formosa Quartet, recipients of the First Prize and Amadeus Prize at the 2006 International London Quartet Competition, and the Namirovsky-Lark-Pae Trio, winners of the 2020 German Critics' Prize "Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik" in the category of chamber music, one of Europe's most prestigious honors, for their debut album Masterpieces Among Peers: Trios by Frank Bridge and Johannes Brahms.

A graduate of the Juilliard School, New England Conservatory, and an associate artist at the Chapelle Musicale Reine Elisabeth in Belgium, Pae is committed to mentoring the next generation of young artists. She is associate professor of Cello at Eastern Michigan University where she is a recipient of the 2021 Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Award, the highest honor Eastern Michigan University presents to an individual faculty member.

She also serves on the faculty at the National Youth Orchestra of Canada and the Formosa Chamber Music Festival and has taught at the Taipei Music Academy & Festival and the Perlman Music Program. Her mentors have included cellists Gary Hoffman, Laurence Lesser, Joel Krosnick, André Emelianoff, and Nellis Delay; violist Kim Kashkashian, and violinist Itzhak Perlman.

Arts advocacy is an important part of Deborah Pae's musical life. She serves as Governor of the Recording Academy® Chicago Chapter Board and works closely with MusiCares, a non-profit that provides a safety net of critical health and welfare services to the music community. She also works with young professionals and educational institutions throughout the country giving instrumental masterclasses and workshops on career development, financial literacy, and team building.

Pae travels and performs with her trusty companion, a Vincenzo Postiglione cello (c. 1885) from Naples, Italy.

Continued on next page

#### **Program Notes**

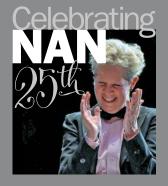
Overture to Così fan tutte K. 588 (1789)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

This overture begins the third in a series of three comedy operas (opera buffa) Mozart composed together with librettist Lorenzo

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da Ponte (the other two being *Marriage of Figaro* [1786] and *Don Giovanni* [1787]). The opera deals with the interpersonal dynamics between men and women of the time, while the overture itself consists of two contrasting parts.

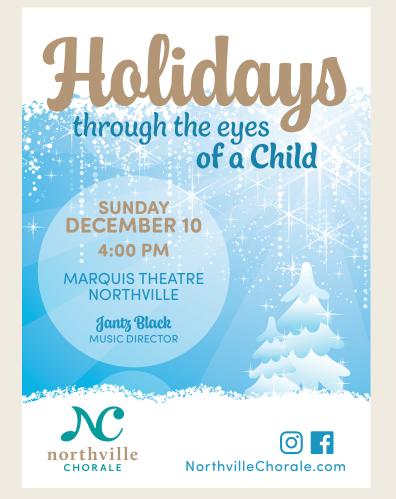
Dance for Cello and Orchestra (2019) Anna Clyne (b. 1980)

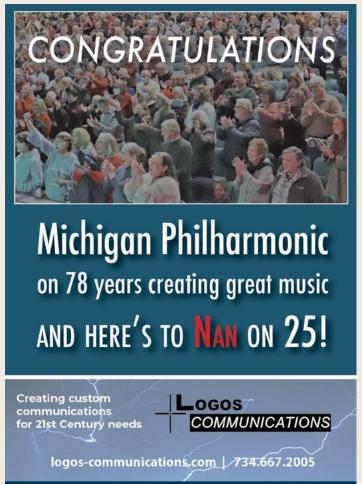
Anna Clyne, a cellist in her own right, wrote DANCE for the Israe-li-American cellist Inbal Segev. The concerto is set in five movements, each of which corresponds to a line in 13<sup>th</sup> century poem by the Persian Poet, Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi.

Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64 (1888) **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** (1840-1893)

Tchaikovsky's fifth symphony underscores his rejection of nationalistic musical sentiments that younger composers wove into their works. Still, many of the symphony's themes express a distinctly Russian element. Despite Tchaikovsky's later contentions that the symphony had no clear narrative (or program), his early sketches of the symphony described the opening clarinet melody as a "fate" motif that recurs throughout in a symbolic struggle against fate.

see insert for complete program notes





#### SCI-PHONIC II - ANIME AND ADVENTURE · April 27, 2024

#### **MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC**

Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor

#### Sci-Phonic II—Anime and Adventure!

Saturday, April 27, 2024, 7:30pm Salem High School Auditorium, Canton

Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Hektor Qyteti, director (side by side)

Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Wind Ensemble Dennis Carter, director (side-by-side)

World of Warcraft (2004)

Russell Brower, Derek Duke & Jason Hayes

(arr. Jerry Brubaker)

[Wrath of the Lich King, Lament of the Highborne, Lion's Pride]

Star Trek Through the Years Jerry Goldsmith, Alexander Courage Dennis McCarthy & Jay Chattaway

(arr. Calvin Custer)

[Star Trek TV Theme, The Next Generation, Deep Space Nine, The Inner Light, Star Trek Generations, Voyager]

Suite from "Taken" (2002)

Laura Karpman

(b. 1959) tle

Main Title Huckleberry 2 Allie Will Return

**Video Games Live Suite** 

Marty O'Donnell & Michael Salvatori Christopher Tin Tommy Tallaaric & Michael Richard Plowman, Yoko Shimamura (arr. Ralph Ford)

[Halo, Civilization IV, Bounty Hunter, Kingdom of Hearts]

-Intermission-

Zack Snyder's Justice League (2021)

Tom Holkenborg (1967)

(arr. Patrick Roszell)

[Batman, A Duty to Fight/to See, At the Speed of Force, The Crew at Warpower]

Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, Symphonic Suite (2001)

Howard Shore

(b. 1946) (arr. John Whitney)

[The Fellowship Theme, Prophecy, Concerning Hobbits, Three is Company, In Dreams, Shortcut, Knife in the Dark, Argonath, Breaking of the Fellowship]

My Neighbor Totoro (1988)

Joe Hisaishi

(arr. Yo Goto)

[Hey Let's Go, The Village in May, Traveling Soot, The Path of Wind, Catbus, My Neighbor Totoro]

Star Wars Medley (1977)

John Williams (b. 1932)

(arr. James H. Burden)

Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra & Wind Ensemble



Our quest to close out our season is to journey through the music of other worlds with an ode to science fiction, fantasy, and the added twist of anime, a popular Japanese book and movie culture. This concert features everything from "Stars Wars" to "Star Trek," from "Lord of the Rings" to "World of Warcraft" and an anime classic, "My Neighbor Totoro".



Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Hektor Qyteti, director



Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Hektor Qyteti, director

For more information on the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra please visit www.mpyo.org.

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#### **It Came From Mars**

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