



## *YMCC Jubilee*

Featuring the 50<sup>th</sup>  
Young Musicians Concerto Competition Winners

Matthew Hill, Violin  
Jeannette Kim, Piano  
Kakou Su, Piano

& Student Musicians from the Sacred Heart Academy Orchestra



Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
3:00 PM  
Hamden Memorial Town Hall

*Sponsored By Paul & Elizabeth Mathey*

[www.hamdensymphony.org](http://www.hamdensymphony.org)

## About Us

Last Fall marked the beginning of Hamden Symphony Orchestra's 57th season. An all-volunteer orchestra of more than 60 musicians from the Greater New Haven area and beyond, Hamden Symphony members share a passion for rehearsing and performing great music together.

Founded in 1962 by Ruth T. Brooks, the Orchestra provides cultural enrichment to the community of Hamden, Connecticut through its series of concerts, its annual Young Musicians Concerto Competition (YMCC), the Ruth T. Brooks Scholarship Award, and the rewarding experience offered to its members and guest-artists.

The Orchestra's commitment to the musical development of local students is a source of great pride. For the last 50 years the Hamden Symphony Orchestra's YMCC has provided an invaluable educational experience to gifted high school musicians in the area; the chance to perform as a soloist with a full symphony orchestra. The competition is held annually each winter, and the winners are featured at the Orchestra's spring concert. In addition, for over 35 years the Orchestra has honored a graduating Hamden High School senior, who has demonstrated excellence in their musical studies, with the Ruth T. Brooks Scholarship Award. The 2018 winner of this award was Ryan Peter Murphy (Piano, Guitar and Voice).

From 1969-2007, Hamden Symphony Orchestra was under the baton of Maestro Paul Gacek. To honor his distinguished leadership, continuing support and several return appearances to the podium in recent years, Maestro Gacek was officially designated Hamden Symphony Orchestra's "Conductor Laureate" in 2017.

In 2008, Vesna Mehinovic became the Music Director of Hamden Symphony Orchestra. Under Vesna's baton, the Orchestra has continued to expand, and has presented compelling and innovative concert-programs, that have featured new compositions, talented instrumental and vocal soloists, and even dance and multimedia components. In 2016 & 2018, Hamden Symphony Orchestra was honored to be invited by the Town of Hamden to perform at its Independence Day Fireworks Celebration.

# Hamden Symphony Orchestra

Vesna Mehinovic, Music Director

Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

3:00 PM

Hamden Memorial Town Hall

## Concert Program

Hänsel und Gretel Overture Engelbert Humperdinck

Violin Concerto in D Major Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
1. Allegro moderato

Matthew Hill, Violin

Piano Concerto in A minor Edvard Grieg  
1. Allegro molto moderato

Kakou Su, Piano

### *Intermission*

Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor Camille Saint-Saëns  
1. Andante sostenuto

Jeannette Kim, Piano

The Phantom of the Opera (Selections) Andrew Lloyd Webber  
*arr. Calvin Custer*

Musicians of Sacred Heart Academy Orchestra

*Please join us for a reception in the lobby following this  
performance.*

## Musicians of Hamden Symphony Orchestra

### Violin I

Kathleen Barbour '09  
Concertmaster,  
*The Ruth T. Brooks Chair*

Christa Beyer '16  
Elizabeth Braddon '16  
Ann Clemmons '10  
Kelsey Haugh '18  
Natalie Jimenez-Lara '06  
Andrea Osburne '17  
Anna Schmeer '91  
Frank Schmeer '91  
Stacy Shafer '09

### Violin II

Christa Lehr '15  
Nancy Mangino '14  
Cheryl Roberts '17  
John Scalici '08  
Anat Shiloach '15  
Jody Smyser '14  
Mary Traglia '19

### Viola

Wyatt Bosma '17  
Marnielle Charles '19  
Amanda Griffith '13  
Karen Kriner '13  
Joy Snyder '05

### Cello

Elizabeth Baldwin '17  
Eileen Benoit '90  
Lynne Bonnett '15  
Jessica Karjanis '19  
Cai Roberts '17  
Tanya Townsend '17

### Bass

Amy Baker '15  
Andrew Muench '15

### Flute

Susan Knox '17  
Judith Kramer Koret '08  
Nicole Siley '16  
Dagmara Zeidenbergs '18

### Piccolo

Dagmara Zeidenbergs '18

### Oboe

Terri Bennett '16  
Charlie Krich '10

### Clarinet

Anne Cory '14  
Kathy Muench '15  
Samuel Petry '16

### Bass Clarinet

Briana Wyman '18

### Bassoon

Stephanie Buggie '14  
Deborah Garber '08

### Alto Saxophone

Evan D'Adamo '19

### French Horn

Grace Kenney '16  
Barry Piekos '80  
Michelle Scalzo '19  
Jordan Shropshire '18

### Trumpet

Michael Cristina '16  
Diondra Dilworth '19  
Larry Spector '16

### Trombone

Leslie Amatrudo '16  
Colby Buehler '18  
Anna Franz '14  
Bill Gambardella '92  
Molly Gambardella '11  
Jose Lara '04  
Max Shinn '18

### Tuba

James Neely '14  
David Neider '17

### Keyboard

Betsy Goldberg '15

### Timpani

David Liskov '10  
David Zuckerman '19

### Percussion

Thomas Catricala '19  
Betsy Goldberg '15  
William Mulligan '18

### Drum Set

David Liskov '10

## Musicians of Sacred Heart Academy Orchestra

### Violin I

Kristine Roy  
Ava King  
Kyla King

### Violin II

Mehr Chhatre  
Swathi Jacob  
Abbey Parente

### Viola

Emily Graves

### Flute

Christina Casper  
Princess Alexandra Ortiola  
Yiran Wang

### Clarinet

Juliana Dente  
Claire Flanagan

### Clarinet (Cont.)

Homachizinum Igo-Amadi

### Bassoon

Zoe Lamoreaux

### Alto Saxophone

Siobhan Ekeh

### Tenor Saxophone

Anna Weingart

### Trumpet

Julia Danehy  
Carley LaRosa  
Sapphire Moore  
Allison Rozear

### Keyboard

Yanling Fang

### **THE OTHER CLEF**

I can see you, my first violin cousins, across from me in numbers.  
I can hear you fluttering, singing the high notes, and presenting the  
melody to the listeners.

The second violins join you with their harmonies and the music  
dances along.

And then it is my turn to join in the music making. I can growl like a  
lion, or purr like a kitten. I can be the thunder and lightning in a  
concerto. I revel in the memories of sitting on the shoulders of Bach,  
Mozart, Beethoven, and Paganini. Some say that I was their favorite  
instrument!

I am wider, longer, and heavier than my violin friends. Many agree that  
I am more difficult to master. And when the conductor nods to me, my  
glorious sound will vibrate from within and will touch your soul.

I am the elegant, provocative and mighty master of the Alto Clef.  
I am the VIOLA!

J.B. MADARIS

# Help support Hamden Symphony Orchestra this week!



Support us on May 1 & 2 for #TheGreatGive; a fun, easy and flexible way to donate to and to learn more about organizations that help our community!

Your contribution will go even further again, thanks to an additional \$10,000 in matching funds for Performing Arts Organizations, courtesy of the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, and the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

[www.TheGreatGive.org](http://www.TheGreatGive.org)

## About the Performers



**Matthew Hill**, Violin, a junior at Conard High School in West Hartford, is Concertmaster of the select high school group I Giovani Solisti led by Emmett Drake, and a member of Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra led by Benjamin Zander. He recently had the pleasure of traveling to Europe with both ensembles where he played in some of the most famous halls in the world. Matthew has worked with many notable violinists, including Grigory Kalinovsky at The Jacobs School of Music in Indiana.

In addition to Matthew's appearance with the Hamden Symphony Orchestra in April 2019, he has been selected to perform with The Bridgeport Symphony Orchestra during their 2019-20 season after being selected as a winner in their Young Instrumentalist Competition. He was a second place winner in the Hartford Musical Club in January, and also runner up in the Danbury Symphony Concerto Competition. Most recently, Matthew had the pleasure of being selected Concertmaster of the 2019 CT All State Orchestra led by Christopher Zimmerman.

This summer Matthew will be attending the Senior division of the National Arts Centre Young Artists Program led by renowned violinist Pinchas Zukerman, followed by the Meadowmount School of Music in Westport, NY and a week at the Conservatory Audition Workshop in Burlington, VT. He is currently a student of Angelo Xiang Yu in Boston.



Having started piano at 5 years old, **Jeannette Kim**, Piano, is currently a junior at Ridgefield High School and is enrolled in the Juilliard Pre-college program under the tutelage of Julian Martin. She made her New York debut at Zankel Hall in Carnegie Hall in 2007 and concerto debut in Lincoln Center in 2013, and has performed at various other venues including Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Studzinski Hall at Bowdoin College, and Paul Hall at the Juilliard School. She has won many competitions such as the Cecilian Young Artist's Competition, Golden Key Music Festival, East Coast International Competition, and Hamden Symphony Orchestra's Young Musician Concerto

Competition, and has earned top prizes in other competitions including the American Protégé International Competition, the Chappaqua International Piano Competition, and the Steinway International Piano Competition. In addition, she has participated in masterclasses with notable musicians such as the Tokyo String Quartet and members of the New York Philharmonic. For the past two summers, Jeannette has attended Bowdoin International Music Festival at Bowdoin College in Maine, and will be attending Aspen Music Festival in Colorado this summer.



**Jaikang (Kakou) Su**, Piano, was born and raised in Japan and currently studies and resides at Rumsey Hall, a boarding school in Washington Depot, CT. Kakou started playing piano at the age of 5, under his teacher, Yukitaka Masui. Though, he only began practicing seriously at the age of 14, his first year studying abroad in the United States. The HSO concerto competition was the first competition he has participated in in the states.

However, he has a great understanding and an enormous passion for music. His favorite composers are mostly from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, such as Debussy, Ravel, Rachmaninoff, Scriabin, Chopin. Other than playing piano, he has a passion for playing goalkeeper in his school's soccer team, reading comic books and listening to classical music.



**Vesna Mehinovic** has been the Music Director and Conductor of Hamden Symphony Orchestra since 2008. She began her formal education in music by receiving a diploma in Music Theory and Piano Teaching and Performing from the High School for Music in Sarajevo. She continued her Bachelor

of Arts degree in Conducting and Music Theory at the Sarajevo Music Academy, and a Master of Arts in Conducting and Music Theory at Wesleyan University in Middletown.

Vesna has been the recipient of many honors in her native country, and is the first professional woman to conduct an orchestra in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She specialized in Conducting at the Academy for Music

ANOTHER  
OCTAVE

Connecticut Women's Chorus  
presents

Bandstand, Boogie,  
& the Brill Building

Spring 2019

Saturday  
May 11, 7pm

Congregational Church  
949 Main Street  
South Glastonbury

Saturday  
May 18, 7pm

Unitarian Society of New Haven  
700 Hartford Turnpike  
Hamden

Advance tickets: \$18 seniors/students/children; \$25 adult; \$30 preferred seating At the door: \$20/\$27/\$32  
For more information call (203) 672-1919 or visit [www.AnotherOctave.org](http://www.AnotherOctave.org)

Welcome to  
**amazon** smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Now you can support **Hamden Symphony Orchestra** when you shop on Amazon.com. Just use this special link and a portion of the sale-price is donated to our operating funds. Same products and user-experience as the regular website. It's a win-win!

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0166571>

and Stage Arts in Graz, Austria in the class of Milan Horvat. Ms. Mehinovic has also served as guest conductor for orchestras in Austria, Serbia, and Croatia.

While in the United States, she has worked with several church and non-religious choirs both in Connecticut and Arizona. As a music teacher Vesna has taught in many elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as having worked with college students at Yale and Wesleyan Universities. Currently, she teaches music and directs the Orchestra and Choirs at Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden. She is also the Conductor of the Quinnipiac University Orchestra, and Organist & Choir Master at St. Michael's Church in Naugatuck.

### **About the Artist**

**Van L. Nguyen** received his art training at Southern Connecticut State University. He had a long and successful career in the financial industry prior to his retirement as a Vice President of Citigroup in 2010. He holds an MBA from the University of Connecticut, where he was elected to the honor society Beta Gamma Sigma. His art has been exhibited at the Eli House Gallery (Of Yale University) and at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut. His most recent exhibits were at the Blackstone Library in Branford (2017), and the Hamden Memorial Town Hall in Connecticut (2018). His artist's statement follows:

"My current interest is in conveying the beauty and variety of forms displayed by flowers and other aspects of nature. This interest comes from a love of flowers in my own garden and my frequent visits to botanical gardens in the U.S. and other countries. I experience tranquility when I am surrounded by blooming flowers or sparking fall foliage. I want to show off the delicate texture and brilliant colors of flowers and leaves. I feel the dynamism of opening flower petals and the restlessness of early Spring leaves."

Contact: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100008622541626>



**Posh**  
Hair, Skin & Nails

Salon Hours  
Monday-Tuesday Closed  
Wednesday-Thursday 9am-7pm  
Friday 9am-5pm  
Saturday 8:30am-4pm

Please call for an appointment:  
203-288-9792  
[www.poshskinandnail.com](http://www.poshskinandnail.com)

1658 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden, Ct. 06517

**WILLIAM V. GAMBARDILLA**  
ATTORNEY



**GAMBARDELLA, CIPRIANO  
GOTTLIEB & HATHAWAY PC**

60 Washington Avenue - Suite 104  
Hamden, CT 06518

Tel: (203) 288-1333  
Direct: (475) 227-0300

Fax: (203) 287-0048  
[billg@gcghlaw.com](mailto:billg@gcghlaw.com)



The Fortuna Family  
[FAMILYMUSICCHAMDEN.COM](http://FAMILYMUSICCHAMDEN.COM)

**Family Music Center**

"where we make learning music fun!"

1396 Dixwell Ave  
Hamden, Ct 06514  
[familymusiccenter@yahoo.com](mailto:familymusiccenter@yahoo.com)  
203 288-5647



### SCALA GROUP

Covering all of Fairfield  
& New Haven Counties

**Cell: 203-767-5466**

Office: 203-374-9451

Email: [stacey.severn@century21.com](mailto:stacey.severn@century21.com)

[www.staceysevern.com](http://www.staceysevern.com)

 Each Office Independently Owned and Operated 

**Stacey Severn**  
Real Estate Professional



*Flowers from  
the Farm*

at the Schulze Farm

1035 Shepard Avenue

Hamden, CT 06514

Primary: 203.248.2987

Secondary: 1.800.382.8133

[www.flowersfromthefarm.org](http://www.flowersfromthefarm.org)



**Cindy Turner**

**(203) 230-2285**

**Cakeworks, etc. LLC.**

**Cake Decorating & Candy Supplies**

**Wedding Cakes**

**2565 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden, CT 06518**

**All Occasion Cakes  
(Advance Order Only)**

# YMCC At Fifty

Over the past 5 decades, 127 young musicians (by our count) have won Hamden Symphony's Young Musicians Concerto Competition and performed with the Orchestra. Below is the full list of winners alphabetically:

Sophie Baum, Violin	Maureen Hough, Cello	Steven Rimland, Piano
Katie Beals, Piano	Gwendolyn Howard, Violin	Hyun-Sil Roh, Violin
Shira Bedford, Cello	Francisca Hu, Piano	Yonitte Ryger, Violin
Raphael Bell, Cello	Antonio Innaimo, Cello	Katherine Scahill, Violin
David Black, Cello	Katharina Jackson, Piano	Sara Scanlon, Cello
Istvan Peter B'racz, Piano	Stephanie Jennings, Flute	Julian Shively, Cello
Peter Brooks, Cello	Shan Shan, Jiang, Piano	Maggie Slap, Cello
Leslie Brunker, Piano	Eric Jiang, Piano	David Stern, Clarinet
Kayla Bryan, Violin	Jerry Joo, Cello	Richard Stewart, Flute
Mike Capetta, Clarinet	Nicole Kennedy, Piano	Gregory Stickeler, Saxophone
Frank M. Castiglione, Piano	Jeannette Kim, Piano	Jiaqi Su, Piano
Jonathan Chang, Piano	John King, Piano	Kakou Su, Piano
Nathan Chapeton, Accordion	Veronica Kiss, Violin	Werner M. Sun, Piano
Tiffany Chen, Violin	Lorenzo Kleine, Clarinet	David Swinkin, Violin
Joshua Chen, Cello	Henneke-Klein Robbenhaar, - Violin	Kerry Takahashi, Cello
Lloyd Chen, Violin	Jan Kolar, Cello	Elly Tanaka, Violin
Wendy Cheng, Piano	Riku Korenaga, Violin	Pengtao Teng, Violin
Gillis Cheng, Piano	Esther Kruger, Flute	Artemis Theodos, Violin
Jonathan Chin, Piano	Dawn Kulak, Flute	Jason Thompson, Violin
Grace Cho, Piano	Dawn Kulak, Flute	Lindsay Thompson, Violin
Yoo-Jin Cho, Violin	Charlene Kwok, Piano	Aviva Timoner, Soprano
Rebecca Wei Chu, Violin	Erik Leveille, Violin	Gilbert Tsui, Piano
Grace Cloutier, Harp	Michelle Li, Piano	Barbara Ulrich, Violin
Karin Coifman, Violin	Richard Li, Piano	Virginia Weckstrom, Piano
Yael Coifman, Harp	Patricia Lillis, Soprano	Naomi Weiss Goldman, Piano
Kristina Congo, Piano	Jenny Liu, Violin	Peter Stewart Wetzler, Piano
Matthew Congo, Piano	Christine Liu, Viola	Christopher White, Piano
Kristina Crothers, Cello	Evan Loh, Violin	Annie Wiswell, Violin
David DeAngelis, Piano	Zoe Lonsinger, Violin	Fiona Wood, Violin
Claire Ettinger, Flute	Patricia Macaboy, Flute	Lijin Xu, Piano
Ariel Fein, Flute	Brent McCabe, Guitar	Mark Xu, Violin
Mary Paula Freeman, French - Horn	Erin McCreless, Cello	Su-Xiao Yang, Violin
Alison Gangler, Oboe	Kate McDermott, Piano	Helena Zadroga, Cello
Jennifer Ge, Piano	Marianne Mercugliano, Flute	Wendy Zhan, Piano
Miriam Gerber, Violin	Alexandra Moellmann, Viola	Linda Zhang, Piano
Daniel Giebisch, Cello	Matt Mouradian, Violin	Yuqi Zhang, Piano
Maya Golden-Pereschbacher, - Cello	Charles Nathanson, Violin	Audrey Zhang, Piano
Margaret Grant, Violin	Xiaomin Ou, Piano	Alexis Zingale, Piano
Eunice Hahn, Piano	Aaron Pawelek, Flute	
Jasper Han, Piano	Nathan Pawelek, French Horn	
Matthew Hill, Violin	Vincent Pistrutto, Clarinet	
Erica Holahan, Bassoon	Lesley Rabach, Violin	
Andy Horng, Violin	Julie Regan, Cello	
Jimmy Horng, Violin	Mayumi Pasion Repp, Violin	
	Joan Rhee, Violin	
	Mira Rho, Piano	

# *YMCC At 50*

## **Where Are They Now**

Over the last few months, in preparation for this performance, we reached out through emails and our social media channels to attempt find past winners of the Young Musicians Concerto Competition. Several have provided updates to us!

Patricia Macaboy Blanks, winner of one of the early competitions in the 1970's tells us that she is an active professional Flautist in in Connecticut. She has performed several times with Hamden Symphony as a member and has returned to solo with the Orchestra in March 2000 on a Bach Brandenburg Concerto.



Zoe Lonsinger one of the 2018 YMCC winners reports that she had the pleasure to perform with the Hamden Symphony in April of 2018. She is now living near Seattle on Camano Island and studies with Simon James. Zoe enjoyed studying this past summer at the Liberec International Violin Academy in the Czech Republic and at the Allegro Vivo Kammermusik Festival in Austria. This year

she was honored to be selected as the junior alternate for the Washington MTNA competition, a finalist in the Coeur d'Alene Concerto Competition and to be featured as a young artist for Project Music Heals Us. She also recently performed a benefit recital at her church for the Gathering Place, which serves a free weekly dinner in Stanwood, WA. Zoe is looking forward to attending Center Stage Strings in Michigan and returning to Allegro Vivo Kammermusik Festival in Austria this summer. When she is not playing her violin, she loves exploring the beach near her house with her dog.

Jiaqi (Kaki) Su another one of last year's winners is particularly excited for today's program to watch her brother Kakou perform. She provides the following updates:

-I will be attending Brown University in the fall where I will definitely be involved with the music community there, participating in chamber music etc.

-My high school orchestra is traveling to Italy this summer and I will be performing Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto with them, so that's super exciting!

-I am currently preparing for my upcoming senior recital in May.

-Still just an idea, but my brother and I are thinking about doing a joint recital in Japan next summer!



Sara Scanlon was one of the 2015 winners of the YMCC. The Scanlon family writes: We have fond memories of the wonderful opportunity Sara had to perform with the Hamden Orchestra...her 1st concerto with orchestra! Since that performance, Sara has gone on to perform many concertos with orchestras including a debut performance playing the Elgar Cello Concerto with the

Charleston Symphony Orchestra at the Gaillard Center in Charleston, SC. She was a featured performer on NPRs "From the Top" hosted by Christopher O'Reilly and the WQXR Young Artist Showcase hosted by Robert Sherman and had won numerous competitions and awards. She graduated from the Juilliard pre-college last spring and is finishing her first year of college with a full scholarship at the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings in Macon, GA where she studies with Richard Aaron and Julie Albers. She was in New York City two weeks ago to meet with Philip Glass and perform his composition for solo cello for him. She was offered three full fellowships to music festivals this summer and chose to join the Kneisel Hall festival in Maine.

Sara loves what she is doing and truly appreciates the Hamden Symphony Orchestra for giving her a start on a solo career! Congratulations on your 50 year anniversary!!!

"Musical Training is a more potent instrument than any other, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul." *Plato*

*Thank you to the musicians/teachers who have nourished my soul. Joy*

*Donna Tanana*

*Kate O'Brien*

*Dorothy Straub*

*Jan Royce*

*Amy Goodman Wulfman*

*Judi McDermott-Eggert*

*Allison Steiner*

*Vesna Mehinovic*

## **Chiropractic Health Center of Hamden**

*Dr. Robert Denes*

*203-287-8939*

*Physical Therapy*

*Back Trauma*

**Massage / Yoga on Whitney** 203-230-0026

*Hamden's Holistic Center*

*Helping you achieve **TOTAL** wellness*

*with a **Natural** Approach*

(203) 281-1500  
(203) 281-1DMD

Fax (203) 281-1116

**Stephen J. Palluotto, D.M.D.**

Cosmetic, Family, and Sleep Dental Medicine

3074 Whitney Ave. (Rt. 10)  
Hamden, CT 06518

**Visit us at [www.myhamdentist.com](http://www.myhamdentist.com)**

## Program Notes

**Engelbert Humperdinck** (1854-1921) began composing operatic works in his teenage years. Though his parents, who were not musicians, disapproved of his potential career in music and instead preferred he go into architecture or design, he enrolled at the Cologne Conservatory in 1872. A few years later, Humperdinck became a protege of Richard Wagner, and joined him at the nascent Bayreuth festival, where he assisted in the production of the opera *Parsifal* and tutored Wagner's son, Siegfried.

Humperdinck began work on *Hänsel und Gretel* in 1890, inspired by song sketches written by his sister Adelheide Wette, which she based on the Brothers Grimm fairy-tale. Frequently performed during the Holiday season to this day, the Opera premiered to quick acclaim on December 23, 1893 with Richard Strauss conducting.

The Overture or prelude, a term the composer preferred, references several melodies that appear in the Opera. This includes the "Evening Prayer", a gentle hymn that begins with the French Horns and gradually adds the other brass, woodwinds and strings building to a rich chorale to open the work.

**Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky** (1840-1893) was born in Votinsk Russia to a military family. Though he began piano lessons at the age of 5 and received some encouragement from his parents, they ultimately sent him to a boarding school, the School of Jurisprudence in St. Petersburg, to be trained for a career in civil-service. This already traumatic separation from his family, was intensified by the death of his mother from Cholera when he was fourteen. After graduation and a short career in civil-service, Tchaikovsky received the opportunity to begin training at the newly-founded St. Petersburg Conservatory. It was here that his exposure to the foundations of Western Music began to influence his compositional style, which seamlessly interwove the musical idioms of Western-Europe with the styles of Russian Folk music.

His *Violin Concerto in D major* was composed in 1878 in the aftermath of his failed one-year marriage to Antonia Miliukova. Violinist Iosif Kotek, a composition pupil and friend, joined Tchaikovsky in Clarendon,

Switzerland on the shores of Lake Geneva, where he was in recovery for depression. The two played through several pieces for violin and piano together, including *Symphonie Espagnole* by Edouard Lalo. With Tchaikovsky, expressing his exuberance for Lalo's work in letters to his benefactor Nadhezda von Mech, many scholars believe it inspired him to write a concerto of his own for the violin. Written in about a month-long period Tchaikovsky consulted with Kotek on several aspects of the violin part. However, both Kotek and later Leopold Auer turned down the opportunity to premiere the work, citing the technical difficulty of many of the passages. Adolph Brodsky, accompanied by the Vienna Philharmonic, finally premiered the work in December 1881, and it was met with mixed critical reaction at the first performance. Auer, later made amends to Tchaikovsky by teaching it to his own students, including Jascha Heifetz, and the work has become one of the most prominent in the violin repertoire.

**Edvard Grieg** (1843-1907) started learning Piano at 6 years old under the instruction of his mother, a music-teacher. At the age of 15 his parents, recognizing his potential, enrolled him at the conservatory in Leipzig, Germany. As his performance career was blossoming, he also began to take up composition.

In 1868, while visiting Denmark, Grieg composed what would be his only completed Piano Concerto, though sketches of a 2nd concerto that was never finished have later emerged. The *Piano Concerto in A minor* was premiered in Copenhagen in 1869, without the composer in attendance, as he was soloing with an orchestra in Norway at the time. While considered part of the nationalist school for his prominent use of Norwegian folk music, Grieg also traveled extensively throughout Europe and in his music sought to express both pastoral life in rural Norway, but also the culture of Western Europe as a whole.

Growing up in the French countryside and later in Paris, **Camille Saint-Saëns** (1835-1921) exhibited dazzling talents, in music composition and piano-performance and also other academic fields, including Math & Science, Classics and Philosophy from an early age. At thirteen, he was enrolled at the Paris Conservatoire, France's most regarded music school. Years later, following the Franco-Prussian War, Saint-Saens founded



**Sylvia H. Zeidenbergs**

September 29, 1939 to August 3, 1997

This presentation of Edvard Grieg's  
*Piano Concerto in A minor*  
serves as a loving reminder of my mother.

Sylvia Herta Zeidenbergs was born in Latvia and began studying the piano at the age of 5 in Germany while living in a refugee camp with her family. After immigrating to America through Ellis Island in 1950, Mom and her family settled in Willimantic, CT, where she continued her piano studies. During her senior year at Windham High School (1958), under the direction of Dr. Catherine Wade, Mom played this Grieg piano concerto with the WHS Orchestra. This was her first performance with an orchestra.

She earned her bachelor's in Music from Hartt College of Music, University of Hartford, in 1962. Her life was dedicated to studying and teaching the piano.

*Dagmara L. Zeidenbergs, 1st Flute*

# Does your daughter love to sing?



UNITED  
GIRLS' CHOIR

is currently inviting girls ages 6-17 to

## AUDITION!

*We're United Girls' Choir, New England's premier girls' choral program, and we've found that many girls are looking for more challenging opportunities to develop their musical talents, so we've created a unique network of choirs to enable gifted girls of every experience level to realize their potential. The United Girls' Choir, our largest division, currently has chapters based in **Branford, Cheshire, Clinton, Hamden, Killingworth, Madison, Milford, North Haven, and Shelton** and is in the process of establishing new chapters in other communities throughout Connecticut. The Elm City Girls' Choir, our premier ensemble, is based in **New Haven**, and has received national recognition with appearances at Carnegie Hall, Walt Disney World, and on CBS Television.*

For further information, please contact us at

**(203) 787-1244**

**info@unitedchoir.com**

the Société Nationale de Musique. With its motto “ars gallica,” the burgeoning movement's sought to re-establish French music, particularly in the Symphony and Concerto forms that had long been dominated by German composers, with most French composers and audiences focusing almost exclusively on ballet and operatic genres.

His *Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor*, Op. 22, was composed in 1868 in an extremely short window of 17 days. Composer, conductor and pianist Anton Rubinstein met Saint-Saëns in Paris during a concert-tour and expressed his desire to conduct a possible new work with Saint-Saëns at the Piano. Though appearing to follow the traditional 3 movement form of a typical Concerto of the time, this work breaks the mold by opening with a slow movement that includes 3 solo cadenzas, the first of which opens the piece.

**Andrew Lloyd Webber** (1948 - ) was born in Kensington London to musical parents; William Lloyd Webber, a composer & organist and Jean Hermione Johnstone, a violinist & pianist. He began composing at the age of nine, and also began to develop an interest in theater through his aunt Viola, an Actress who frequently took him to see her productions. After a brief term at Oxford University, he transferred to the Royal College of Music where he studied musical theater. Here he was introduced to Tim Rice, an up-and-coming lyricist. After an initial collaboration on the musical *The Likes of Us*, which failed to find investors, in 1967 they were commissioned by Alan Doggett, a friend of the Lloyd Webber family and music teacher, to compose for his school's choir a "pop cantata". This resulted in their first theatrical success, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. The two followed with *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita*.

In the early 1980's, Lloyd Weber took on new projects apart from Rice, first turning to the poetry of T.S. Eliot which would inspire *Cats*. Outside of the theater, he scored his *Requiem* mass, which he dedicated to his late father, and was premiered in 1985.

A year prior, producer Cameron Mackintosh proposed Gaston Leroux's *The Phantom of the Opera* (*Le Fantôme de l'Opéra*) as a potential musical and they screened both prior movie adaptations from 1925 and 1943. However, it wasn't until Lloyd Webber found a copy of the original book

manuscript, that he found its potential musical possibilities.

Lloyd Webber reached out to several lyricists, including Jim Steinman and then Alan Jay Lerner, who ended up withdrawing from the project due to illness (though some of his contributions are still present in the show). Richard Stillgoe who also worked on the musical's book, supplied initial lyrics, which were later revised by Charles Hart during the show's development.

The Phantom of the Opera began previews in London's West End in 1986, with Hal Prince directing, Michael Crawford performing the title role and Sarah Brightman as Christine Daaé. After a successful opening in London, in 1988 the production arrived in New York at the Majestic Theater with its original London leads, and won the Tony Award for Best Musical. In 2006, it became the longest running musical production in Broadway history and as of this program's printing has completed over 13,000 performances. In 2004, after nearly 15 years in development, a film-version of the musical, was released in cinemas, starring Gerard Butler in the title role and Emmy Rossum as Christine. Joel Schumacher directed. It went on to gross \$154.6 million at the box-office world-wide.

*Program notes by David Liskov.*

**GUITAR LESSONS**



**SOLUTION MUSIC STUDIO**

**Giving Students The Best Results, Faster**

**203-590-1422**

**Hamden Symphony Orchestra  
Board of Directors  
(2018-2019)**

David Liskov, President  
Karen Kriner, Vice President  
Stephanie Buggie, Secretary  
Judith Kramer Koret, Elective Director  
Van Nguyen, Elective Director  
Cai Roberts, Elective Director  
Nick Souris, Elective Director  
Mary Tokarski, Elective Director

**Additional Support**

Bill Gambardella, Legal Counsel  
Judith Kramer Koret, YMCC Chairperson  
Geraldine Rollins, Front-of-the-House Manager  
Nick Souris, Stage Manager & Library Assistant  
Tracy Turner, Logo Design



**Music Department**

- Music major and minor programs, as well as courses for all students
- A robust and diverse Bachelor of Arts degree music program
- Courses in Music History, World Music, Theory, Musicianship, Jazz Improvisation, and much more
- Performing ensembles including Choir, Band, and diverse Jazz Ensembles
- FREE private lessons for all majors and minors
- Music Scholarships available

Visit our website [www.southernct.edu/music](http://www.southernct.edu/music) , or call the music office at (203) 392-6625

## Meet HSO

This edition introduces Cheryl & Cai Roberts of Hamden Symphony's Violin and Cello sections, who joined the Orchestra in the Spring of 2017.



### **Cheryl Roberts, Violin**

**Tell us about yourself?** I'm originally from Visalia CA, which is an agricultural town smack in the middle of the state. It's two hours from the Pacific Ocean and two hours from Sequoia National Park. I've lived in Hamden CT for two and a half years and love it (although the weather at home is much better).

**What do you do outside of music?** I love to read and swap books with friends. I try to read a wide variety but I'm drawn to spy novels with snarky protagonists and historical fiction. I'm also anxious for gardening weather to get there. I won't win any awards for aesthetics but I enjoy eating homegrown fruits and vegetables.

**Earliest musical memories?** My first violin teacher had us use a piece of cardboard or old carpet with our feet drawn on it in the correct position for playing standing. I remember carrying that and my violin around with me to lessons. My parents liked to have music on in the evenings and often they would sing along or dance together. I associate music with those warm memories.

### **Favorite musical experiences with HSO or elsewhere?**

Playing with the young musician soloists in the spring is always a fantastic experience. They are so talented, and modest about it. It's a great opportunity for all involved.

**Favorite composer or composition?** I fell in love with Dvorak's New World Symphony when we played it last fall.

### **What other types of music do you like to play or listen to besides classical**

Everything! My playlist goes from John Denver to Enya to Fall Out Boy to Kelly Clarkson to Muse to a cowboy band local to my hometown to Scandinavian symphonic metal, with a smattering of classical pieces thrown in to round it out.

## Cai Roberts, Cello

**Tell us about yourself?** I was born in the UK, but grew up in California. We moved to Connecticut at the end of 2016.

**What do you do outside of music?** Professionally, I work in the cancer research field as a postdoctoral fellow at the Yale School of Medicine. Outside of work and music, I enjoy a variety of things, including reading, trivia, gaming, and working with my hands.

**Earliest musical memories?** Aside from playing the recorder badly along with the rest of the entire third grade, I remember my first cello teacher telling us he'd already picked all the loose change up off the floor before class, so there was no point in looking down, we should keep our eyes up!

**Favorite musical experiences with HSO or elsewhere?** I've enjoyed getting to play a number of pieces with the HSO that I'd listened to for years but never before been a part of. I also enjoyed being a part of a regional student honor orchestra in middle school, where there were 19 cellists and 13 bassists, who wrapped around the orchestra all the way behind the first violins. Most amazing deep sound I'd ever heard.

**Favorite composer or composition?** I have recently discovered Thomas Bergersen and his modern orchestral works that also introduce guitars, vocal parts, and even some electronic music influences.

**What other types of music do you like to play or listen to besides classical?** I joke that I will listen to anything but rap and the twangiest country music. Most of my library is either classic rock that is older than I am or new, mostly Scandinavian bands that combine symphonic, metal, electronic, or some combination of the three.

**What do you like most about playing with HSO?** I am always impressed by the young musicians we feature as soloists every spring. Beyond that though, I am grateful to have a diverse group of people with diverse experience in music where we can just play for the enjoyment of it. I had not played in an ensemble of any kind for ten years before picking up my instrument again and joining, and could not feel more welcome.

**Hamden Symphony Orchestra** is sustained by the generous donations of patrons like you. All financial contributions, whether small or large, have a measurable impact in our ability to continue to offer the high quality programming we are able to present, and expand our audience. We continue to offer these premium incentives at these high levels:

- ♪ \$400: All donors at this level will have their name listed as a co-sponsor for one concert. This includes program-cover and all concert marketing materials - print & digital. (*Limit 2 sponsors per performance*).
- ♪ \$500: All donors at this level will have the opportunity to personally select a concert overture for the orchestra to play in the next few seasons under the guidance of the music director.
- ♪ \$750: All donors at this level will be given the special opportunity to conduct the orchestra in the next few seasons in a concert encore that they will select under the guidance of the music director.

*\* Placement of these incentives will be arranged on a first-come first-served basis.*

Hamden Symphony Orchestra will be participating in the 2019 Great Give®, sponsored the by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, on May 1st & 2nd. All donations designated to Hamden Symphony Orchestra, Inc. on these dates at the website - [www.thegreatgive.org](http://www.thegreatgive.org) - are matched, and could help us win additional prizes during the event. Donations at the levels described above given during this special event are still eligible for the applicable incentive.

Checks made out to Hamden Symphony Orchestra can also be dropped off in the lobby or mailed to:

Hamden Symphony Orchestra  
c/o Donations  
PO Box 185412  
Hamden, CT 06518

Please include your contact information with your check in order to receive your incentive. Online contributions via DonorBox are also accepted at [www.hamdensymphony.org](http://www.hamdensymphony.org) throughout the year. **Please indicate if you would like your contribution to be designated to the Ruth T. Brooks Scholarship Fund.**

# Hamden Symphony Orchestra Boosters

(2018-2019)

We **gratefully acknowledge** the generous financial support and gifts from the following friends of Hamden Symphony Orchestra:

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ♪ AptarGroup                         | ♪ Richard & Rise Liskov ( <i>In memory</i> |
| ♪ Therese Bennett                    | <i>of our parents who loved classical</i>  |
| ♪ Alicia Clapp ( <i>In memory of</i> | <i>music</i> )                             |
| <i>Philomena Gambardella</i> )       | ♪ Lyndi Long                               |
| ♪ Paul Gacek                         | ♪ Paul & Elizabeth Mathey                  |
| ♪ William Gambardella                | ♪ Andrea Osburne & Van Nguyen              |
| ♪ Gastroenterology Associates of     | ♪ Frank & Anna Schneer                     |
| YNHH - NEMG                          | ♪ Rolland & Sally Strasser                 |
| ♪ James & Janice Jekel               | ♪ Joy Snyder                               |
| ♪ Janet Kriner                       | ♪ Karine Wacker                            |
| ♪ Karen Kriner & Nicholas Souris     | ♪ Lawrence Zukof                           |
| ♪ David Liskov                       |  |

**Additional thanks** go to the following for their help in making today's concert possible:

- ♪ Judith Koret Kramer, YMCC Chairperson.
- ♪ YMCC Judges: Kathleen Barbour, Stephanie Buggie, Karen Kriner, Mary Tokarski, Dagmara Zeidenbergs.
- ♪ YMCC Event Support Staff: Nic Souris & Joy Snyder.
- ♪ Paul Gacek.
- ♪ Student musicians from Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School, Manchester Community College, Quinnipiac University, Southern Connecticut State University & Yale University.
- ♪ Hamden Facilities Services staff.
- ♪ Hamden Legislative Council (Kim Renta, clerk).
- ♪ Southern Connecticut State University Music Department, Jonathan Irving Chairperson.
- ♪ Sr. Sheila O'Neill, President, and Sr. Kathleen Mary Coonan, Principal, Sacred Heart Academy, faculty & staff.

**Hamden Symphony Orchestra**  
**2019-2020 Season Concert Schedule**

Fall Concert  
Friday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 PM

Spring Concert  
Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 PM

Hamden Memorial Town Hall  
2372 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden, CT 06518

**Play An Instrument?**

Hamden Symphony Orchestra seeks musicians interested in joining the group for its 2019-2020 season. Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings from 7 pm to 9 pm at Hamden Memorial Town Hall beginning in September. If you are interested in joining, please visit the website below for more information and an up-to-date list of openings or email [info@hamdensymphony.org](mailto:info@hamdensymphony.org).

**[www.hamdensymphony.org/join](http://www.hamdensymphony.org/join)**