

Genesee Symphony Orchestra
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MESSAGE FROM THE CONDUCTOR

Happy Spring from all of us in the Genesee Symphony Orchestra!

Thank you for coming to our previous concert, and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. It's hard to believe we have only one regular season concert left, and what an exciting afternoon it will be.

Our centerpiece for this "all space" concert will be Gustav Holst's epic suite *The Planets*. Holst wrote this piece during the tense period leading up to the First World War and its outbreak. *The Planets* is filled with contrasts between driving, mechanical march rhythms in Mars, peaceful moments in Venus, and jolly glorious melodies in Jupiter. Holst specified a massive orchestra: think six horns, four trumpets, two harps, two sets of tympani and a contrabassoon. This is, we think, the largest orchestra the GSO has ever put on stage. Don't miss it!

Before we take Holst's journey through our solar system, however, we start with pieces dealing with our own planet. Earth was not included in Holst's suite, so to complete our journey we start with *And God Created Great Whales*, for Tape and Orchestra by Alan Hovhaness. This piece uses actual whale songs, and some very interesting sounds from the orchestra.

We also dive into science fiction with John Williams' excerpts from *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. Also on the first half of the program, we feature our String Workshop participants as they join us on stage to perform *Music From Apollo 13*.

May 7 will prove to be a memorable afternoon for all involved, and we hope you will join us as we close out this season and look forward to many more!

~S. Shade Zajac

DO YOU LOVE ORCHESTRA MUSIC?

As President of the GSO Board, I would ask you to seriously consider giving some of your time and creative talents to furthering the strength of our musical culture in the Genesee County area by joining our amazing team of fourteen GSO Board Members. When I joined the GSO board 12 years ago, I was so impressed with the caring and dedication of the many board members who planned and worked together for the long term benefit of our amazing GSO orchestra. Our board always needs new members to keep our energy and financial support alive. With more dedicated board members, we can be assured of the continuation of our strong orchestra environment within our GLOW region. The board meets on the second Wednesday of each month excluding July and December, usually in the Gallery Room at the Richmond Library, 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Please call me, Roxie Choate and inquire about joining our GSO board. My cell: 585-356-9635. Our next board meeting is Wednesday, May 10th, 7:00 PM at the Richmond Library.

Sincerely, Roxie Choate

PROGRAM

ESCAPING GRAVITY A JOURNEY THROUGH THE STARS

Sunday, May 7, 2017 4:00 p.m.

Elba Central School Auditorium

Featuring GSO String Workshop

And God Created Great Whales | Hovhaness

Music From Apollo 13 | Horner, Arr. John Moss
String Workshop

Suite from Close Encounters of the Third Kind |
John Williams

The Planets | Holst

GSO DINNER FOLLOWING MAY 7 CONCERT AND YOU'RE INVITED!

After the May 7 concert, GSO Musicians, Board, friends, String Workshop participants and parents, and guests (including you!) are invited to an end-of-season celebration dinner at Terry Hills, immediately following the concert at Elba Central School Auditorium. Join us for an informal evening of basking in the glow of what promises to be a spectacular program of inspiring works performed by GSO musicians and String Workshop participants. It'll even be great weather!

Our conductor, Shade, wants to gather all of our supportive GSO family and friends together for dinner to announce the 71st Concert Season repertoire and concert dates. Our new 71st Concert Season Brochures will be ready so all of our dedicated GSO Concert-goers will have an "up-front" view of the wonderful GSO concert season for 2017-2018. We will be arriving at Terry Hills at approximately 6:00 PM following the 4:00 PM concert, for a social time while everyone arrives for the buffet dinner. The dinner is \$20 a person which is all inclusive. We will occupy all of the Terry Hills Restaurant as the GSO is the only party on for the evening.

Please call Anne Funston at 343-0350 or Nora Sands, at 585-880-4321 and make your dinner/buffet reservations for this Dinner Reception. Shade wants everyone to have a fun evening with great food, and the announcement of our 71st Concert Season. Believe us, we have a very well known Concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra who will be playing a beautiful violin concerto with us on our 3rd concert. Come to dinner and join the excitement! Call and make reservations for our May 7th Dinner Reception!

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: Roxy's Music Store, Vinyl Record Revival, YNGODESS, GoArt!, and Bank of Castile, LeRoy Branch
Tickets also available online: www.dailynewstickets.com and www.geneseesymphony.com

UPCOMING 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



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<https://m.facebook.com/geneseesymphonyorchestra>

GSO WEBSITE

The GSO Website is up and running! Visit us at www.geneseesymphony.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!

GOART! EVENTS CALENDAR

GOART! now maintains a calendar database of its affiliate groups' schedules, including GSO concerts and events as well as those of other regional NYSCA grant recipients. Check it out at www.goart.org and follow the "View All Events" tab to see what your GSO - and other GOART & NYSCA grant recipients - are up to.

The GSO is pleased to be affiliated with Genesee Community College as SUNY 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.



This project is made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and administered by GoArt!.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ahhh... Sunday May 7th is the big day for an adventure into Outer Space. Come to Elba Central School Auditorium at 4:00pm for a wild journey: ESCAPING GRAVITY with our GSO.

Six of our solar system's nine planets are featured in Gustav Holst's *The Planets*, and Earth is represented by Alan Hovhaness' *And God Created Great Whales* - with real whale sounds! Then John Williams' *Suite from Close Encounters of the Third Kind* takes us into the unknown. GSO conductor S. Shade Zajac has created a wonderful adventure in the repertoire mix for this concert. GSO musicians have shown much excitement in rehearsals - wait 'til you hear it! This concert is a work of love for GSO musicians who show enthusiasm for all the works showcased.

All 33 GSO String Workshop participants will join the orchestra in *Music From Apollo 13* by John Horner. In my years of working with String Workshop students and parents, I always love seeing the excitement of rehearsing with GSO string players and playing on stage with the full GSO. Many commented they can't have this type of experience within their private instruction or school setting. BRAVO TO OUR STRING WORKSHOP KIDS and adults!

So join our GSO (space suit optional) for a "Spacial Adventure," Sunday May 7th, 4:00pm at Elba Central School Auditorium. Tickets are on sale at the door, and other ticket venues prior to the concert.

Roxie Choate, GSO Board President

ADOPT-A-CHAIR *Adopt Me!*

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.

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.

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 on 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 the 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.



GENEVA ON THE LAKE

WINE COUNTRY VILLA & RESORT
800-3-GENEVA

FROM GSO HISTORIAN

The Concertmaster

Who or what is the Concertmaster? By definition, the Concertmaster is the second most significant person in an orchestra. Seated to the left of the Conductor in the first chair of the string section, he or she acts as the conduit between conductor and orchestra, and is accountable to both. In addition to "tuning" the orchestra before rehearsals and performances, the concertmaster's job is to translate instructions from the conductor regarding any specific technical language for the strings, such like bowing techniques. The concertmaster is also responsible for playing any violin solo passages in an orchestral work when there is no guest soloist.

The Genesee Symphony Orchestra has had many wonderful concertmasters over the years. Do we always change when new leadership or a conductor is brought in? Not necessarily - but sometimes concertmasters move on and a talented new one steps up, giving the stage a new feel.

We are fortunate so many talented violinists have graced the stage as leaders, and wish to extend heartfelt thanks to those past and present who have served as GSO concertmaster. As of the GSO's March 2017 concert, our concertmaster is Kiran Rajamani. Please welcome him and let him know you appreciate what he does for our orchestra!

Want to learn more about the Genesee Symphony Orchestra and the concertmasters? 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

GSO YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

Ten talented young musicians from Western NY participated in the 10th annual GSO Young Artist Competition at the First Presbyterian Church in Batavia on April 3, 2017. This year's contestants were:

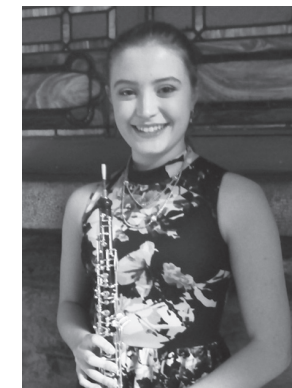
- Mia Fasanello, 11th grade at Clarence High-oboe
- Lydia Geiger, 9th grade at Batavia High- flute
- Claire Guo, 11th grade at Penfield High-violin
- Isabella He, 8th grade at Barker Rd Middle School-violin
- Madison Hoerbelt, 11th grade at Batavia High-voice
- Nicholas Kinney, 10th grade at Pittsford Sutherland High-cello
- Alicia Loui, 10th grade at Fairport High-cello
- Joyce Luo, 11th grade at Pittsford Mendon High-cello
- Sam Reeder, 10th grade at The Harley School-clarinet
- Connie Yap, 8th grade at Clarence Middle School-piano

Each contestant received a Certificate of Achievement in recognition and appreciation for their talents and their discipline, dedication, and investment in the time and effort it takes to develop their talent to this level. The Adjudication Panel, comprised of GSO Music Director/Conductor S. Shade Zajac and members of the orchestra who are also music educators, chose Mia Fasanello (oboe) as the winner of the competition.

Mia will perform with the GSO at a concert during the 2017 - 2018 season.

Honorable Mention was awarded to Isabella He (violin), Joyce Luo (cello), and Connie Yap (piano).

Thanks to all who contributed to making this event a success!
Georgia Childs



Mia Fasanello



Isabella He



Joyce Luo



Connie Yap



GSO STRING WORKSHOP

The Bank of Castile kindly sponsored GSO's 2017 String Workshop, held April 1 at GOART. Thirty three string students from the GLOW region participated as GSO conductor S. Shade Zajac directed and rehearsed *Music from Apollo 13* by John Horner. String students learned the piece in advance with their private and public school teachers.

Students are motivated to improve skills as they work through interpretation. As the workshop unfolds, there is excitement in abundance, many students playing in a large group setting for the first time. GSO string players mentor the group, everyone working together toward a beautiful sound.

String Workshop students will play *Apollo 13* side by side with the GSO at the May 7 concert. Come see and hear the excitement as String Workshop students make the GSO grow to 80 musicians. WOW!

GSO VIOLINIST ELISABETH VEAZEY

Elisabeth A. Veazey, age 94, formerly of Brooklyn Avenue, Warsaw, died Sunday, March 26, 2017. She was born in Rochester, NY on April 18, 1922 and grew up in Rochester. She attended Houghton College for two years and attended New York University, where she graduated with a degree in Business Administration. She worked as a Family Case Worker for the Wyoming County Department of Social Services for over 20 years.

She played with the orchestra in the 1990's and was an inspiration to all of us. Elisabeth had a great love of music and thought it important to pass this on to her many students. She taught private piano lessons and enjoyed playing the organ. She also enjoyed accompanying monthly hymn sings at Gainesville Baptist Church. Elisabeth had 11 children, 26 grandchildren, and 29 great grandchildren. She was loved by many and will be missed by all.

