



Genesee Symphony Orchestra
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75th Season Celebration *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow!*

Upcoming Concerts

Sunday, October 3, 2021

Genesee Community College 4:00 P.M.

Summon the Heroes!

Summon the Heroes | John Williams

An Elegy (A Cry from the Grave) | Carlos Simon

Ravish and Mayhem | Stephanie Berg

Into the Silent Land | Steve Danyew

Gemini Zajac, Narrator

Symphony no. 4 | David Diamond

Lincoln Portrait | Aaron Copland

Dr. James M. Sunser, Narrator

President, Genesee Community College

Saturday, November 6, 2021

Genesee Community College

Meet the Orchestra 3:00 P.M.

Concert 4:00 P.M.

75th Anniversary Dinner to follow, details TBA

Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow!

The 75th Anniversary Concert

Overture to Ruslan and Ludmilla | Mikhail Glinka

Die Meistersinger | Richard Wagner

Prelude to Act III, *Dance of the Apprentices*, and *Finale*

Prelude and Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana | Pietro Mascagni

Concerto for Oboe and Orchestra | Wolfgang Mozart

Mia Fasanello, Oboe

New Commission: TBA | Nancy Pettersen Strelau

Three Dances from Nell Gwyn | Edward German

Hungarian Rhapsodies no. 2 | Liszt arr. K. Muller-Berghaus

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Genesee Community College 4:00 P.M.

Holiday Jubilee!

Message from the Maestro

Dear Friends,

The 75th season begins and we are so excited to finally be back performing for our faithful audience! We have two upcoming concerts I will be writing about. Our first concert this season will be an exploration of American Music. We begin with John Williams' brilliant fanfare *Summon the Heroes*. During this pandemic, there have been many heroes of all sorts and this is our way of honoring them. Also, we are featuring works by three other living composers; *Ravish and Mayhem* by Stephanie Berg, *Into the Silent Land* by Steve Danyew with Gemini Zajac as narrator, and *An Elegy (A Cry from the Grave)* by Carlos Simon. At the heart of the program, we have two very special pieces. The first is David Diamond's *Fourth Symphony*. David Diamond is a local legend having been born in Rochester, NY and living there for most of his life. The *Fourth Symphony* is what he called his "smallest largest symphony" in that it spans only sixteen minutes, but is huge in scope, musical material, and instrumentation. Copland was a great admirer, but sadly Diamond's music has fallen into obscurity despite the sheer beauty of his output. Last on the program, we have Copland's *Lincoln Portrait* for narrator and orchestra. This beloved work contains Copland's iconic sound paired with moving narration. The Narrator will be Genesee Community College President, Dr. James M. Sunser, in honor of our new found partnership and home at GCC.

Next, we have our special **75th Anniversary Concert**. This performance will be held on Saturday, November 6th, the day the very first concert was held in 1947. I thought about this program for a long time and instead of doing an exact copy of the first performance, I decided to create something that would be a true embodiment of our theme: *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow!* As such, we have pieces of music that were on the first concert and others that have popped up again and again throughout the orchestra's history: beloved favorites such as Wagner's *Die Meistersinger*, the *Intermezzo* from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and the *Overture to Ruslan and Ludmilla*. Our featured soloist is past GSO Young Artist winner Mia Fasanello who will be performing the Mozart *Oboe Concerto*. Mia's grandfather, Sebastian Fasanello, was the featured soloist on the first concert in 1947 and we are thrilled to have her back with us to play this beautiful piece. Another special highlight of the program will be a new piece of music written for the GSO in honor of the 75th season and this concert. Nancy Pettersen Strelau, who has been my mentor for many years, was the one who told me to audition for this position. I thought of no better person to write a piece of music for this event in celebrating the people who have made the orchestra what it is today as she is certainly one of them. We are thrilled to bring this stunning new work to you and to celebrate 75 years of the GSO!

Presidents' Note: Welcome Back GSO Patrons

All of your patience and hard work has paid off and our musicians and board of directors are very excited to welcome you back to enjoying our live performances. On October 3rd, our first event of many to come at GCC will kick off our historic 75th season with *Summon the Heroes!* The theme couldn't be more well timed as so many heroes from all different places in our community have worked together to help us all get through the many challenges of the past year and a half. We hope you'll find it in your hearts to join us for this very special season. Our esteemed conductor, S. Shade Zajac, has put together a wonderful season filled with great music, special guests, and much, much more. We're so very thrilled to be able to enjoy the orchestra with all of our friends, patrons, community leaders and partners again, and we look forward to sharing the season with all of you.

Thanks, Justin & Roxie



The Genesee Symphony Orchestra cordially invites all former GSO musicians to the *GSO 75th Anniversary Concert and Celebration Dinner*, Saturday, November 6, 2021. If you are or know someone who performed with the GSO in the past and would like to attend, please contact the GSO with details so we can include you/them in this momentous celebration.

Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow!

www.geneseesymphony.com or message us at:

www.facebook.com/geneseesymphonyorchestra

or email: jtmreg4@hotmail.com



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A Note from GSO Historian *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow!*

You've seen the old clippings, heard the slogan and "liked" the new logo. As GSO celebrates its 75th Anniversary Season, let us now take a step back and remember a few moments in time.

In 1947 when the Batavia Civic Orchestra was coming into existence, the Cold War with Russia was coming into existence as well.

In 1958, the Batavia Civic Orchestra changes its name to the Genesee Symphony Orchestra while Elvis Presley becomes a Private in the US Army and NASA is created.

1972 The GSO celebrates its Silver Anniversary while then President Nixon makes a historic visit to China, which would lead to the official recognition of a communist government.

1997 The 50th Anniversary of the GSO was a success, only to be followed by an unexpected change to the GSO music director. The US Treasury unveils a new \$50 bill designed to be counterfeit proof. It wasn't.

2007 The Four at 4 GSO Concert Series took us to Italy, Russia, the high seas and Spain without ever having to board a plane while US troops poured into Afghanistan by the thousands.

2020 GSO goes virtual for the first time with two well received online concerts as the global pandemic Covid-19 spreads across the world. In a world of negatives, one thing stands out: virtual gatherings and live streaming become the norm.

2021 75 years later and we look to the future. Tomorrow is a day away, so keep sharing the music.

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 which was recently updated.

Joanne Tumminello, GSO Historian/Fall 2021



Musicians Spotlight

GSO Concertmaster Kiran Rajamani, who has been with GSO since 2016, has chosen to take a 2-year leave of absence to further his music education. Kiran will be attending the music school at the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music for his Master of Music Degree in violin performance. The GSO family wishes Kiran all the best. He will be greatly missed, and we look forward to having him return when his studies are completed. Good Luck Kiran!



A Celebration of 40 Years of Marriage for GSO Trombone Player and GSO Board Member David Porter and his wife Jill. The GSO family helped honor their wedding bliss longevity with a string performance of *One Hand, One Heart* at the 5th Annual Summer Serenade held on August 29, 2021. The piece has special meaning to the couple as it was performed at their wedding. Congrats Dave and Jill!

GSO Cellist Elizabeth Kinney and GSO 1st Chair Clarinet Patrick Kinney celebrated 25 years together on September 1, 2021. Congrats and may you have many more years making beautiful music together!

They Got Hitched!! GSO Flautist and Board Member Sydney Moore and fiancée Alexander Carli were married September 5, 2021. Congratulations and Best Wishes Sydney and Alex from your GSO family!

Adopt-a-Chair

Adopt Me!



This is an exciting program affording the participant a first-hand experience with the orchestra. For \$35.00, you may "adopt" a musician of the orchestra. You 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 work.

Contact GSO Board Member Helen Parkins at hparkins3373@gmail.com to arrange your Adopt-a-Chair experience.



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 and it will happen.



GSO Website

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!

GSO 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 2021 Update

The GSO is please to announce the names of 2020-2021 Raffle, a Cozy Quilt. The drawing was held at GSO's Reveal Concert Event on Saturday, July 17th. First Prize, the Quilt, was won by Michelle Case and the 2nd Prize, 4 quilted place mats were won by Barb Fisher. Congratulations to both winners and many thanks to all who participated.

GSO 2021-2022 Raffle

GSO 75th Anniversary Raffle: *A Dazzling Diamond Star Pendant and Season Tickets for 2*

This is an extra special season for the GSO and for that reason we want to offer something extra special for our annual raffle event.

Lambert's Design Jewelers of Batavia has provided us with a beautiful star pendant that holds enough dazzle for special occasions or everyday wear. The pendant and delicate 18" chain are in 14k white gold. The star is encrusted with diamonds having a total weight of .20 carat. Retail value, \$900.

Of course it wouldn't be a GSO raffle without also providing some lucky winner a full season of GSO concert tickets for 2; a value of \$90.

The drawing for this year's raffle will be held at GSO's final season concert on Sunday, May 1, 2022. Tickets will be available for purchase at each concert or from your favorite GSO board member or musician.

Did You Notice GSO has a New Logo?



A contest was held this past winter for a new design to help celebrate the 75th Anniversary of GSO. It was revealed at the GSO 75th Reveal Event held July 17, 2021. Designed by Jayme Privitera, it represents not only the Orchestra's celebration of 75 years, but its future as a community orchestra.

GSO Memorabilia

Ever wanted to show your GSO pride by wearing a GSO logo T-shirt or sweatshirt or keep track of GSO Concert Dates on a GSO Calendar? Well, now you can. T-shirts, sweatshirts, and calendars are now on sale.

Go to: www.geneseesymphony.com for more information.

2021-2022 Ticket Information

Concert tickets may be purchased at the door the day of the concert or at the following GSO "place of business" supporters: YNGODESS, Holland Land Office Museum, or any GSO Board Member. Tickets also available online: www.geneseesymphony.com