



Genesee Symphony Orchestra June 2021 Revealing Exciting News!

Upcoming Concerts

Saturday, July 17, 2021

GSO 75th Anniversary Season Kickoff Concert & Reveal Event

Austin Park, Batavia at 4 pm under the Pavilion

Food Trucks, Live Music and so much more.

Sunday, August 29, 2021

5th Annual Summer Serenade United Way/GSO Fundraiser

The LeRoyan Events Center, 7758 E, Main Street, LeRoy

An Evening In Vienna performed by GSO under the big tent

Music of Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn and J. Strauss II

Additional details TBA

Saturday, November 6, 2021

GSO 75th Anniversary Season Concert

A Celebration of 75 Seasons with GSO

Additional details TBA

Message from the Maestro

Dear Friends,

As hope is on the horizon, so is some exciting news for your Genesee Symphony Orchestra. As many of you know, the 2021/2022 season will be the Orchestra's 75th season of concerts. This is a huge milestone and we are pulling out all of the stops! However, as much as I would love to share with you all of the incredible things we are planning, I cannot yet let the cat out of the bag. Instead, we are having an exciting event on July 17 at Austin Park in downtown Batavia. At this reveal event, there will be food from local food trucks, we will draw tickets for the quilt raffle, we will announce the winner of the logo contest and unveil the new design. There will also be a short performance by the musicians of the GSO, and of course, we will unveil the monumental 75th season of concerts! I cannot wait to share all of this wonderful news with you and I know that after hearing what we have in store, you will be just as excited as I am. So come out, enjoy some good food, beautiful music, lots of exciting announcements and help us celebrate our 75th season of concerts!

~Shade



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!

From the Newsletter Coordinator

As many may know, our long time GSO Newsletter Coordinator Bob Knipe past away earlier this year. Bob wore many GSO hats from board member to playing in the horn section of the GSO, to being a wonderful friend. He will be greatly missed. As I take over coordinating the GSO newsletter, with the aid of many talented people, I will endeavor to continue his wonderful work. You, as the reader and supporter of the GSO, can assist me in this endeavor. If there is something you would like to see, or a GSO feature article you would like to read about, please feel free to let me know. There are always stories to tell and news to write about, and suggestions are always welcomed. Thank you.

Joanne Tumminello

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, soon you can. On Saturday, July 17, 2021 at the GSO 75th Anniversary Season Kickoff Concert and Reveal Event, you will be able to buy a GSO 2021-2022 Calendar and place your order for a T-shirt or sweatshirt with the new GSO logo design to help celebrate the GSO's 75th Anniversary.

Show your pride and support your Genesee Symphony Orchestra. Plan on attending the GSO 75th Anniversary Season Kickoff Concert and Reveal Event on Saturday, July 17 at Austin Park in Batavia and order your GSO memorabilia. T-shirts and sweatshirts will also be available to order on the GSO website after July 17.

GSO Raffle 2021 Update: A Cozy Quilt

The GSO has been extremely fortunate to receive a lovely, one of a kind quilt and matching table placemats for our annual raffle. Donated to the GSO by accomplished crafter Beverly Edwards, the quilt is sized for a double bed and features music themed fabrics in black and white and gold. It will be raffled as our 1st place prize. The four coordinating placemats will be raffled off as our 2nd place prize.

We are happy to announce that this year's raffle drawing will take place during the GSO's 75th Anniversary Season Kickoff Concert and Reveal Event on Saturday, July 17, 2021 at Austin Park in Batavia, NY. The event will begin at 4 PM. Tickets are currently on sale for \$5/1, \$10/3 and may be purchased from any GSO board member or musician. We hope to see you there.

The GSO board members and musicians extend a heartfelt thank you for your continued support of the Genesee Symphony Orchestra.



Presidents' Note

Hello to Our Faithful GSO Supporters,

As Co-Presidents, we hope you will feel a “catch-up” with our Genesee Symphony Orchestra news with this Newsletter. Our Board and musicians have been working with Shade, our “fearless leader” in keeping our GSO active in your thoughts with our local updates which have included two Virtual Concerts performed at GCC, Stuart Steiner Theater in December and March. Our up-coming concert season is going to be HUGE because we are celebrating our 75th Anniversary Year.

OUR 75TH CONCERT SEASON HAS THE THEME OF *YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW*. Please place Saturday, July 17th on your calendar as a very important REVEAL EVENT for the orchestra to host a party for free to anyone who would like to attend. The REVEAL EVENT will take place in Austin Park at 4:00 PM. on Saturday, July 17th. GSO musicians, under Shade's baton, will play a very appealing program of light-hearted melodies to please everyone's musical taste.

At our REVEAL EVENT we will announce our upcoming 75th Concert season. We will be selling our newly created Historical Orchestral Calendar, and taking orders for our new logo T-shirt which everyone will see as the Board Members and Musicians will be wearing our new T-shirts displaying our NEW LOGO. We will also be finalizing our 2019-2021 Raffle. We will hold the winning drawing for our beautiful quilt and placemats. You may purchase quilt raffle tickets at the Reveal Event. You will also see the quilt “in person.” Tickets are \$5.00 per raffle ticket or 3 tickets for \$10.

This Reveal Event will be very exciting as there will be so many “FIRSTS” TO ANNOUNCE TO YOU. THE EVENT IS FREE. Just come to Austin Park on July 17th, 4:00 PM and you may participate in our exciting event. There will be 3 Food Trucks so you can purchase food if you're hungry. It would be a good idea if you could bring your own lawn chair for comfort. The GSO will be playing under the pavilion toward the back of Austin Park where there is a driveway for Austin Park entrance off Porter Ave.

A second exciting event will be our Summer Serenade #5 to be held in conjunction with the United Way on Sunday, August 29th at the LeRoyan--{formally Mercy Grove}. Mark your calendars! More details of this exciting event will be forth coming.

Please continue to support our Genesee Symphony Orchestra. Musically, Roxie and Justin Co-Presidents of the GSO

A Note from GSO Historian

Count Down to 75, Part 2

On November 6, 1947, a dream came true when the Batavia Civic Orchestra performed for the first time in public at the former Dipson Theatre in Batavia. It was reported in the news that Norm Hall (the Orchestra's first manager) believed that the orchestra would not last long as “no new thing in Batavia lasted more than 2-3 years.” After the orchestra had reached its 5th year anniversary, Mr. Hall was reported to say, “give it another year, and then we will be gone.” 75 seasons later, the former Batavia Civic Orchestra, now the Genesee Symphony Orchestra, is still going strong.

Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow. As the GSO embarks on its 75th Anniversary Season, we honor our past, celebrate our 75th milestone, and look to tomorrow and the beautiful music that has yet to be played. The Genesee Symphony Orchestra endeavors to continue to provide quality and entertaining performances to audiences young and old throughout the Genesee Region.

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/Summer 2021



Gratitude for a Virtual Moment in Time

In the age of COVID-19, many orchestras were forced to become creative and found ways to reach their audiences without in person performances. For Genesee Symphony Orchestra, the virtual concerts in lieu of live concerts were achieved with the support and help from Genesee Community College on 2 different occasions. In December 2020, Genesee Symphony Orchestra was featured in the GCC Encore Event, a GCC scholarship fundraiser. A festive virtual concert, this event also featured a performance from the Genesee Chorale, and a joint collaboration of the 2 groups that was enjoyed by many.

On March 26, 2021, the Genesee Symphony Orchestra performed a Memorial Virtual Concert in memory of long time GSO family member Bob Knipe, again with the assistance and support of the Genesee Community College. Both virtual concerts would not have been possible if not for the technical and creative staff at the Genesee Community College. The GSO is forever grateful to GCC for making a season that almost wasn't, a virtual moment in time.

Thank you GCC. We look forward to more collaborations with you post Covid and beyond.



GCC Virtual Encore



Bob Knipe Virtual Memorial Concert

GSO Memorial Funds

Genesee Symphony Orchestra lost 2 of its longtime musicians and past board members. David Funston and Bob Knipe were pillars in the GSO family and in honor of their memory, the GSO has set up the Dave Funston Memorial Fund and the Bob Knipe Memorial Scholarship. Please consider donating in memory of these 2 wonderful musicians and to help further the music skills of future GSO musicians.

Donations may be made to the Genesee Symphony Orchestra website: www.geneseesyphonyorchestra.com or by mailing a check to: GSO, PO Box 391, Batavia, NY 14021-0391



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