



Chris Choate ©

## Genesee Symphony Orchestra 2019-2020 Concert Season

### *Symphonic Pictures*

#### Symphonic Pictures II *A Nutcracker Holiday!*

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**      **4:00 P.M.**  
**Byron Bergen High School**

*Concerto Grosso no. 8 in G Minor (Christmas Concerto)* | Corelli  
*Sleigh Ride* | Anderson

*Piano Concerto no. 2 in G Minor* | Saint-Saëns  
I. Andante sostenuto

Amy Feng, Piano      GSO 2019 Young Artist Winner

*The Nutcracker: Selections from Act 1* | Tchaikovsky  
*Overture*  
*Scene 1: Decorating and Lighting of the Tree*  
*March*  
*Battle*  
*Snow Pas de deux*  
*Waltz of the Snowflakes*  
Pembroke Elementary School Chorus

*Pat-A-Pan* | arr. Andy Beck

*Al Shlosa D'varim* | Allan E. Naplan  
Pembroke Elementary School Chorus  
Ms. Erin Rush Director, Sarah Panna, Pianist

*The Christmas Song* | Torme

*Christmas Festival* | Anderson

#### Symphonic Pictures III *Once Upon a Time*

**Sunday, March 1, 2020**      **4:00 P.M.**  
**Elba Central School Auditorium**

*Night on Bald Mountain* | Mussorgsky

*Ma Mere L'Oye (Mother Goose Suite)* | Ravel

*Romeo and Juliet: Selections* | Prokofiev

#### Symphonic Pictures IV *Dance*

**Sunday, May 3, 2020**      **4:00 P.M.**  
**Elba Central School Auditorium**  
**Guest David Kim, Violin Philadelphia Orchestra Concertmaster**  
**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 Helen Parkins at hparkins45@gmail.com to arrange your Adopt-a-Chair experience.

#### Guest Soloist Amy Feng, Piano



Amy Feng, a freshman at Pittsford Sutherland High School, studies piano with Elier Suarez and cello with Kathy Kemp. Amy has been a top prize winner of numerous piano competitions, such as the Duquesne National Young of the Gifted and Talented Passion of Music Festival, Nazareth College Piano Competition, and Junior All-Star Piano Competition (Levels I-III). Amy had her orchestral debut at age 13 with the

Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra (HYSO) as a winner of the concerto competition. She was invited to perform at the NYSSMA Conference All-State Piano Showcase concert in 2017. Amy is deeply engaged in giving back to the community, frequently performing in Music for Love's outreach concerts and fundraisers. Aside from music, Amy loves science, participating in Model UN conferences, and playing varsity tennis.

We welcome Amy to solo with the orchestra as winner of the GSO 2019 Young Artist Competition.

### 2019-20 GSO Raffle? Of course!

This season it's something we haven't done before... a very attractive package you're going to want to take a chance on! Watch for details. Not only is it something you're going to love - or want to give as a gift - but your raffle ticket purchase also helps fund our GSO. Drawing is during the May 3 concert intermission: need not be present to win (but you're going to want to be there).

### Message from the Maestro

It is that wonderful time of the year again! The Orchestra and I are getting ready to put on our annual Holiday Program.

Continuing with our season-long theme this concert is titled *Symphonic Pictures: A Nutcracker Holiday*. We feature (you guessed it) Tchaikovsky's treasured ballet *The Nutcracker*. We will be performing some of the most memorable moments from Act I including *The March*, *Battle*, and *Waltz of the Snowflakes*, featuring the Pembroke Elementary School Chorus.

The Chorus, directed by Ms. Erin Rush, will then perform two selections on their own. We are very excited to work with this wonderful group of students!

We also feature our 2019 Young Artist Winner Amy Feng, performing the passionate first movement of the *Piano Concerto No. 2* by Saint-Saëns.

And of course, the program promises tons of fun, tasty treats and your favorite holiday classics such as *Sleigh Ride* and *Christmas Festival!* We hope you'll join us once again for an evening of fantastic music and holiday cheer!

~Shade



## Season's Greetings!

As we move into the Holiday season, we're reminded of all the wonderful things for which we're thankful. For the GSO December 8th concert, conductor S. Shade Zajac has a fantastic afternoon planned, full of great holiday classics. We're excited to present some familiar and some not-yet-familiar great festive pieces you'll really enjoy, including *Sleigh Ride* and selections from *The Nutcracker*. We also welcome holiday selections from the Pembroke Elementary Chorus.

Our featured soloist is the winner of our 2019 Young Artist Competition, Amy Feng. Amy is a talented pianist from Rochester, performing a beautiful Saint-Saëns concerto. It's a real holiday blessing to hear a great talent like Amy. Congratulations Amy and thank you for joining us! We look forward to following your career and all the future holds for you.

Lastly, thank you to you, our patrons. Your patronage, partnership and dedication have helped keep the GSO going strong for 73 years. We look forward to seeing you on December 8 at Byron-Bergen, and at the Elba Central School Auditorium in March and May for more great GSO programs. Have a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

Justin Hopkins & Roxie Choate, Co-Presidents 2019-20

## A Note from the GSO Historian

Keeping with our theme of days-gone-by and premieres, in 1999 (20 years ago!) the Genesee Symphony Orchestra premiered *The Capture* by Violinist/Composer Anthony Van Pelt. It was a moving piece which portrays a game of "capture the flag" in the woods at night.

During the concert, GSO musicians broke up into small ensemble groups and performed around the audience to create a "prism" effect and to "engulf the audience with an all-encompassing audible experience" as reported in the Daily News.

It was a unique way to perform at the time, which delighted both the audience and GSO musicians alike.

Want to learn more about the Genesee Symphony Orchestra and guest performers? Visit the memory books in the reference section of the Richmond Memorial Library. And be sure to visit the permanent display at the Holland Land Office Museum for more historical facts about the GSO.

Joanne Tumminello, GSO Historian

## Instruments of the Orchestra: continued: Woodwinds

In October's NL we explored the percussion section. Pretty varied and confusing, right? Now we introduce the Woodwinds, which share their means of sound production: wind. Or more specifically, human breath. But they're not all made of wood.

Woodwinds make their music by means of (1) blowing air across an open hole, (2) across a fixed-size aperture, or (3) across or between vibrating reeds.

In the first category, remember the fun of blowing air across an open pop bottle? The pitch or frequency (A, B flat, F, C#, etc.) depends of the volume of air in the bottle. Add or pour some out, change the pitch. Same principle with the instruments in this category: flute, piccolo etc. Change the length or volume of the vibrating column of air within the instrument - by means of keys opening or closing holes along the column - and change the pitch. A piccolo is a high-soprano flute. And yes, there are bass flutes too.

The second category describes some of the oldest tonal (pitch-producing) instruments known to human civilization. Variations have been found dating back 50,000 years, and several are mentioned in the Bible. Whistles are one example. Simple plastic "flutophones" are still used in schools to teach basic music. In the Baroque era, Recorders were (and still are) popular.

The largest modern group of woodwinds are the reeds. Two types: single reed instruments include clarinets and saxophones (both in soprano, alto, tenor and bass versions) and a host of variations around the world (hornpipe, anyone?). A harmonica is a multiple-single-reed instrument.

Double-reed woodwinds include oboe, English horn and the bassoons. There are even triple and quadruple-reed instruments. Again, pitch is controlled by means of valves and holes along the airway. And of course, many sizes for many pitch ranges. Or how about several double-reed pipes in one instrument: think bagpipes!

So where's the rest of the confusion about woodwinds? Early instruments were made of bone, wood, gourds or whatever material was available. Flutes are usually made of metal, not wood. There are plastic as well as wooden clarinets. And saxes are usually made of brass. Which doesn't make them brass instruments: they're woodwinds because of the way sound is produced.

More next time on the Brass section! -Bob Knipe

## GSO String Workshop

This season's String Workshop will be Saturday, March 28, 9:30am-2:00pm at the First Presbyterian Church in Batavia, under the leadership of GSO conductor S. Shade Zajac, with assistance from GSO string musicians. Students will develop their skills on two pieces, which they'll then play with the GSO at the May 3 concert. This concert will also feature a return guest, concertmaster David Kim of the Philadelphia Orchestra, playing a violin concerto with the GSO. What a thrill for our students, and the audience!

The annual String Workshop is open to students of all ages and is sponsored by the GSO Board of Directors and the Bank of Castile.

String Students...see your teacher to start learning the music for March 28th!

### 2019-2020 Ticket Information

#### Single Ticket Prices

Adult ..... \$15

Senior Citizen (62 & older) \$10

Student ..... Free with student ID

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, YNGODESS, Go Art!, and Bank of Castile, LeRoy Branch.

Tickets also available online:

[www.dailynewstickets.com](http://www.dailynewstickets.com) and [www.geneseesymphony.com](http://www.geneseesymphony.com)

## Young Artist Competition 2020

The GSO happily announces its 11th annual Young Artist Competition. The winner performs with the GSO during its 2020-2021 concert season. Last year's winner, Amy Feng, solos at the GSO December 8 Holiday concert!

The Competition will take place Saturday, April 4th at the First Presbyterian Church, Batavia. Student must currently be enrolled in grades 8-11, and:

- May be a vocalist or instrumentalist.
- Must perform a NYSSMA Solo Level V or VI and consider auditioning on the selection to be performed with the GSO. Solo limited to 15 minutes.
- Must provide his/her own accompanist. A piano will be provided.
- The Music Director/Conductor and adjudication panel will make the final decision on whether or not the top performer will be of the caliber to perform with the orchestra. The winner, his or her teacher, and the conductor will then select the piece that will be performed at the concert.

Applications must be received by Monday, March 23, 2020. There is a non-refundable \$10 fee. See <https://geneseesymphony.com/2243-2/> or contact Katharine Wilson at [katharinewilson04@gmail.com](mailto:katharinewilson04@gmail.com) with any questions.



### Save a Tree...

Get the GSO Newsletter in your email!

The GSO offers the option of getting this Newsletter from now on... in your email. How?

Simple. Send a quick email to [geneseesymphonyorchestra@gmail.com](mailto:geneseesymphonyorchestra@gmail.com) and it will happen.



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 many regular season concerts.



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 GO ART!.