



FROM GSO HISTORIAN

INTERESTING FUN FACT FROM THE GSO ARCHIVES

Fundraisers are an integral part of any non-for-profit organization. The Genesee Symphony Orchestra is no stranger to such events. Whether its raffles, flower sales, chicken barbeques, Tops Cards or sponsorships, you name it, we've probably done it at some point. But did you know that the GSO once had an annual Fall Membership Tea Drive with the ladies of the GSO?

The GSO Women's Fall Membership Tea was held every year during the 1960's and 1970's. The purpose of the women's organization was to seek out new members and to raise funds to help support the Orchestra. Charter members and their wives would be on hand at the tea to assist and show their support.

Tea Cups and Strings. How classical!

Want to learn more about the Genesee Symphony Orchestra and its history? Visit the memory books in the reference section of the Richmond Memorial Library or the permanent display at the Holland Land Office Museum.

Joanne Tumminello, GSO Historian

UPCOMING CONCERT

Brahms and Marquez

Sunday, March 12, 2017 4:00 p.m.
Stuart Steiner Theatre, GCC
Guest soloist Brian Preston, Piano

Concerto no. 1 in D Minor | Brahms
Danzon no. 2 | Marquez

GSO 70TH CONCERT SEASON - 2016-17

Regular concerts – Sundays 4:00pm

- Dec. 11 – “Holiday Concert” St. Mary’s Church, Batavia
- March 12 – “Brahms & Marquez” GCC
- May 7 – “Escaping Gravity” Elba School Auditorium

Other concerts:

- Sun. Aug 6 – “Summer Serenade” Mercy Grove, LeRoy
- Sat. Sept. 23 – GCC 50th Anniversary & Grand Opening of Call Event Center
- Concerts in Orleans and/or Wyoming Counties - TBA

2016-2017 TICKET INFORMATION

Single Ticket Prices

- Adult \$15
- Senior Citizen (62 & older) \$10
- Student (18 & under) \$7
- Family Ticket \$35
(parents and children 12 and under)

Concert tickets may be purchased at the door the day of the concert or at the following GSO “place of business” supporters: Vinyl Record Revival, YNGODESS, GoArt!, and Bank of Castile, LeRoy Branch

Tickets also available online: www.dailynewstickets.com and www.geneseesympphony.com

2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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S. Shade Zajac, Music Director / Conductor

MISSION STATEMENT

Genesee Symphony, Inc. is a dynamic, regional orchestra that presents innovative programming for the enrichment of the community through high quality performance, educational opportunities, guest artists, and partnerships that bring a diverse public and the arts together.

PROGRAM

Holiday Festival

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Concert - 4:00 P.M.

St. Mary’s Church, Batavia

Guests: Emily Helenbrook, Soprano and
Amelia Snyder, Alto Saxophone
GSO’s Young Artist Competition winner

Ukrainian Bell Carol | Traditional Arr. Nancy Strelau

Fanfare from La Péri | Paul Dukas

Concerto for Saxophone and String Orchestra | Glazunov

Amelia Snyder, Alto Saxophone

Entrance of the Gods into Valhalla | Richard Wagner

Exsultate, jubilate | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Emily Helenbrook, Soprano

Christmas at the Movies | Arr. Bob Krogstad

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas | Hugh Martin

Sleigh Ride | Leroy Anderson

Christmas Festival | Leroy Anderson

MESSAGE FROM THE CONDUCTOR

Dear Friends of the GSO,

Thanks to all who attended our opening concert in September at St. James in Batavia. It was such an inspiring evening and we cannot wait to share with you all we have planned for the coming concerts!

Up next is our annual Holiday Concert. We have a very festive program in store including holiday favorites such as *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* and the *Ukrainian Bell Carol*. The final 2017 Young Artist Competition Winner, Amelia Snyder, will be performing the Glazunov *Saxophone Concerto*, and Soprano Emily Helenbrook will be returning to sing Mozart’s glorious *Exsultate, jubilate*. We’ll have some fun with *Christmas at the Movies*, *Christmas Festival* (a medley of many loved Christmas carols), and of course everyone’s favorite, *Sleigh Ride*... maybe with a guest conductor?

There will be other exciting surprises and twists to put you in the Holiday Spirit. You might even want to dress up a bit for the occasion. I’m told our GSO musicians often “don some seasonally appropriate apparel.” Guess we’ll have to wait and see.

Please join us for an evening of beautiful music to welcome in the Holidays!

~S. Shade Zajac, Music Director/Conductor

EMILY HELENBROOK, SOPRANO



The GSO welcomes Emily Helenbrook for our holiday concert. Emily has performed several times as a featured soloist with local organizations and has also appeared twice on the nationally acclaimed show, *From the Top*, recorded at the Chautauqua Amphitheatre and Kodak Hall at Eastman. Miss Helenbrook has been recognized by the Am-pol Eagle with the Citizen of the Year Award in Music and also by GoArt! for “raising the bar musically, creatively, and altruistically for young artists in the community.” She is a recent graduate from the Eastman School of Music, studying with Carol Webber, and at the University of Rochester in the Dual Degree Program for Vocal Performance and Political Science.

AMELIA SNYDER, ALTO SAXOPHONE



We also welcome Amelia Snyder. She has studied at Hochstein with Nancy Boone-Bahr for four years and plays in the Hochstein Jazz Combo as well as the Hochstein Youth Wind Symphony. She is a three-time Merit Scholar of Hochstein, and participant in their Honors Certificate Program. At Eastman Community School she studies jazz saxophone privately with Doug Stone and participates in a saxophone quartet. She also has been selected for various All-County, and Area All-State groups throughout the years.

The GSO is pleased to be affiliated with Genesee Community College as Orchestra in Residence, since February 2005. The Stuart Steiner Theatre is the GSO home for most regular season concerts, and qualified GCC students may enroll for college credit through performance with the GSO. Both the Orchestra and College are pleased with this mutually beneficial affiliation.

Concerts are made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

The GSO Board of Directors and our new Music Director and Conductor Shade Zajac invite you to join us for a HOLIDAY FESTIVAL concert, Sunday Dec. 11th, 4:00 PM at St. Mary's Church on Ellicott St., Batavia. Your holiday spirit will be totally enlightened with a program blending classical orchestral pieces with music with a holiday flair.

Holiday Festival will feature local soprano soloist Emily Helenbrook of Alexander and Rochester, and Alto Saxophonist Amelia Snyder of Irondequoit. Emily will perform Mozart's beloved "Exsultate, jubilate" accompanied by the GSO. Amelia will play a movement of the Glazunov "Concerto for Saxophone and String Orchestra." Other holiday favorites will include "Christmas At the Movies" and Leroy Anderson's "Christmas Festival." And of course "Sleigh Ride" - conducted by a surprise guest conductor.

The GSO thanks the St. Mary's staff and congregation for opening their beautiful sanctuary, for the Genesee community to enjoy beautiful music of the season. Join your GSO for a fabulous celebration of this most beautiful holiday.

See you Sunday, Dec. 11th, 4:00 PM. A pre-concert talk with Maestro Zajac will start at 3:15 PM. Arrive early for a good seat!

Musically yours,
Roxie Choate - GSO Board President 2016-17

GSO RAFFLE 2017

Support your GSO and win a stay at the luxurious Geneva on the Lake Wine Country Villa and Resort in Geneva NY, in the lovely Finger Lakes region! This famous resort has kindly donated a voucher, as they did in 2013, to the GSO, to be raffled off at our May 7, 2017 concert.

The voucher includes

- one night's accommodation for two at Geneva on the Lake, any Sunday-Thursday evening through June 14, 2018 (certain date restrictions apply)
- a \$50 voucher toward a candlelight dinner for two,
- a bottle of Finger Lakes wine and flowers in your suite,
- continental breakfast.

Tickets may be purchased from any GSO Board member or musician, or at any GSO concert. Tickets are \$5 each, or 3/\$10. Winner must be 21 or older.

The 2013 winners of this wonderful GSO raffle prize are still raving about what a great getaway it was, and will be buying more tickets this year. Join them in supporting your Genesee Symphony Orchestra!



10TH ANNUAL GSO YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

The GSO is excited to announce its tenth Young Artist Competition! The Competition will be held on April 3, 2017 at the First Presbyterian Church in Batavia.

Information and applications are being sent to all music educators and private music teachers in Genesee and surrounding counties. Applications must be received by March 20, 2017. All instrumental and vocal students in grades 8 through 11 who can perform a NYSSMA solo, Level V/VI or above, are welcome to audition. A panel of music educators and GSO maestro Shade Zajac will judge the competition this year.

Last year's competitors were of such high quality that the GSO announced not one but THREE winners. Jackie Hager (cello) and Jerod Yap (piano) performed at the October GSO concert, and saxophonist Amelia Snyder will solo at the December 11 concert. At least three former GSO winners have appeared on the nationally popular NPR From the Top radio program. And of course, former winner Emily Helenbrook returns for the GSO's December 11 concert!

Each participant will be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, and the winner will be featured as the Guest Soloist with the orchestra for a 2017-18 season concert. Contact music educators or private teachers for information and application forms, or email Georgia Childs at gchilds45@verizon.net.

GSO STRING WORKSHOP....COMING IN APRIL!

The GSO reaches out to string (violin, viola, cello, bass) students in the Genesee region through the GSO's annual String Workshop, to be held this year on Saturday April 1st, 2017, 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM, at GOART! in Batavia. GSO conductor and cellist Shade Zajac will direct the workshop.

Area string teachers are sent two music selections, levels 3 or 4, chosen by Zajac. They then assist their string students in learning the pieces. Students come together at the Workshop as an ensemble, working with Maestro Zajac and other GSO string players. They then perform the two pieces with the GSO at the May 7th, 2017 concert at Elba Central School. Adult string players are also welcome to join the Workshop, and should contact either Roxie Choate or Georgia Childs.

The GSO Board, musicians and students thank the **Bank of Castile** for their sponsorship of the String Workshop.



ADOPT-A-CHAIR

Adopt-a-Chair is an exciting program which affords the participant a first-hand experience with the orchestra.

For \$35.00, "adopt" a musician of the orchestra. Choose your favorite instrument and sit in that section during the dress rehearsal, for a "behind the scenes" experience in which you will see and hear an orchestra at work. Contact GSO Board Member Helen Parkins at hparkins3373@gmail.com to arrange your Adopt-a-Chair experience.

PURCHASE TOPS GIFT CARDS TO SUPPORT YOUR GSO!

You can support your GSO by purchasing TOPS gift cards! Look for our TOPS Cards representative at the ticket table on concert dates. Cash or check (made payable to GSO) can be accepted for your purchase. For more information, contact Joanne Tumminello at jtmreg4@hotmail.com.



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GSO WEBSITE

The GSO Website is up and running! Visit us at www.geneseesyphony.com and find the most up to date information for concert events and symphony news. Purchase your concert tickets online, and sign up for the email version of the GSO newsletter!



String Workshop Rehearsal

