

# HAMDEN SYMPHONY

ORCHESTRA  
VESNA MEHINOVIC, MUSIC DIRECTOR  
PAUL GACEK, CONDUCTOR LAUREATE



Spring



Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2022

4:00 PM

Church of the Resurrection Wallingford



[WWW.HAMDENSYPHONY.ORG](http://WWW.HAMDENSYPHONY.ORG)

## About HSO

This Spring's performances will mark Hamden Symphony Orchestra's 60th 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 52 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 typically 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 2021 winner of this award was Daniel Ostenpanko (Violin).

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

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## Concert Program

The Never Ending Story      Georgio Moroder & Keith Forsey  
*arr. Patrick Roszell*

Belle of the Ball      Leroy Anderson

Danse de España      William Stephens

La Danza - *Tarantella Napolitana*      Gioachino Rossini  
*orch. Aubrey Winter*

English Folk Song Suite      Ralph Vaughan-Williams  
*orch. Gordon Jacob*

1. March: *Seventeen Come Sunday*
2. Intermezzo: *My Bonny Boy*
3. March: *Folk Songs from Somerset*

Feelings      Morris Albert  
*arr. Richard Stephan*

Star Wars Episode V: *The Empire Strikes Back*      John Williams  
*arr. John C. Whitney*

## **Musicians of the Orchestra**

### **Violin I**

Stacy Shafer '09  
*Concertmaster*  
*The Ruth T. Brooks Chair*

Elizabeth Braddon '16  
Ann Clemmons '10  
Davina Matinho '18  
Andrea Osburne '17  
Carolyn Sidoti '21

### **Violin II**

Claire Cody '19  
Sara Nason '21  
Joeanna Novak '20  
Tom Reershemius '21  
Morgan Vanderwall '20

### **Viola**

Monica Ehrenfels '22  
Karen Kriner '13  
Shasta Ramachandran '22  
Nathan Rawling '19

### **Cello**

Elizabeth Baldwin '17  
Dorthy Fang '19  
Katherine Koczwarra '22  
Ryan Mitten '22

### **Bass**

Andrew Muench '15

### **Flute**

Gianna Gassira '21  
Judith Kramer Koret '08  
Anna Luther '22  
Dagmara Zeidenbergs '18

### **Piccolo**

Dagmara Zeidenbergs '18

### **Oboe**

Terri Bennett '16  
Samantha Tun '22

### **Clarinet**

Elizabeth Black '20  
Shire Feingold '17  
Kathy Muench '15  
Kimberly Vish '20

### **Bass Clarinet**

Elizabeth Black '20

### **Bassoon**

Andrew Maust '09

### **French Horn**

Julia Cavagnaro Umphress '22  
Grace Kenney '16  
Nick Ruel '22

### **Trumpet**

Leo Ehrenfels '22  
Jameson Forsythe '20  
Ben Heller '19

### **Trombone**

Colby Buehler '18  
Anna Franz '14  
Bill Gambardella '92  
Erik Salvati '16

### **Tuba**

James Neely '14

### **Keyboard**

Betsy Goldberg '15

### **Electric Guitar**

Douglas Watkins '21

### **Drums & Percussion**

Thomas Catricala '19  
Betsy Goldberg '15  
David Liskov '10  
Douglas Watkins '21  
Adam Weber '21

## **About the Music Director**

**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 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.

## **Play An Instrument?**

Hamden Symphony seeks musicians in joining the group for its next performance later this Spring, and for its 2022-2023 concert-season! For more information, and for the most up-to-date list of openings visit our website below.

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

**Hamden Symphony Orchestra** has been thrilled to be back together again this season. All financial contributions, whether small or large keep us going as we continuing navigating through this season!

Donations are being accepted this afternoon at the table in the lobby; Cash, card or checks made out to Hamden Symphony Orchestra.

Checks can also be mailed to:

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

Online contributions via the secure DonorBox platform 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.*

We continue to offer the following sponsorship opportunity for a \$400 gift:

*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 - placement arranged on a first-come first-served basis)*

**Have an item or service you'd like to donate for a concert raffle or other purpose?**

Contact us by email, [info@hamdensymphony.org](mailto:info@hamdensymphony.org) or call 203-433-4207. These donations are also tax deductible.

## Hamden Symphony Orchestra Boosters (2021-2022)

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

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ♪ Therese Bennett                                  | ♪ Vesna Mehinovic  |
| ♪ Eileen Benoit ( <i>In memory of Paul Gacek</i> ) | ♪ Andrea Osburne & Van Nguyen                                    |
| ♪ Elizabeth Braddon                                | ♪ Kathleen Petry   |
| ♪ Margaret Bruno                                   | ♪ Nathan Rawling   |
| ♪ Elizabeth Braddon                                | ♪ John Scalici ( <i>In memory of John Edward Glenn Scalici</i> ) |
| ♪ Jameson Forsythe                                 | ♪ Frank & Anna Schmeer ( <i>In memory of Paul Gacek</i> )        |
| ♪ Betsy Goldberg & Allan Brison                    | ♪ Stacy & Charlie Shafer   |
| ♪ James & Janice Jekel                             | ♪ Jane Short   |
| ♪ Grace Kenney                                     | ♪ Joy Snyder   |
| ♪ Jo Papa Kenney                                   | ♪ Roland Strasser  |
| ♪ Janet Kriner                                     | ♪ Michael Valalik  |
| ♪ Karen Kriner & Nicholas Souris                   | ♪ Lawrence Zukof   |
| ♪ David Liskov                                     |  |
| ♪ Richard & Rise Liskov                            |  |

**Additional thanks** go to the following for their help with today's concert:

- ♪ Student musicians from Cheshire Academy, Sacred Heart Academy, and Yale University.
- ♪ Church of the Resurrection (*Joseph R. Tatta, Pastoral Associate & Director of Faith Formation & Music Ministry*).
- ♪ Southern Connecticut State University Music Department (*Joshua Groffman, Chair*) - Spring semester rehearsal space.
- ♪ Whitneyville Cultural Commons (*Diana Theriault*) - Fall semester rehearsal space.
- ♪ Kevin Zheng - Substitute conductor for Fall reading rehearsals.
- ♪ *All of our musicians, audience and supporters for sticking with us, and keeping us together in so many different ways these last two years!*

**Hamden Symphony Orchestra  
Board of Directors**  
(2021-2022)

David Liskov, President  
Karen Kriner, Vice President  
Joy Snyder, Secretary  
Judith Kramer Koret, Elective Director  
Van Nguyen, Elective Director  
Andrea Osburne, Elective Director  
Stacy Shafer, Elective Director  
Nic Souris, Elective Director

**Additional Support**

Bill Gambardella, Legal Counsel  
Judith Kramer Koret, YMCC Chairperson  
Tracy Turner, Logo Design

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## **Save The Date**

### **Hamden Symphony Orchestra's 60th Anniversary Concert!**

Featuring the winners of the 52<sup>nd</sup>  
Young Musicians Concerto Competition:

Marin Korenaga, Violin  
Samantha Kramer, Violin  
Vien Le, Cello

Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> - 3:00 PM

*Venue to-be-announced later this Spring*



John Williams & Orchestra recording the score for  
Star Wars Episode VII: *The Force Awakens*