

**Yunn-Shan Ma, Conductor**



Taiwan native Yunn-Shan Ma is a conductor, pianist, and educator in both America and Asia. As a doctoral candidate at the Eastman School of Music, she has a passion for choral, symphonic, operatic and contemporary repertoire under the tutelage of William Weinert and Neil Varon. She is the music director of the Taiwanese Choral Society of Rochester.

In July 2013, Ms. Ma was selected as one of five finalists to guest conduct the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. In February 2015, she premiered Britten's cantata *Phaedra* for mezzo-soprano solo and orchestra at Eastman Kilbourn Hall.

Ms. Ma currently teaches and leads ensembles at the Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva and the Nazareth College in Rochester, NY.

**Program**

***Holiday Feast***

Sunday, December 6, 2015 4:00 P.M.

St. Mary's Church, Batavia

Yunn-Shan Ma, Conductor

Guest Artists

Lars Kirvan, Cello, RPO 2014-15 Season Principal Cellist

5th & 6th Grade Chorus, Oakfield-Alabama Central School

Danielle Mileham, Director

Leonard Bernstein | *Candide Overture*

Bedřich Smetana | *The Moldau*

Antonín Dvořák | *Silent Woods for Cello and Orchestra*

Lars Kirvan, Cello

Joseph Haydn | *Cello Concerto No. 1 in C Major*; Movement I

Lars Kirvan, Cello

Mikhail Glinka | *Ruslan and Ludmilla Overture*

Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov | Selections *Snow Maiden Suite*

Alan Silvestri | *Polar Express Suite*

5th & 6th Grade Chorus, Oakfield-Alabama Central School

*Holiday Choral Selections*

**Guest Artist Lars Kirvan, Cello**



Cellist Lars Kirvan grew up in Fairfax, Virginia, where he began his cello studies with Loran Stephenson of the National Symphony Orchestra. He later earned his bachelor's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music where he was a student of the Cleveland Orchestra's renowned principal

cellist, Stephen Geber.

Kirvan was a member of the Verbier Festival Orchestra in Switzerland and the Verbier Chamber Orchestra where he served as a principal, and also was a member and principal of the New World Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas. Kirvan has traveled all over the world performing in its most prestigious concert halls and has been fortunate to collaborate in chamber music performances with artists such as Maxim Vengerov, James Buswell, Leonidas Kavakos, Dimitry Sitkovesky, Heinrich Schiff, Laurence Lesser, Jon Kimura Parker, and many more. He was recently invited to join the World Orchestra for Peace, conducted by Valery Gergiev.

Most recently, Kirvan became the assistant principal cellist of the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. Kirvan joined the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra in 2008. In the 2014-15 season, he served as principal cellist of the RPO.

**Message from the Conductor**

The end of the year approaches, and it's time to celebrate a *Holiday Feast* with family, friends, and the GSO!

For **Appetizer**, we have Leonard Bernstein's *Candide Overture*. This vivacious music, with its rapidly changing meter and sophisticated instrumentation, including harp, full brass, and extensive percussion, make the *Candide Overture* the best curtain raiser of all time!

For the **Soup**, Bedřich Smetana composed *The Moldau* to depict two springs in the Bohemian Forest merging into a stream that becomes the mighty river, flowing through lowlands and villages toward Prague, to be welcomed by Vyséhrad castle. Also from GSO's Czech kitchen, we present Antonín Dvořák's *Silent Woods*, a deep, warm, and charming piece for cello and orchestra.

How could we call it a *Feast* without a classical, royal touch? Our **Holiday Entrée** starts with the first movement of Haydn's *Cello Concerto No. 1 in C Major*, served by GSO's guest cellist, Lars Kirvan. This gem, with its stately and majestic presence, was lost and only rediscovered in 1961. It perfectly symbolizes the brilliant Esterhazy court, for which Haydn was Kapellmeister for many years.

Danielle Mileham and her marvelous treble chorus from the Oakfield-Alabama Central School have prepared Christmas and Hanukkah melodies for our guests. **Side dishes?** Of course! We have Mikhail Glinka's *Ruslan and Ludmilla Overture* and selections from the *Snow Maiden Suite* of Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov, all fine examples of Russian musical cuisine.

For **Dessert**, you will have the first taste of GSO's *Polar Express Suite*, with a new vocal arrangement sung by the spirits of the treble chorus.

On December 6th, we will welcome you, your family and guests at St. Mary's! Reserve your seats NOW!

- Yunn-Shan Ma, your Guest Chef on the Podium

**2015-2016 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:

Batavia Senior Center • Roxy's Music Store,  
GoArt!, Batavia • Bank of Castile, LeRoy

**2015-2016 Board of Directors**

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**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.



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.



## GSO Welcomes Youth Chorus

The GSO welcomes the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus from the Oakfield-Alabama Central School District. The chorus will be under the direction of Mrs. Danielle Mileham.

Mrs. Mileham is a graduate of Oakfield-Alabama Central School District. Five years ago she returned to her alma mater to direct the Choral Ensembles and teach General Music. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education (major instrument Organ), and a Master's Degree in Christian Music in Worship from Houghton College.

In addition to her work for the school district, Mrs. Mileham is the Director of Music for the Middleport United Methodist Church in Middleport, NY, leads the Junior and Senior High Youth Group with her husband, and instructs youth in piano and organ.



## Oakfield-Alabama Elementary 5-6 Chorus

(Front) Row 1: Alysa Schwable, Jaydn Brummert, Brooke Kennedy, Brooke Reding, Bailie Ward, Maggie Monachino, Nicole Rebert, Justin Sanders, Josie Reding, McKenna Johnson, Masha Riggi Row 2: Lauren Mandel, Ashley Ostrander, Reanna Robinson, Bethany Brown, Paige Klotzbach, Jaylee Johnson, Susie Acquard, Cameron Heineman, Colton Yasses, Evelyn Rebert, Jordan Tobolski Row 3: Kayleigh Williams, Rebekah Crosley, Greg Narburgh, Jenna Gilbert, Mariana Higgins, Makena Reding, Judah Macdonald, Sophia Johnston (Back) Row 4: Tyhler Wood, Sadie Nickels, Carlee Klein, Emma Haacke, Katherine Gendron, Jordan Schlagenhauf, Kelsey Schlagenhauf, Sonja Negvesky, Emilee Schroeder Missing: Colbi Heineman, Lily Davis

## Notes from the President

The GSO Board of Directors would like to invite you to join us for our Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> Concert, *Holiday Feast*. Yunn-Shan Ma, our second Music Director candidate, will present a program blending classically based orchestral pieces with music of a holiday flare. Her *Holiday Feast* invites us to order up our appetites in a very musical way. A pre-concert talk with Ms. Ma will be featured at 3:15 P.M. at our concert site, St. Mary's Church on Ellicott St., in Batavia.

Guests for the event will include Lars Kirvan, cellist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus from Oakfield-Alabama Central School District under the direction of Mrs. Danielle Mileham. Mr. Kirvan will be featured in two orchestral pieces for solo cello. The chorus will be singing 4 selections, in addition to performing in our concert finale - chorus and orchestra selections from *The Polar Express Suite*.

Save the Date - Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M., and join us for a *Holiday Feast*!

The GSO would like to thank the St. Mary's congregation and clergy for opening their beautiful sanctuary for our community to enjoy beautiful orchestral music.

Musically yours, Roxie Choate and Paul Saskowski  
Co-Presidents GSO Board of Directors

## Meet the Orchestra

Attention Parents and Grandparents!

Make this a memorable holiday season with the gift of music! Students in grades 3 to 8 are invited to join the fun at the GSO's annual **Meet the Orchestra** event held in conjunction with the February 14, 2016 concert.

Student Participants will:

- Sit alongside an instrument player of their choice and experience a rehearsal on the evening of Friday, February 12.
- Meet with the musicians of the GSO one hour prior to the concert for instrument demonstrations on Sunday, February 14.
- Receive a free concert ticket as well as a half-price adult ticket.

A **Meet the Orchestra** reservation makes a great stocking stuffer—We'll even send you a gift certificate for your student!

Deadline to register is January 30, 2016. To reserve a spot, contact Melzie Case at [melziesmusic@gmail.com](mailto:melziesmusic@gmail.com) or call (585) 993-7415.

## 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](mailto:hparkins3373@gmail.com) to arrange your Adopt-a-Chair experience.



## Next Concert

### Flutes and Flourishes

Sunday, February 14, 2016, 4:00 P.M.

Stuart Steiner Theatre, GCC

Conductor: Nicholas DelBello

Music Educator with the Buffalo City School District

Founder of the Buffalo Brass Choir

Choirmaster/Organist at Blessed Trinity Church in Buffalo, NY

Guest Artist: Christine Davis, Principal Flutist of the BPO

Featuring members of the Buffalo Brass Choir and Miranda DelBello, Flute

This is the Valentine's Day Concert you will want to bring your Sweetheart to!

## High Notes: Marjorie Fulmer



Marjorie Fulmer from LeRoy, NY  
Occupation: Retired Instrumental Music Teacher  
Years with the GSO: 28 years

Q. Which instrument/s do you play?  
A. Flute, Organ, and Piano

Q. What was your first instrument? When and why did you start playing?  
A. Piano. We had my grandmother's baby grand piano and I couldn't wait

to play! I was about 8 years old.

Q. What are your fondest musical memories?

A. Seeing both of my parents play in bands and orchestras – And then finally playing in a band myself.

Q. What advice would you give to beginning instrumental students?

A. No matter what instrument you play, you will love it if you practice consistently. Your rapid progress will be so rewarding!

Q. People would be surprised to know that I...

A. Married a man who is totally unmusical!

Q. List 3 adjectives that best describe you.

A. Energetic, Loyal, and Joyful

Q. What would you like to be doing in 5 years?

A. The same things I'm doing right now – Playing the flute, tennis, and golf. Biking, sewing, and spending time with my family.

Q. What famous musician/composer would you most like to meet? A. J.S. Bach

Q. If you could play another instrument, what would it be?

A. Cello

Q. What do you enjoy most about being a musician?

A. Collaborating with other musicians.

## Endowment

To help ensure the future of the Genesee Symphony Orchestra, an endowment fund was created in the year of the orchestra's 50th anniversary. Show your support for the GSO by contributing to the GSO Endowment Fund today.

## From GSO Historian

Did you know that in 1967, you could buy a membership to attend the Genesee Symphony Orchestra Concerts? Patron Memberships were \$10, Associate Memberships were \$5, and Student Memberships were \$1.50 - a bargain by today's standards to be sure. However, when you remember that for such a small price comes great enjoyment, supporting a wonderful community gem like the GSO is worth every penny.

Thank you for your continued support then and now!

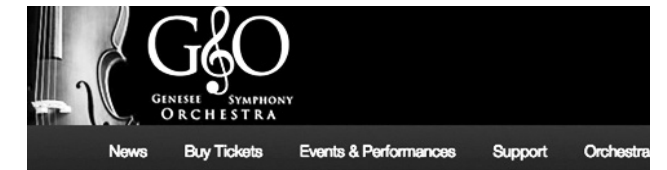
Want to learn more about the Genesee Symphony Orchestra? Visit the memory books in the reference section of the Richmond Memorial Library or the permanent display at the Holland Land Office Museum.

Joanne Tumminello, GSO Historian

## GSO Website

The GSO Website is up and running! Visit us at [www.geneseesympphony.com](http://www.geneseesympphony.com) and find the most up to date information for concert events and symphony news. In addition to articles about our musicians and history, you'll be able to purchase your concert tickets online – and of course, prices are the same as at our usual outlets. Just print your receipt and bring it with you to the concert! While you're visiting our site, sign up for the email version of the GSO newsletter! You'll be helping us cut our printing and postage costs.

Thanks! And we'll see you at St. Mary's on December 6<sup>th</sup> for a **Holiday Feast**!



The Genesee Symphony Orchestra is on Facebook! Check out our page and "Like" us!

## Purchase TOPS gift cards to support your GSO!

One of the GSO Board's many fundraising efforts is a collaboration with TOPS Markets, where many of us shop. It's simple: we buy TOPS gift cards, in many denominations (\$10, 20, 25, 50, 100), and you buy them from the GSO... and the GSO earns 5%. The cost differential to you? ZERO. These gift cards are worth face value and have no expiration date.

Even if you don't do your grocery shopping at TOPS, do you ever buy gift certificates for others? The TOPS cards are redeemable for that purpose, too. Plus TOPS cards make great presents for those you love.

We ask GSO supporters to also financially support the GSO—at **no cost to you**. Bring cash or a check (made out to GSO) to the concerts.



These cards are convenient and easy to use. They may be used just like cash to purchase gas or groceries at TOPS. Another great feature of these cards is that they may be used to purchase other gift cards for

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