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MDSO Announces 2018-2019 Season Performances

- Sept. 3, 2018** – Labor Day Pops Concert, Hickory Point Pavilion
Soloist: Justin John Moniz, tenor
- Sept. 22, 2018** – Masterworks I, PINES OF ROME AND RHAPSODIES
Rachmaninoff *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*
Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*
Soloist: Michael Davidman, piano
Respighi *Pines of Rome*
- Sept. 26, 2018** – Chamber orchestra workshop and 5 p.m. public concert
- Oct. 20, 2018** – Masterworks II, AN AMERICAN PORTRAIT: MUSIC OF BERNSTEIN, COPLAND AND IVES
Bernstein *Candide Overture*
Copland *Old American Songs*
Soloist: Ian Greenlaw, baritone
Ives *Variations on 'America'*
Bernstein *Symphonic dances from West Side Story*
- Nov. 3, 2018** – Chamber Orchestra Live with Silent Film, Avon Theater
- Dec. 9, 2018** – Advent service, Central Christian Church
- Feb. 2, 2019** – Masterworks III, ELGAR'S ENIGMA VARIATIONS AND YOUNG ARTISTS
TBA *Young Artist Concertos/Arias*
Elgar *Enigma Variations (Variations on an Original Theme)*
- March 2, 2019** – Masterworks IV, RESURRECTION SYMPHONY: MAHLER'S SYMPHONY NO. 2
With Millikin Union of Choirs
- March 30-31, 2019** – SLEEPING BEAUTY WITH ALABAMA BALLET
- April 13, 2019** – Masterworks V, DVORAK'S NEW WORLD SYMPHONY AND AMY CATRON
Golijov *Azul*, for cello, obbligato group and orchestra



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA GUILD OF DECATUR

April 2018

2017-2018 Season, Issue 4

From The President



Robert Tyler

Guild Annual Meeting June 8, Decatur Club

The annual meeting of the Symphony Orchestra Guild of Decatur will be held Friday, June 8, at the Decatur Club, with a noon luncheon and meeting to follow. Watch your mail for an invitation and information about making reservations.

2018 Holiday Gala Decatur Country Club Friday, Nov. 30

The guild's Ways and Means committee already has plans underway for next season's annual Holiday Gala fundraiser. Holiday Gala 2018 will stay true to tradition – elegant dinner, fine wines, live and silent auctions, music to liven your holiday spirit – but in a new location.

Flag your calendar now, alert your friends, and hold this date: Friday, Nov. 30, 2018, at the Country Club of Decatur, 135 N. Country Club Rd., Decatur.

I do hope you came out to see Masterworks IV on Feb. 3 as the concerto and aria competition winners were introduced as the concert's 'Young Artists.' We were treated to delightful sounds from John Robinson's trombone and Madeline Moylan's flute, while Lauren Jones' two selections captured our hearts as she sang for "Romani" and then in a whimsical piece "longed to hear them shouting 'Viva' to the Diva." The MDSO finished the evening with Mozart's Symphony No. 41. What a great way to spend a chilly winter evening!

And then, just a month later, the Masterworks V concert included an original work by our conductor and a stirring performance of *Ode to Joy: Beethoven Symphony No. 9*. Millikin's Union of Choirs added their voices to the orchestra's music, creating a truly memorable evening. Everywhere I go, folks are talking about that performance.

Additionally, Dr. Bogza took a couple of moments to highlight the coming season. If you liked this season, we are certain you will love next season! It has five masterworks concerts, a ballet, and a silent movie; all the more reason to renew your membership and reserve your season tickets early. Please take the time to check out the performance dates elsewhere in this newsletter.

The MDSO's season finale on April 20, 21 and 22 unites the MDSO with the Millikin Schools of Music and Theatre & Dance to present Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*. You will not want to miss this performance. What a season! I'll see you at the Symphony!

Bob Tyler
President, Symphony Orchestra Guild of Decatur

Board Member's Composition a Tribute to DYSO

The Decatur Youth Symphony Orchestra's April 23 concert program includes a selection written specifically for DYSO by symphony guild board member **Rev. Ted Hartley**. In his work with the guild's education committee Hartley attends many of the DYSO rehearsals, and he says being familiar with the orchestra enabled him to compose a piece that shows their strengths.

Hartley says the composition, titled *Tribute Fanfare*, is a tribute to DYSO members and their director, and also to three of his favorite composers: John Williams, Dmitri Shostakovich, and Igor Stravinsky. Hartley will conduct his selection on the April 23 concert.

Hartley has been composing music for bands and orchestras since his days as a student at SIU-Carbondale. Many of his more than 100 fanfares have been written for a specific occasion or for a specific performing group, including the Decatur Municipal Band.

He also has arranged sacred music for the United Methodist Church. Rev. Hartley is pastor of the Mt. Zion and Bethany United Methodist churches.



Ted Hartley

For Your Calendar

April 20, 21 and 22 –

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Kirkland Fine Arts Center, Friday and Saturday 7:30 p.m.; Sunday 2 p.m.
Tickets at Kirkland box office
(217) 424-6318

April 23 – Decatur Youth Symphony Orchestra

Spring Concert, Kirkland Fine Arts Center, 7 p.m.

April 24 – PASS Concert

Presented by Decatur Youth Symphony Orchestra
Kirkland Fine Arts Center, 10 a.m.

Bizou Extends Hours for Symphony Patrons

Enjoy the performance and then continue your evening out at Bizou in downtown Decatur. The restaurant has graciously agreed to extend its hours after MDSO performances. On Friday April 20 and Saturday April 21, a selection of appetizers, desserts and drinks will be available for the after-concert crowd.

Bizou is normally closed on Sundays but will open after the April 22 performance, with appetizers, desserts, and some entree selections for those wanting dinner. Come join us!

Welcome

We appreciate this new guild member:

Gold baton

Sharon Burbes

Phantom Next on Kirkland Stage, April 20-22

The final ticket of the MDSO season promises to be every bit as much of a crowd-pleaser as the previous five concerts, as the longest-running musical in Broadway history comes to life on the Kirkland stage.

This production of *The Phantom of the Opera*, directed by **Kevin Long**, is the first formal collaboration between Millikin's School of Theater and Dance and its School of Music. Long explains that in the past many students have crossed from opera to music theatre or music theatre into opera, but this is the first official effort to combine the talents of both schools into a cohesive production that showcases the strengths of each.

Indeed, students cast in the show's named roles represent both schools.

Ben Viette as Phantom and **Katherine Viviano** as Carlotta are seniors;

Trey DeLuna as Raoul and **Andy DeLeon** as Piangi are sophomores, and **Sarah Obert** as Christine Daae is a first-year student.

The School of Music's MDSO is also a major component of the production. An orchestra composed entirely of student musicians and conducted by **Dr. Sergey Bogza** will provide, from the stage, all of the show's musical accompaniment.

"We are proud to showcase the instrumental music of this production and are so happy that the orchestra will be in full audience view," said Long.

Co-music directors for the show are **Dr. Ian Greenlaw**, director of Opera Theater, and **Elizabeth Creighton**, a 2001 School of Music graduate who is now an adjunct instructor of music, a role in which she serves as accompanist for numerous classes, choral ensembles and theater productions.

Dr. Brad Holmes and the University Choir, Millikin's flagship choral ensemble, will provide additional choral support for the show's large vocal moments.

An all-student orchestra will provide the show's musical accompaniment from the stage in full audience view.

Youth Orchestra Prepares for Spring Concerts

Decatur Youth Symphony Orchestra members are now preparing for their final performances of the 2017-2018 year – their formal spring concert April 23, and a performance for elementary students April 24. The concerts will feature winners of DYSO's concerto contest, **Brooklyn Dillow** and **Miruna Eynon**, who will each play their solo pieces with orchestra.

The concerts will feature winners of DYSO's concerto contest, Brooklyn Dillow and Miruna Eynon.

In a unique addition to the concert, students from the Rock University program will join the orchestra to perform rock pieces with symphonic accompaniment. "Rock U" is a new effort in the Millikin Preparatory Department, with about 25 middle- and high-school students who play rock and popular music under the guidance of local instructors.

DYSO director **Dr. Neal Smith** says the students have made remarkable progress this year, as they have learned new repertoire and developed their artistic skills. The youth orchestra comprises about 50 students from 20 different schools. They rehearse every Monday evening with the support of Millikin faculty and students.

Additional opportunities this year have included observing MDSO rehearsals and attending Masterworks concerts by MDSO and the St. Louis Symphony. These learning opportunities allow students to observe their professional counterparts and get a sense of how a professional orchestra operates.

Dr. Smith encourages everyone to attend the spring concert. "We look forward to having you hear the excellent work of these talented young students," he said.

Guild Awards Scholarships for Private Lessons, Music Camps

Following annual auditions March 16 and 17, the guild has awarded 16 new scholarships for private music lessons and summer music camps. An additional 21 current recipients are eligible to continue their lesson scholarships next school year.

Scholarships provide winners with up to \$800 toward private lessons through Millikin's Preparatory Department, or up to \$700 toward tuition for a summer music camp. Pei-I Wang and Julie McClarey served as audition judges for piano students; Ted Hartley and Colleen Hillyer were judges for band and orchestral instruments.

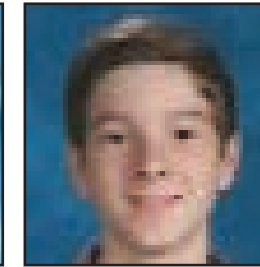
Some of the scholarships are donated by or in honor of someone: the Fombelle woodwind scholarship, Hardy Foundation string scholarships, and Marilyn Mertz and Margaret Fassnacht piano scholarships. Five are memorial scholarships honoring Bob Jones, Margaret Foley, and Dean and Dottie Butts.

New recipients for 2018-2019 are pictured below, with their current grade in school.

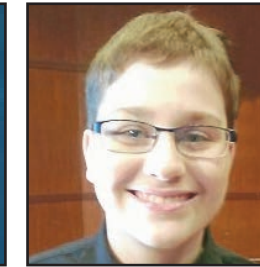
Private Music Lesson Recipients



Gavin Butts
piano – grade 9
Warrensburg-Latham



Billy Bradshaw
bassoon – grade 9
Eisenhower



Gedrych Eynon
violin – grade 6
Muffley



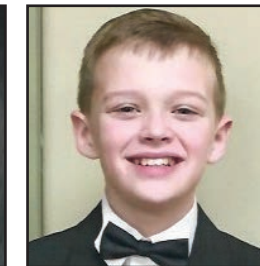
Erika Flickinger
piano – grade 8
homeschool



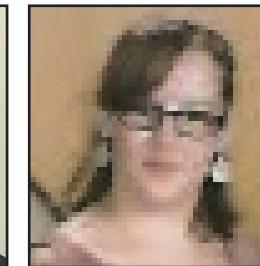
Jayden Gavin
cello – grade 6
Garfield



Zach Jalley
percussion – grade 8
Warrensburg-Latham



Henry Koonce
violin – grade 6
homeschool



Samarra Mann
alto sax – grade 6
Garfield



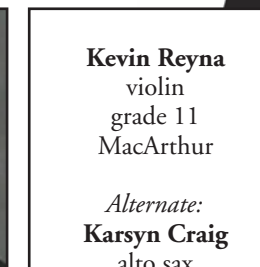
Shaelyn Page
trumpet – grade 7
Garfield



Rachel White
flute – grade 6
Garfield



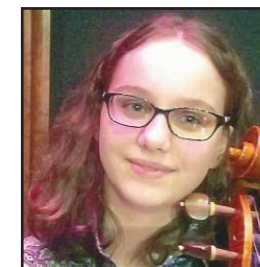
Brenden Wilson
percussion – grade 11
Eisenhower



Kevin Reyna
violin
grade 11
MacArthur

Alternate:
Karsyn Craig
alto sax
grade 6
Baum

Summer Music Camp Recipients



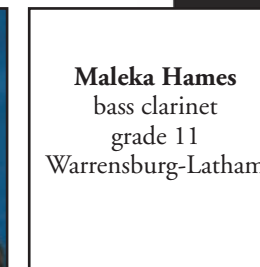
Miruna Eynon
cello – grade 9
homeschool



Hailey Rhodes
oboe – grade 10
Taylorville



Cassie Shaffer
violin – grade 7
Johns Hill



Maleka Hames
bass clarinet
grade 11
Warrensburg-Latham

OUR MISSION:

*To promote and support
symphonic music
to encourage
educational opportunities
that include all segments
of our population,
and to provide an ever-increasing level of
artistry
and audience appreciation.*