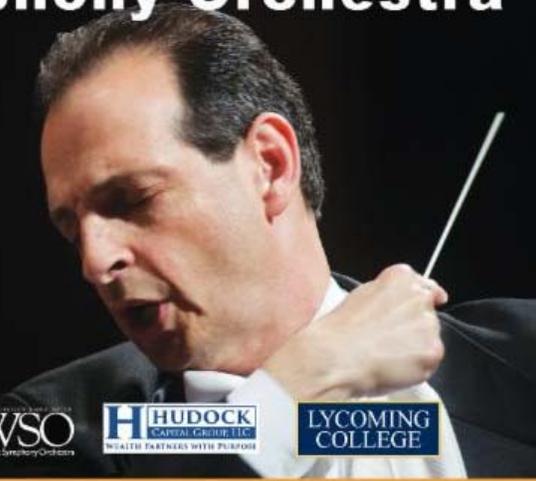


Williamsport Symphony Orchestra

Tuesday, February 13

Dvorak, Symphony No. 9,
"New World"

570-326-2424



Williamsport Symphony Orchestra E-Notes

February 2018

2017-2018 Calendar

February 2018

12 Behind the Scenes
with Gerardo and Friends
Capitol Lounge of CAC
5:30- 7:00 pm - \$30/person

13 WSO concert #3
Community Arts Center
7:30 pm tickets: 570-326-
2424 or www.caclive.com

March 2018

04 WSYO & WSJS concert
Community Arts Center
4:00 pm - FREE
CONCERT!

17 WSO concert #4
Community Arts Center
7:30 pm tickets: 570-326-
2424 or www.caclive.com

April 2018

29 Friends of the Symphony
Brunch
Herman & Luther's Historic Barn

May 2018

14 Behind the Scenes

Conductor's Corner

Dear Friends:

Winter is here with freezing temperatures; I can't imagine a better way to warm your hearts and souls than coming to the symphony! All pieces in our upcoming concert were written in America and although we can discover some things in common between them, they totally differ in style, mood and approach.



The central piece in the program, Symphony No. 9 "New World" by the Czech composer Antonin Dvorak was written while he was the director of the National Conservatory of Music in New York and it's obvious that he was inspired by the African and Indian tunes he heard here. The popular second movement was also the inspiration for the song "Goin' Home" written by one of the Dvorak's students.

The first half includes "Blue Cathedral" by Jennifer Higdon, a commissioned piece by the Curtis Institute to celebrate their 75th Anniversary. Copland and Bernstein who are considered two of the greatest American figures in music lived during the same period and passed away

with Gerardo and Friends
Capitol Lounge of CAC
5:30- 7:00 pm - \$30/person

15 WSO concert #5
Community Arts Center
7:30 pm tickets: 570-326-
2424 or www.caclive.com

For more info:
www.williamsportsymphony.org or
570-322-0227

Special thanks to our sponsors!



only a few months apart. Bernstein who was much younger and already a famous conductor considered Copland one of his mentors and performed and recorded many of his pieces. The two compositions featured in this program are quite contrasting, and while Bernstein's Three Dance Episodes from "On the Town" is lively and witty, Copland's "Quiet City" is more contemplative, profound and dreamy. Copland's piece features two of WSO's brilliant principals, Sue Laib on English horn and Dale Orris, trumpet.

I have no doubt this concert will set the tone for a great year and the perfect way to celebrate Valentine's Day with your loved ones! See you at the performance!

Fondly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerardo'.

Gerardo Edelstein

Mark your calendar - Williamsport Symphony is counting on you!



Raise the Region® 2018 - First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania's 30-hour regional fundraising event.

Program Notes by Dr. Boerckel

She Could Sing, Too!

Leonard Bernstein dedicated the orchestral suite of dance episodes from his 1944 Broadway musical, *On the Town*, to three people who played key roles in the show. The first was dedicated to Sono Osato, a dancer with American Ballet Theatre who played the part of glamorous Ivy Smith. The second dedicatee was Betty Comden, a long-time friend of



Bernstein who wrote the show's book and lyrics with her partner, Adolph Green. The third was Nancy Walker, who created the role of the sassy cab driver, Hildy Esterhazy. Today, Nancy Walker is probably best remembered as the waitress on the commercials proclaiming Bounty as "the quicker, picker upper." Born in Philadelphia in 1922, Walker was "raised in a truck" by her vaudevillian parents. Her career as a wise-cracking girlfriend, maid, mother, and mother-in-law lasted fifty years and took her from Broadway and Hollywood to TV, including the role of Rhoda's mother on the Mary Tyler Moore Show. Thanks to Walker, Hildy's "mating call" in *On the Town* became the show's only lasting hit song. Listen to her sing "I Can Cook, Too" on Youtube to hear one of Broadway's great character voices.

***blue cathedral*--A Very Personal Piece of Music**

Composers seldom reveal much of the thoughts and feelings that influence their music. Jennifer Higdon, on the other hand, gives us a very personal insight into her most popular work, *blue cathedral*....*"I began writing this piece at a unique juncture in my life and found myself pondering the question of what makes a life. The recent loss of my younger brother, Andrew Blue, made me reflect on the amazing journeys that we all make in our lives, crossing paths with so many individuals singularly and collectively, learning and growing each step of the way. This piece represents the expression of the individual and the group...our inner travels and the places our souls carry us, the lessons we learn, and the growth we experience. In tribute to my brother, I feature solos for the clarinet (the instrument he played) and the flute (the instrument I play). Because I am the older sibling, it is the flute that appears first in this dialog. At the end of the work, the two instruments continue their dialogue, but it is the flute that drops out and the clarinet that continues on in the upward progressing journey."*

Behind the Scenes with Gerardo and Friends- February 12

This intimate setting allows for a sneak peak of the preparation, collaborations, and performances. You get to know YOUR Symphony musicians, and the guest artist before the concert. \$30 per person to include delicious "lite fare" food catered by **Franco's Lounge** as well as a complimentary drink.

Meet & network with new Friends who share the Love of music, appreciation of the arts, and the culture of our wonderful community. Learn about music history, hear stories about the composers, and get a behind the scenes insight into what goes into concert and performance preparation.



Dale Orris and Susan Laib, the concert guest performers, will join us to talk about Copland's *Quiet City* where they will be featured on the trumpet and the English horn.

Thanks to Franco's Lounge and Friends of the Symphony for sponsoring the event.

For reservations, please visit www.williamsportsymphony.org or call 570-322-0227.

Featured Friends

Congratulations to **Linda and John Lundy** who are this year's recipients of the Friends of the Symphony "Angel of Music" award.

This award is given by the Friends to those members who have volunteered their time, talents and donations to support the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra for five years or more. The award is given annually at a Friends' event, and this year it was presented on December 1, 2017 at the Holiday Open House at Muncy Farms. The award is a glass angel with the award inscription at the base.

Congratulations Linda and John and thank you for all of your volunteer work with the Friends!



Yvonne DiRocco is this month's Featured Friend.

Yvonne was the chairperson for the October's Free Family Halloween Concert, held at the CAC on October 29, 2017. Yvonne provided ALL of the decorations (which were fabulous!) and the Halloween treats for all who attended.

Yvonne participates in all of the Friends fund raisers and promotions. She has served as the Vice-Chair for the Friends for 5 years. Friends were on hand to congratulate her for being honored as one of the YWCA's Women of Distinction this past October for all of her community involvement and dedication to the arts.

From the desk of the ED

At this time of year when it's cold and gray, it's comforting to know that a Symphony concert is right around the corner! How exciting that a composition will be performed by a composer who last week won a Grammy Award. Jennifer Higdon's *Blue Cathedral* will be played and in addition to her Grammy which is a career second, she is a Pulitzer Prize winner. Higdon is an inspiration to young women everywhere.

Our major sponsors for the concert are Hudock Capital Group, Lycoming College and Bill Hoffmann; we are grateful for their support. Come join us at the concert and hear big city entertainment without the stress of traffic and congestion. Make it an evening or a date night because there is great food in downtown Williamsport!

Not to be missed is an event being planned by our good Friends of the Symphony for Sunday, April 29 at Herman and Luther's! Please save the date and watch for details!



Also, there's still time to make a contribution to our Annual Fund campaign whether it's directly to the Symphony or through Raise the Region on March 14 and 15. Every contribution helps keep our musicians of all ages on stage and keeps our community programs thriving. Ticket sales provide less than 30% percent of our revenue, and your generosity sustains our concerts, educational programs and free tickets to schools and students. Our community is a better place because of your commitment to the arts!

We look forward to seeing you at the Symphony concerts!

Let the music play on!



Quick Links

Williamsport Symphony Orchestra
220 West Fourth Street
Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701
570-322-0227

For information and tickets [Visit our website!](#)

